

All Life Is Sacred

"Therefore, in this command of God, no exception must be made. It is always wrong to kill a person whom God has intended to be a sacred creature." –Lactantius, 4th century Christian writer

In the first three centuries of Christianity, there was a remarkable unanimity among the leaders whose writings have come down to us. Every one of them understood the teaching of Jesus as requiring his followers not to be involved in the taking of another human life – not in war, not through abortion, not through capital punishment, not in any way.

After the time of Constantine, much of the institutional church lost this commitment to a nonviolent way of life. But there have always been Christians who held to this witness, often at great personal sacrifice. In the last 50 years, there has been a growing movement among Christians, as well as those of other faiths or no faith, for a consistent life ethic. Evangelicals have increasingly been represented in this movement.

Consistent Life is a network of groups and individuals which spreads the consistent life ethic message. As a network, we unite those who agree on the dignity and worth of all human life, but may have different perspectives on how to work towards that end and on other issues.

MISSION: We are committed to the protection of life, which is threatened in today's world by war, abortion, poverty, racism, capital punishment and euthanasia. We believe that these issues are linked under a 'consistent ethic of life'. We challenge those working on all or some of these issues to maintain a cooperative spirit of peace, reconciliation, and respect in protecting the unprotected.

PURPOSE: We serve the anti-violence community by connecting issues, building bridges, and strengthening the case against each kind of socially-approved killing by consistently opposing them all.

Will you join us?



Consistent Life

Voices for Peace and Life

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Twitter: @ConsistentLife
Online store: <http://www.cafepress.com/lifecounts>
YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/ConsistentLife>

Who Supports Consistent Life?

Member Groups

(partial list)

8th Day Center for Justice
 Benedictines for Peace
 Casa de Pax y Bien
 Catholic Peace Fellowship
 Center for Action and Contemplation
 Christian Center for Women (Nigeria)
 The Christophers
 Conference of Major Superiors of Men
 Crusade for Life (Nigeria)
 Disabilities Perspectives
 Durham, NC, Mennonite Church
 Evangelical Partners in Mission
 Evangelicals for Social Action
 Feminists Choosing Life of New York
 Feminists for Life of America
 Friends Witness for a Prolife Peace Testimony
 HOPE Network
 Jonah House
 Jubilee Partners
 Just Organization for Natural Growth (India)
 Liberals for Life
 National Council of Catholic Women
 Orthodox Peace Fellowship
 Pax Christi USA
 People of African Interest & Descent
 Pro-Life Alliance of Gays and Lesbians
 Sisters of Life
 Sojourners
 Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum
 Weaker Community Development Trust (India)
 Woodcrest Bruderhof
 Numerous religious orders
 Numerous Catholic Worker houses

Individual Endorsers

(partial list)

Randall Balmer, *Columbia University*
 Rev. Dan Berrigan, SJ
 Wendell & Sonia Berry
 Sidney Callahan, *psychologist, author, speaker*
 Sr. Joan Chittister, OSB
 Shane Claiborne, *The Simple Way*
 Mairead Corrigan Maguire, *Nobel Peace Prize Laureate*
 Dorothy Cotton, *Speaker & Singer*
 Harvey Cox, *Harvard Divinity School*
 Fr. John Dear, SJ, *Writer and Peace Activist*
 Jim Forest, *Orthodox Peace Fellowship*
 Richard Foster, *Renovaré*
 David P. Gushee, *Mercer University*
 Stanley Hauerwas, *Duke Divinity School*
 Nat Hentoff
 Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC
 Rev. Johnny M. Hunter, *LEARN*
 Rev. Patrick Mahoney, *Christian Defense Coalition*
 Colman McCarthy, *Center for Teaching Peace*
 Brian D. McLaren
 Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, *Nobel Peace Prize Laureate*
 Sr. Helen Prejean, CSJ, *Sisters of Medaille*
 Rev. Samuel Rodriguez, *President, National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference*
 Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM
 John D. Roth, *Editor, Mennonite Quarterly Review*
 Martin Sheen, *Actor*
 Ron Sider, *Evangelicals for Social Action*
 Glen Harold Stassen, *Fuller Theological Seminary*
 John K. Stoner, *Every Church A Peace Church*
 Karen Swallow-Prior, *Liberty University*
 Jim Wallis, *Sojourners*



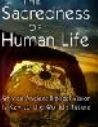

Consistent Life Ethic Resources

Weekly E-Letter, *Peace & Life Connections*, sign up for free at our Web site

Fliers, brochures, literature downloadable at <http://www.consistent-life.org/downloads.html>

T-shirts, bumper stickers, buttons, mugs, tote bags and more are available from our on-line store at <http://www.cafepress.com/lifecounts>

Books

	<p><i>Consistently Opposing Killing: from Abortion to Assisted Suicide, the Death Penalty, and War</i>, edited by Rachel M. MacNair and Stephen Zunes. An anthology of consistent life ethic writings.</p>		<p><i>Consistently Pro-Life: The Ethics of Bloodshed in Ancient Christianity</i>, by Rob Arner. An examination of how the early Christian church opposed all forms of killing of human beings, and its relevance to the present day.</p>
	<p><i>The Sacredness of Human Life: Why an Ancient Biblical Vision Is Key to the World's Future</i>, by David P. Gushee. Traces concept of sacredness of human life through scripture & church history to present.</p>		<p><i>The Early Church on Killing: A Comprehensive Sourcebook on War, Abortion, and Capital Punishment</i>, edited by Ronald J. Sider. A collection of early Christian texts and other evidence on their view of killing.</p>

Consistent Life <http://www.consistent-life.org/>
 An international network for Peace, Justice and Life