

Reflection Questions

1. What are some of the challenges to ending violence against women? How can they be overcome?
2. Do you believe that if more women were involved with peace-building and decision-making processes the world would be more peaceful? Why or why not?
3. What is happening in your own country, community and family related to women, conflict resolution and violence?
4. Were there any points made by the authors that you disagree with?
5. How is your church engaged in peace-building and/or efforts to end violence against women?
6. How might you and your community commit yourselves to ending violence against women?

Suggested Readings

Women, Violence, and Conflict Resolution:

- Benedek, Wulfgang, E. Kisaakye and G. Oberleitner (eds). 2002. *Human Rights of Women: International Instruments and African Experiences*. London: Zed Books Ltd.
- Breines, Ingebord, D. Gierycz and B. Reardon. 1999. *Towards a Women's Agenda for a Culture of Peace*. Paris: UNESCO.
- Eastern and Central Africa Women in Development Network (ed). 1997. *Violence Against Women: Trainers Manual*. Nairobi: Paulines Publications Africa.
- Rehn, Elisabeth and Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf. 2002. *Women, War, and Peace: The Independent Expert's Assessment on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Women and Women's Roles in Peace-Building*. New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women.

The Church and Women:

- Gnanadason, Aruna. 1996. *No Longer a Secret: The Church and Violence Against Women*. Geneva: WCC Publications.
- Hoomkwap, Kathryn Hauwa. "Women in Church and Society." African Synod intervention presented in Rome, 1994.
- John Paul II. *Mulieris Dignitatem*, Apostolic Letter of the Supreme Pontiff, 15 August 1988.
- John Paul II. *To the Women of the World*, 29 June 1995.
- Pope Pius XII. *Papal Directives for the Woman of Today*, 1947.
- Above materials available at www.ewtn.com, www.afrikaworld.net, and www.vatican.va.

African Bishops on Women:

- Catholic Bishops' Conference of Nigeria. 2002. "Restoring the Dignity of Nigerian Women."
- Catholic Bishops of Eritrea. 2002. "God Loves This Country," 28-30.

Catholic Bishops of Malawi. 1998. "Come Back to Me and Live: A Call to Repentance as We Walk Together Toward the Year 2000."

Catholic Bishops of Uganda. 1996. "Be My Witnesses, the Vocation and Mission of Women in the Church and Society Today."

Above pastoral letters available at www.afcast.org.zw.