

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009  
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2009-A167  
**TITLE:** Trafficking  
**PROPOSER:** Executive Council Committee on the Status of Women  
**COMMITTEE:** National and International Concerns

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**Directly Related:** (attached)

2003-D034     Condemn Sex Trafficking  
2000-A057     Recognize Problem of and Support Efforts to Stop Trafficking of Women, Girls, and Boys

**Indirectly Related:**

2003-A025     Recommend Funding for Resource Materials on Trafficking in Women and Children  
2000-D084     On the Topic of Sexual Exploitation of Children (Rejected)  
1979-B098     Promote the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.*



**Resolution Number:** 2003-D034  
**Title:** Condemn Sex Trafficking  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention condemn domestic and international trafficking in all persons for sexual purposes as an affront to human dignity and human rights; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That the Executive Council request the appropriate Standing Committee to set up national and international plans of action for The Episcopal Church to prepare an educational campaign for parishes and dioceses on the topic of sex trafficking, and to prepare a model for a church initiative bringing together faith-based people with nongovernmental organizations, government, and law enforcement officials to create a victim-centered approach to anti-sex trafficking operations, finding ways to meet the medical, psychological, legal, and spiritual needs of persons who have been brought out of these horrendous circumstances; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That this resolution be sent to every Province in the Anglican Communion.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 330.



**Resolution Number:** 2000-A057  
**Title:** Recognize Problem of and Support Efforts to Stop Trafficking of Women, Girls, and Boys  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention recommend that every diocese bring to the attention of its members the domestic and international problem of trafficking in women, girls, and boys; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Convention commend the ongoing work of the Executive Council's Committee for the Status of Women in developing educational materials to be used by congregations and dioceses; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Convention support non-violent efforts to stop this abuse, to protect the victims, and prosecute the perpetrators of this injustice.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 198.

TOPIC/TITLE: Liturgy: Trafficking  
PROPOSER: Executive Council Committee on the Status of Women  
C&C PAGE:  
BB PAGE: 695

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1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76th General Convention of The  
2 Episcopal Church calls for the protection of all victims of human trafficking, particularly women  
3 and children, providing necessary attention to their physical, psychological and social needs, and  
4 using approaches that respect victims' rights and integrity; and be it further  
5

6 *Resolved*, that the 76th General Convention urges its members to support legislation and action  
7 oriented to the recovery and reintegration into society of victims of human trafficking. These  
8 efforts should provide a safe, dignified and sustainable way for victims of trafficking to  
9 reintegrate into society and lead a normalized life; and be it further  
10

11 *Resolved*, that all congregations and dioceses are urged to observe January 11, Human  
12 Trafficking Awareness Day, in their liturgical, congregational and diocesan lives, and to make  
13 use of the following litany:  
14

15 **FOR AN END TO THE EVILS OF TRAFFICKING**

16 Almighty God, Judge of the nations and Protector of the helpless, we come before you today to  
17 ask for vision and courage and strength as we witness in your Name against the evils of  
18 trafficking.  
19

20 We pray first for the victims of trafficking, especially women and children, whose lot is slavery  
21 and whose future is despair. As you rescued Susanna from a cruel fate at the hands of the elders,  
22 so rescue the enslaved in our day and restore their rightful dignity as your beloved creation.  
23

24 Leader: "Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
25 People: "Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days."  
26

27 We pray for those who traffic in human lives that they may know at first hand the wrath of God  
28 and, knowing it, may fear God and turn from their wickedness and live. As you touched and  
29 transformed the heart of John Newton with your amazing grace, so break through the barriers of  
30 greed and indifference and let their evil be turned to good.  
31

32 Leader: "'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
33 People: "How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!"  
34

35 We pray for the exploiters whose relentless demand for forced labor and commercial sex spells  
36 doom for the innocent in many lands. As you brought judgment on Babylon, the great city, so let  
37 your righteous will frustrate all who take part in this unholy trade.  
38

39 Leader: "Fallen, fallen is the great city; for its sins are heaped as high as heaven.

1 People: "God has remembered its iniquities; for mighty is the Lord who judges."  
2

3 We pray for our governments which, having made a start, are left with much yet to do for the  
4 voiceless and wretched of the earth. As you moved Abraham Lincoln to act on behalf of the  
5 enslaved, so move our leaders to respond with conscience and compassion in this moment of  
6 testing.  
7

8 Leader: "Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.  
9

10 People: "Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal."  
11

12 We pray for the religious leaders in all our communities that they may bear a bold and faithful  
13 witness to discomfort and challenge those who rest easy in the face of evil.  
14

15 As you moved the prophets of old and raised up Sojourner Truth to bear her witness,  
16 so call forth prophets at the heart of our nation's life that the impossible may be done in your  
17 strength and the undreamed of become real.  
18

19 Leader: "God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power.  
20

21 People: "Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour."  
22

23 We pray finally for ourselves and for all people of compassion and goodwill that we may respect  
24 the dignity of every human being, loving our neighbors as ourselves. As you have brought us out  
25 of error into truth and out of sin into righteousness, so by the witness of many bring the victims of  
26 trafficking out of death into life and rid the great city which is our world from these evils at work  
27 among us.  
28

29 Leader: "Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.  
30

31 People: "Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore." *Amen.*  
32

33 Bishop Jeffery Rowthorn  
34 Salem, Connecticut, U.S.A.  
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