



Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Congregational Stance  
on Welfare  
March 1995

**A Call to Justice**

We, the Sisters of St. Joseph, believing that the Central problem in America is not welfare but poverty, endorse the Statement of Beliefs and Principles of the National and State Councils of Churches and join a common effort to educate, motivate, and work for reform that is just and effective in aiding those who can to move out of welfare, and in supporting adequately those who cannot.

To the extent possible:

We will educate ourselves about the root causes of poverty, and the social, economic and political conditions that foster it.

We will work on public information and opinion about the root causes of poverty and the impact of reform on the poor.

We will analyze proposals for welfare reform and evaluate them according to the overall common good and their effect on those in the welfare system.

We will inform our legislators of our support or lack of support for various proposals.

We will network with individuals and groups of faith and like vision in the efforts listed above and in others to promote justice and opportunity for the poor and vulnerable.