

seekingjusticetogether

LATEST NEWS & UPDATES



This year's theme:






Hope: Anchored in faith, fulfilled by love

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION Updates



- The ISJC has welcomed two new interns recently – **Joy Sunday** joins the team as the Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Response Intern, and **Isabel Fairclough** as the Content and Resource Development Intern.

Find us here!

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From the Desk of the Directors

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Let's take a look at the Biblical foundation of Social Justice!

The Salvation Army is committed to social justice because it is foundational to the character of God, as ascribed by the Psalmist: 'Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne.' (Psalm 89)

The writings of the Old Testament have a repeated theme to care for the outcast, marginalised and powerless. We frequently read to care for 'the orphan, the alien and the widow.' (Psalm 146:9)

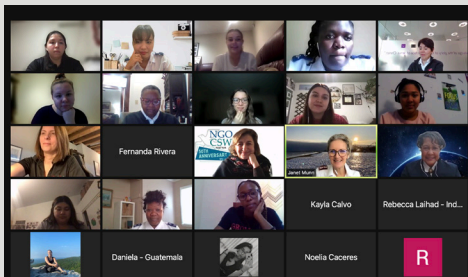
In fact, this Hebrew bedrock, exemplified in the prophets, insists on the dignity of the poor, and commands us to resist any temptation to view the powerless and marginalised as beneath us or somehow different from ourselves.

In the New Testament, with the coming of Jesus a new day dawns and we see justice now lived out on the margins of society. This is a major shift: from theory to practice.

Jesus does not deviate from the Hebrew Scriptures, and personally tends and cares for the very same kind of vulnerable people that God cares for in the Old Testament.



- The International Social Justice Girls has launched! This group is organised to speak about matters that concern girls and what matters in their lives now and for the future, this group will encourage international conversations to occur among girls across the world regarding topics that matter to them personally and that play a part in their lives.



From the Desk of the Directors (cont'd.)

We find an early pattern in the gospel of Luke where, in rapid succession, Jesus cares for a leper, a paralytic, a widow, and the sick and demonized (Luke 5-7). Luke is sending a clear message. Jesus has a focus – the people living on the margins of society, the outsiders, isolated from community.

Biblical justice is a powerful force that goes much further than mere human activity and a desire for equal opportunity. It includes ultimate resolution beyond life on this earth and inspires justice champions when all seems otherwise despairing and overwhelming.

Foundational Biblical justice, exemplifying the character of God, belabored by the prophets, personified in Christ and promised in eternity gives us grounds for lively confidence and counter-intuitive optimism.

Biblical justice is our unshakeable, unbreakable, immovable foundation.

Colonel Richard Munn



Dates for your Calendar

- **World Social Justice Day**, Sunday 20th February 2022
- **International Women's Day**, Tuesday 8th March 2022
 - **International Women's Day YouTube Event** Hosted by Commissioner Rosalie Peddle. This will premiere at Midnight EST (5am UTC), at then available to watch at any time.
 - **Sustainability Webinar** Hosted by Colonel Janet Munn. This will premiere at 8am EST (1pm UTC), and then available to watch at any time.
 - For more information visit salvationarmy.org/isjc/IWD2022
- **United Nations Commission on the Status of Women**, 14- 25 March.
- **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**, Monday 21st March 2022
- **World Water Day**, Tuesday 22nd March 2022

Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking Response

2021 KEY IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

The Salvation Army is active in responding to MSHT in **108 countries**.



Served 9,795 Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking Survivors :

Africa: 435
Americas & Caribbean: 5,019
Europe: 3,107
South Asia: 412
South Pacific & East Asia: 822



166 awareness workshops were held, reaching **10,000 + people** across the world.

79 **Survivor leaders** informed our response.



117 Territorial/ National Contact Persons leading across the world.



142 prevention programs and initiatives are active **across 47 territories**.

ISJC and the United Nations

Commission on the Status of Women



The United Nations is preparing for their largest event of the year - the Commission on the Status of Women. The event will be held virtually from 13th-25th March 2022. The Salvation Army will be taking part in many of the events with Salvationists from around the world being showcased.

International Women's Day



Many Salvationist women from around the globe will be taking part in this year's International Women's Day. The ISJC will be hosting a webinar based on the 2022 theme: Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow.

Things to Pray For

- For the new ISJC interns, Joy and Isabel, as they start their new roles. May they develop spiritually, professionally, and personally, throughout their internships and pray for their work they will be doing.
- For our upcoming events, particularly International Women's Day. Pray that people will be inspired to fight for gender equality so that each of God's children may be treated alike.
- For Salvationists working around the world to further the ideals and values we discern from God. Pray for those speaking into policy on national and international levels, and for those bringing about justice in their local communities.
- For strength and perseverance for those experiencing and those fighting modern slavery and human trafficking.
- For an end to injustice in every form

How do we seek justice together?

Social justice is brought about when God's people all work together. While a lot of social justice work is influencing policy and systems, it would be nothing without people working at a local level to make real change within their communities.

Want to be part of that? Then choose Social Justice as the topic of your next Bible study or devotions, talk about our events with your friends, and get involved in the social programme at your local Corps.

We are all part of the same body, each with our role to fulfil.

'Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.' 1 Corinthians 12:27

Consider Advent 2021,
months of struggle already done,
the global pandemic still raging,
guns blazing,
controversies staging,
injustices abound
challenges confound
the nations convulsing
exploitation repulsing

Still,
a government of peace announced
a reign of justice surmounts
a rule of righteousness accounts

Easy to dismiss
Such a promise of bliss
Yet
'The zeal of the Lord Almighty
will accomplish this.'
Isaiah 9:7

Colonel Janet Munn
Director, ISJC