

Letter sent June 7, 2006 by members of the Our Lady of the Lake Justice and Peace Committee to each of the nine members of the Seattle City Council:

The Our Lady of the Lake Parish Justice and Peace Committee asks you to consider the adoption following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PEOPLE OF SEATTLE THAT:

1) Iraq belongs to the Iraqis, and they alone should have control of their natural resources, their territory, their government and their policies. Therefore, the US government should renounce interest in controlling the Iraqi economy and government, and renounce plans for permanent US military bases in Iraq. These declarations should be made immediately.

2) The US government should then seek a peace/disengagement conference, organized by the Secretary General of the United Nations, to be held in a neutral country between the 'coalition' and major political factions in Iraq. The conference is to work out the terms for the US military and economic disengagement from Iraq and suggest a process of reconciliation among factions within Iraq.

3) For damages done during two wars and twelve years of sanctions, the US government has major obligations to the people of Iraq, including the funding of the reconstruction of civilian infrastructure and the environmental cleanup of US weapons debris. And further, that work should engage and benefit Iraqis not foreign corporations

The war and occupation of Iraq is the paramount public issue of our times, but our national leaders are voiceless about how this war will end. It is an immoral and illegal debacle that drains our national soul and our treasury, and one that, as it continues, leaves us more and more physically, morally, psychologically, and fiscally impoverished.

We consequently call on you and other Council members, by resolution, to express the overwhelming view of the people of Seattle that this war has to end. We encourage you to adopt the resolution shown above as one that addresses the war's core issues, about which we hear too little.

Sincerely,

All members of the Our Lady of the Lake Parish Justice and Peace Committee