

Human Rights Internet Resources

The following websites have been compiled by students of Dr. Susan Adams at Texas Woman's University and Dr. Heather Trepal at the University of Texas-San Antonio. Thanks to all of the students who contributed to this resource list.

General Information

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Program - <http://shr.aaas.org> American Association for the Advancement of Science was developed to help protect scientists around the world whose human rights are threatened or violated. Many of the rights set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are rights essential to the advancement of science and include: rights to education and work; freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas; freedom of association and assembly; and nondiscrimination.

The American Anti-Slavery Group (AASG) - <http://www.iabolish.org/> AASG is a non-profit organization (501c3) that works to abolish modern-day slavery around the world, focusing primarily on systems of chattel slavery in Sudan and Mauritania. Group efforts center on the following four components: Awareness, Advocacy, Activism and Aid.

The American Civil Liberties Union - <http://www.aclu.com/> The ACLU was founded by Roger Baldwin, Crystal Eastman, Albert DeSilver and others in 1920. It is a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization that extends rights to people who have been denied their rights, including Native Americans and other people of color; lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people; women; mental-health patients; prisoners; people with disabilities; and the poor.

Amnesty International - <http://www.amnesty.org> Amnesty International is made up of individuals who work towards protecting the human rights of individuals around the world according to the International Declaration of Human Rights.

The Center for Victims of Torture - <http://www.cvt.org/> The Center for Victims of Torture seeks "to heal the wounds of torture on individuals, their families and their communities and to stop torture worldwide." These are victims of government-inflicted torture, many seeking political or religious refuge. The client care program spans the disciplines of medicine, psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social services and massage and physical therapy.

civilrights.org - <http://www.civilrights.org/> Home to socially-concerned, issue-oriented original audio, video, and written programming, civilrights.org is committed to serving as the online nerve center not only for the struggle against discrimination in all its forms, but also to build the public understanding that it is essential for our nation to continue its journey toward social and economic justice.

Columbia Support Network - <http://colombiasupport.net/> The Colombia Support Network actively works towards promoting peace, justice, unification, and immediate emergency care to Colombian citizens who are victims of the ongoing war. CSN uses various means to persuade the U.S. government to change laws that discourage democracy in Colombia. CSN supports women's groups, teachers, cooperatives, unions, and environmental groups as they present a peaceful means to achieve national goals.

Council of Foreign Relations - <http://cfr.org> It provides information about current international issues, including human rights. It also provides links for journals, organizations and different resources.

Democracy Now! Radio and TV Program - <http://www.democracynow.org> Democracy Now! is a national, daily, independent, award-winning news program airing on over 450 stations in North America. The website, like the program, is dedicated to publicizing human rights' issues and crises. The site contains informative articles about current human rights' debates, situations, and injustices; it also summarizes reports from the show while providing background information about the top stories.

Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) - <http://www.eff.org> This organization's motto is "Defending Freedom in the Digital World". The EFF advocates protecting and defending free speech, privacy, innovation, and consumer rights in the digital world.

Human Rights Databank - <http://hri.ca/> says it is the most comprehensive listing of human rights organizations. There are records for up to 25 years ago. The website currently holds over 10,000 records. Searches can be done in a multitude of ways.

Human Rights Education Associates (HREA) - <http://www.hrea.org> The HREA is an international organization based in the United States focused on promoting the advancement of human rights through better education and training of individuals and communities. Their website provides online services such as interactive tutorials, forums for networking, a multi-lingual resource center, and direct links to other related sites. The HREA also develops and publishes educational programming and materials, and trains activists and professionals.

Human Rights Foundation - <http://www.humanrightsfoundation.org/> The Human Rights Foundation unites people—regardless of their political, cultural, and ideological orientations—in the common cause of defending human rights and promoting liberal democracy in the Americas. Mission is to ensure that freedom is both preserved and promoted.

Human Rights First - www.humanrightsfirst.org Human Rights First is a non-profit, nonpartisan international human rights organization based in New York and Washington D.C. This organization dedicated to protecting "people at risk" such as: refugees who flee persecution, victims of crimes against humanity or other mass human rights violations, victims of discrimination, those whose rights are eroded in the name of national security, etc.

Human Rights Initiative - <http://www.hrionline.org>. HRI provides services in Dallas, TX. They have a variety of services including pro bono attorneys advocating for asylum, provide services to immigrant children, and provides resource information on employment assistance and group activities in their area.

Human Rights Network - <http://www.ushrnetwork.org/> Promote US accountability to universal human rights standards by building linkages between organizations and individuals. Strives to build a human rights culture in the US that puts those directly affected by human rights violations, with a special emphasis on grassroots organizations and social movements, in a central leadership role. Works towards connecting the US human rights movement with the broader US social justice movement and human rights movements around the world.

Human Rights Resource Center - www.hrusa.org The purpose of this site is to create and distribute human rights resources and build advocacy groups. The resources on this site include curricula, guides, videos, documents, and other educational aids

Human Rights Watch - www.hrw.org This organization was started in 1978 and is the largest human rights organization based in the U.S. Human Rights Watch helps prevent discrimination and investigates human rights abuses throughout the world. HRW then publishes findings of the investigations in books and reports. The publicity helps get human rights violations of abusive governments out for the world to see. HRW then meets with those governments to affect changes in policy.

International Campaign for Tibet - www.savetibet.org ICT works to promote internationally recognized human rights, religious and democratic freedoms in Tibet. It speaks for the people of Tibet who have been abused, tortured and murdered by the Chinese government.

The International Rescue Committee - www.theirc.org The International Rescue Committee was founded in 1933 and is a group working to help those who have been affected by violence and oppression worldwide. They are located in twenty-five countries and pride themselves in being a global leader in the protection of human rights as well as emergency relief, rehabilitation, post-conflict development, and resettlement services.

Institute for Global Communications (IGC) - <http://www.igc.org> This organization plays an important role in bringing advanced communications to grass root organization worldwide working for peace, human rights, environmental sustainability, women's rights, conflict resolution and workers rights.

National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty - <http://www.ncadp.org> In 1976, the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty was created in response to Gregg v. Georgia which called for the reinstatement of execution as punishment for crime in the United States. The NCADP's mission is not only to abolish the death penalty in the United States, but worldwide. They provide training, advocacy, and advice to affiliates in an attempt to shape public policy. NCADP publishes statistical fact sheets and research reports to spread knowledge about execution. NACDP had a hand in ending the death penalty for juveniles, collaborating with citizens and lawmakers in South Dakota and Wyoming. They also assisted in the concerted effort by activists and citizens of Wisconsin to help block the popular vote against Wisconsin's attempt to reinstate the death penalty.

National Coalition for the Homeless (NCH) - <http://www.nationalhomeless.org> Founded in 1982, the primary mission of the coalition is to end homelessness and remove the barriers that hinder homeless individuals from equal civil rights. Recently, the NCH introduced a "Bring America Home" campaign in efforts to address the cause of homelessness. Additionally, the coalition has put in place programs and local housing organizations to meet the needs of currently homeless individuals.

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans - <http://www.nchv.org/> Veterans of foreign wars are growing at an exponential rate, and the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV) works to shape public policy and expand services for veterans who find themselves without a home. Federal, state, and local agencies work together to provide a network of vocational and rehabilitation services as well as food, shelter, job training, legal aid, case management and placement assistants for hundreds of thousands of homeless veterans each year. Advocacy is also a primary facet of NCHV, as they have helped boost funding on almost all homeless veteran assistance programs currently being utilized.

National Disability Rights Network - <http://www.ndrn.org/index.php> The goal of The National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) is to establish a society in which individuals with disabilities are provided equal opportunities for leading independent and meaningful lives. Founded in 1980, it is a nonprofit organization that serves a wide range of persons with disabilities – including those with cognitive, mental, sensory, and physical disabilities. This link contains resources for advocating for the basic rights of these individuals by safeguarding against abuse and neglect, ensuring liability in health care, education, employment, housing, transportation, and within the juvenile and criminal justice systems. It also features updates on recent advances and legislative successes, as well as conference and education opportunities.

National Down Syndrome Society - <http://www.ndss.org/> The National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) is committed to being the national leader in enhancing the quality of life, and realizing the potential of all people with Down syndrome. NDSS has worked since 1979 to benefit people with Down syndrome and their families through national leadership in education, research, and advocacy. The NDSS website is one of the largest single sources of dependable information about Down syndrome available to the public.

National Minority Aids Council (NMAC) - <http://www.nmac.org> The National Minority Aids Council is dedicated to fostering leadership within communities of color to address the challenges of HIV/AIDS. They provide conferences to further HIV/AIDS awareness, including the United States Conference on Aids (USCA), government relations and public policy support, as well as the establishment of community-level treatment related programs in minority communities. This link offers access to conference and program information, publications, public policy information, as well as tools and resources for those seeking the assistance of NMAC.

One Campaign - <http://www.one.org/> The One Campaign is a non-partisan campaign of over 2.4 million people from all 50 states and over 100 of America's most well-known and respected non-profit, advocacy and humanitarian organizations who have come together to put an end to world poverty. They do this by raising public awareness related to the global issues of global poverty, hunger, disease and efforts to fight such problems in developing countries. The goal is that through raising awareness and influencing leaders of our nation to allocate more of the U.S. budget toward providing basic needs for people in developing countries, the futures of these

people will be transformed.

Prison Activist Resource Center - <http://www.prisonactivist.org/> Prison Activist Resource Center (PARC) is an abolitionist organization which challenges racism, exposes unfair treatment, focuses on inhumane practices, and targets corruption within prisons. This service is free to prisoners, the formerly incarcerated, and/or friends and family members. This association provides legal resources, open forums, current news, and general information. PARC provides the incarcerated with a Prison Board Advisory Committee.

Program for Torture Victims (PTV) - <http://www.ptvla.org/> Found in 1980, PTV is a non-profit organization whose goal is to lessen the suffering and health consequences of torture through psychological, medical and social services to victims of state-sponsored violence. This Los Angeles based organization provides public programs about torture and its consequences to the individual and society. The website includes links about the organization, its services, news and events and contact information.

Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty - <http://www.tcadp.org/index.php> The Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (TCADP) is a grassroots organization whose members include human rights activists, death row prisoners and their families, crime victims and their families, as well as other groups and citizens opposed to capital punishment. The TCADP remains actively involved in a number of activities to eradicate the death penalty. This website provides information about local events (including pending executions), recent news, a variety of ways to become involved, and perspective on the many reasons behind the cause.

United Nations - <http://www.un.org/english/> Defined a broad range of internationally accepted rights — including economic, social and cultural, as well as political and civil rights; it has also established mechanisms with which to promote and protect these rights and to assist governments in carrying out their responsibilities.

United States Department of Justice - <http://www.usdoj.gov/> Enforce the law and defend the interests of the United States according to the law; ensure public safety against foreign and domestic threats; provide federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime; seek just punishment for those guilty of unlawful behavior; and ensure fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans.

US Commission on Civil Rights - <http://www.usccr.gov/> Investigate complaints alleging that citizens are being deprived of their right to vote. Appraise federal laws and policies with respect to discrimination or denial of equal protection of the laws. Submit reports, findings, and recommendations to the President and Congress.

US Department of State - <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/hr/> Promotion of respect for human rights. Existence of human rights helps secure the peace, deter aggression, promote the rule of law, combat crime and corruption, strengthen democracies, and prevent humanitarian crises.

Witness - <http://www.witness.org/> Witness, an organization founded in 1992, uses video and online technologies to open the eyes of the world to human right violations. It allows people all around the world to transform their personal stories of abuse and utilize them as tools for justice, promoting public engagement and in some cases policy changes as well. This New York based organization provides training, equipment, and support to local groups to use video in their human rights advocacy campaigns. The website include links to becoming a member, training methods, news and events, partner program, media archive, and contact information.

Yale Law Library - <http://library.law.yale.edu/> It provides many different resources to research from. Very comprehensive.

Youth/Children Rights

Association to Benefit Children - <http://www.a-b-c.org/> This association gives children, who have experienced abuse, neglect, sickness and homelessness the opportunity to experience the hope, love, and success they deserve by engaging the whole family.

International Bureau for Children's Rights - <http://www.ibcr.org> The International Bureau for Children's Rights

publishes reports and holds public hearings in many countries on children's rights and how and what each country can do to make a difference.

Joshua Children's Foundation - <http://www.joshuachildrensfoundation.org/> This foundation was established to assist both children and adults who have been victimized by sexual abuse. The organization addresses the coping mechanism that victims establish for survival purposes such as eating disorders, alcoholism and/or drug addiction, and suicide. The purpose of the organization is to assist recovering victims and educate parents and other adults. The organization provides useful and informative material, links for other organizations, therapy referrals and sex offender lists.

The National Youth Rights Association - <http://www.youthrights.org/> This website focuses on gaining additional rights for youth, in addition to informing youth on the rights they currently have through an interactive teen forum.

Unicef - www.unicef.org Unicef focuses on child survival and development, basic education and gender equality, child protection, policy advocacy and partnerships. They also focus on early childhood issues, immunization, and parenting

Women's Rights

Amnesty International USA - www.amnestyusa.org/women/humanrights.html Stop violence against women. This website includes facts, information, and actions pertaining to human rights violations against women worldwide, having to do with race, nationality, religion, class and culture.

CARE - <http://www.care.org/about/contact.asp> CARE was organized in 1945 to work with poor communities to end poverty through education, opportunity, and relief. This International organization focuses on helping women in poor communities and provides links to donations, news, campaigns, involvement, careers, partnership, web features, care wear, and contact information.

Coalition against Trafficking in Women (CATW) - <http://www.catwinternational.org/> Founded in 1988, the CATW organization promotes women's human rights by working internationally to combat sexual exploitation of all forms. CATW is an international non-governmental group who was the first to focus on human trafficking, especially that of sex trafficking of women and girls. CATW attempts to prevent trafficking by educating boys and girls in schools and communities in different parts of the world by training teachers, professionals, police, governmental authorities and the public about the harm of sexual exploitation and prostitution and ways to combat it.

HOPE- Hispanas Organized for Political Equality <http://www.latinas.org/> HOPE is an advocacy organization whose platform promotes opportunities that advance Latinas. From this broad platform HOPE has selected key issue areas on which to focus: Education, Health Care and Economic Empowerment. For 18 years, this organization is prepared to work with legislators, community leaders and nonprofits to advance Latinas. HOPE engages in activities such as sponsoring or supporting legislation, providing expert testimony, or grassroots mobilizing.

Institute for Women's Policy Research - <http://www.iwpr.org> This organization's goal is research, dissemination, and citizen education through activities including briefing Congress and the Administration, women's groups, and other public interest groups. The web site contains information on women's issues including poverty and welfare, family and work, employment and earnings, health and safety, and democracy and society.

MADRE - <http://www.madre.org/> MADRE is a human rights organization that works directly with women who have suffered abuse. MADRE is a proactive organization that demands changes in U.S. policies that undermine human rights. MADRE partners with other women's organizations throughout the world to offer humanitarian aid, advocacy, and public education.

National Abortion Federation - <http://www.prochoice.org/> The National Abortion Federation (NAF) gives women a

chance to make medical decisions in consultation with their about the bodies. The health care professionals at NAF make reproductive choices a reality and provide women with training and services to abortion providers and unbiased information. This association has providers in the United States and Canada. The mission of NAF is to create safe, legal, and accessible facilities for women making decisions about their pregnancies.

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence - <http://www.ncadv.org> The Coalition was organized to advance the work of people working to end violence against women and children. This US based organization provides shelter and service programs with website links that include resources, available programs, membership, educational material, events information, news releases and contact information.

Rape Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN) - <http://www.rainn.org/> RAINN, developed in 1994, is a non profit organization against sexual assault. The network provides a national hotline to assist sexual assault victims with free and confidential assistance. In addition to the hotline service RAINN actively educates and promotes awareness of sexual assault to millions of Americans every year through media and community based relationships.

Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA) - <http://www.rawa.org/> This association is a call for help for anyone who wishes to support their efforts in fighting for Afghanistan women's human rights and social justice.

Texas Council on Family Violence – <http://tcfv.org/> The Texas Council on Family Violence is a non-profit organization that has been promoting safe and healthy relationships since 1978. It is comprised of family violence service providers, supportive organizations, survivors of domestic violence, businesses and professionals, communities of faith and other concerned individuals. These groups work together in a number of ways to help end family violence. Some of the way TCFM does this is through assisting and supporting Texas domestic violence shelters, battering intervention and prevention programs and other family violence service providers, advocating for laws and policies that affect domestic violence victims, and developing and facilitating training for people who work with victims of domestic violence.

Women's Aid Organization - <http://www.wao.org.my> WAO illustrates that Malaysia and the United States have very similar issues as they relate to single mothers and poverty. WAO is also involved in public education to create awareness of violence against battered women.

Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children - www.womenscommission.org The Women's Commission was organized in 1989 with the purpose of advocating and overseeing for the care and protection of refugee women and children internationally. The organization gives these refugee women an opportunity to voice their experiences through international conferences, testimony, and briefings. The commission provides recommendations to the UN, United States Government, and NGOs regarding how to provide appropriate help to refugee women and children.

Women for Women International - <http://www.womenforwomen.org> Women for Women International is an organization that empowers women in war-torn regions to obtain the knowledge, resources, and skills necessary to be self-sufficient which long-term positively effects their family, community, and nation. Many of the women that this organization reaches out to have been torn from their family, raped, or become sole providers of their family. Rather than providing only monetary assistance, W4W sees the importance of providing the tools to help these women help themselves-proven to be a great success.

Women's Learning Partnership (USA) (WLP) - <http://www.learningpartnership.org/> Established in 1995, the WLP strives to encourage women to act as catalysts in changes toward equality in leadership and decision making at family, community, and national levels. Particularly concerned with Muslim-majority nations, it is the belief of the WLP that as women work together internationally, the security of human rights and the hope for a more peaceful world are the ultimate goals. Working as a non-governmental organization, the WLP is motivated with the principle "nothing in the world is impossible if we work together."

Aged Rights

The People's Movement for Human Rights Education (PDHRE) - <http://www.pdhre.org/rights/aged.html> The Human Rights of Aged Persons section addresses such issues as: what are human rights of aged persons and governments' obligations to ensuring the human rights of aged persons. This site is available in English, Spanish, French and Chinese.

Global Action On Aging - <http://globalag.igc.org/> The Global Action on Aging advocates for the protection of elder persons as a key element of the human rights movement.

Human Rights: Legally Assisted Dying - <http://www.compassionandchoices.org> This link pertains to the rights of individuals to the end-of-life alternative of physician-assisted suicide. The website provides information regarding current laws on this issue.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Rights

Human Rights Campaign - <http://www.hrc.org/> HRC strives for equal rights in the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community. Established in 1980, they lobby Congress for human rights. HRC believes that all citizens are equal, and should be treated as such in regards to their decisions on marriage and family, as well as their right to equality in the workplace.

Human Rights Education Associates - <http://www.hrea.org/index.php> Website includes different human rights topics, definitions of key terms, important dates in gay rights history, and links to many other websites. Great information!

International Lesbian and Gay Association (IGLA) - <http://www.ilga.org/> IGLA is a non profit organization that was founded in 1978 that is actively promoting equal rights for gay men, lesbians, transgender, and bisexuals (LGBT) around the world. The organization fights against discrimination of LGBT by working with international groups and the media. The group success stems from individual organizations to entire cities determined to end inequality for LGBT.

Religious Rights

Religious Tolerance - <http://www.religioustolerance.org> This link pertains to the rights of individuals to practice alternative methods of religious and spiritual practice.

Human Rights and Religion - <http://pewforum.org/religion-human-rights/> Here is a website about human and religion. The main page about human rights and religion breaks down the history of human rights worldwide, concluding with the current state of religion and human rights.

United States Institute of Peace - <http://www.pewforum.org/category/publications/> This website promotes the idea of using religion as a source to create or maintain peace within a governing system rather than allowing dominate religious views to suppress the minority religious views through government policies. The goal of the program is to help facilitate the resolution of international disputes through aiding the efforts of faith-based organizations.