

## **Stop U.S. Sponsored Torture—A Religious Call to Action**

BECAUSE one of our core Unitarian Universalist principles is our belief in and affirmation of the inherent worth and dignity of all persons; and

WHEREAS torture and the use of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment violates the basic dignity of the human person that all religions hold dear;

WHEREAS torture and the use of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment shames us all and erodes the character of the nation that tortures; WHEREAS the United States has adopted torture, the use of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, and unlimited detention as an official policy;

WHEREAS the Military Commissions Act of 2006 includes numerous provisions of law that directly or indirectly sanction U.S. sponsored torture and the use of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist District of Metropolitan New York reject torture and the use of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment by anyone for any purpose under any circumstances without exception;

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2008 Unitarian Universalist District of Metropolitan New York stands in opposition to all U.S. sponsored torture, secret prisons, rendition for torture, and the use of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment;

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist District of Metropolitan New York stand in support of full U.S. compliance with the Geneva Conventions and the United Nations Convention Against Torture;

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist District of Metropolitan New York stand in support of Legislation to restore *habeas corpus*;

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist District of Metropolitan New York stand in support of holding U.S. personnel and persons acting on behalf of the United States accountable for any acts of torture and the use of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment in which they were engaged, ordered, or supervised; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist District of Metropolitan New York urge Unitarian Universalist Congregations to oppose and speak out against U.S. sponsored torture wherever and whenever possible and to become members and supporters of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture.