

For Immediate Release: Afghanistan War Resolution

Chapel Hill, North Carolina, November 14, 2010 – After several months examining the consequences of continued US military presence in Afghanistan, on October 25, 2010 members of the Ethical Humanist Society of the Triangle passed the following resolution:

The war with Afghanistan is entering its 10th year. The National Leaders Council of the American Ethical Union's statement of 12/2/09 calls for a "Just and Enduring Peace in Afghanistan". The path to peace and an end of war and terrorism in Afghanistan requires full support of the right of Afghan people to a humane quality of life. The Afghans must also have the right to form a government of their choosing.

Money spent on this war could be better spent in other ways, such as improving education in Afghanistan. Education is more effective than military power in neutralizing foreign extremism. For the cost of one soldier for one year in Afghanistan, we could establish 20 schools there. For the cost of one cruise missile we could start 11 schools. For the cost of 246 soldiers for one year we could we could pay for a higher education plan for all of Afghanistan.

Afghan cultural ties with Pakistan have caused the conflict to cross into Pakistan. Instability in Pakistan is aggravated by U.S. and its allies bombing Pakistan territory resulting in civilian casualties and increased hostility toward us. The fact that Pakistan has nuclear weapons brings the threat of nuclear war closer to reality.

We believe it is necessary to find a negotiated solution to the war. We therefore call upon all parties involved in the fighting in Afghanistan including the Taliban and Pakistan to enter into a cease fire, to end all offensive actions, to enlist the help of The United Nations in taking the lead in talks designed for a lasting peace, and to plan for the reconstruction of Afghanistan through a collaborative process with the Afghan people and all other interested and affected regional parties, and we call upon all parties in the conflict to fully fund the initiative.

Be it resolved that the Ethical Humanist Society of the Triangle calls on President Obama to initiate the above actions.

...end of resolution

The Ethical Humanist Society of the Triangle (www.ncethicalsociety.org) is a humanistic, educational, and religious organization based in Chapel Hill. Its primary focus is to promote ethical behavior among all people. The American Ethical Union is the national organization of ethical humanist societies in the United States.

Contact (for more information)
Randy Best, EHST Leader
randallbest@fastmail.fm

Posted by
Chris Kaman, EHST Secretary
chkaman@gmail.com