

Letter sent to President Clinton From
Representatives
of Faith-Based Groups and Organizations

December 20, 2000

William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

We as representatives of religious organizations and faith based groups recognize that, in the conscience of peoples and nations around the world, there is a growing conviction that human rights have no borders, because they are universal and indivisible. Human rights provide a common universal standard of justice for living with our differences, and they give moral and legal standing to individuals and communities in the international community.

Further, we see the necessity to adequately address all aspects of international justice including punishment for perpetrators of international crimes, the restorative needs of victims, and the redemptive actions necessary for the rebuilding of communities.

We believe that the International Criminal Court must exist in order to ensure protection of the dignity and fundamental rights of individuals and communities. This dignity is shared by all people, regardless of their age, race, sex, ethnic origin, religion or status as combatant or non-combatant. Each person shares in this human dignity, without exception, and is entitled to the protection of the law, which such a Court would ensure.

The past century's numerous heinous acts of barbarism have underscored the urgency of this issue. We call upon you, President Clinton, to sign the treaty adopted in Rome in June 1998 by the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court.

Sincerely,

Rev. Michael Dodd
Columban Fathers' Justice & Peace
Office

Rabbi David Saperstein
Co-Director
Commission on Social Action of
Reform Judaism

Gary Baldrige
Co-coordinator Global Missions
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Rev. Lonnie Turner
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Rev. Elenora Giddings Ivory
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Washington Office for Faith in
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James E. Winkler
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