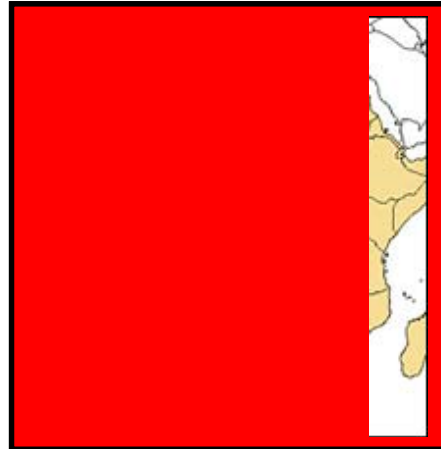


How Much Do *You* Really Know?

Office of Peace, Justice & Integrity of Creation



For a complete educational packet,
including 20 min. DVD DRC:
“Forced to Flee,” send \$12 payable
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address below.

*All proceeds to support Comboni
Missionaries in Congo.*

Contact Information:

S. Louise Akers, S.C.
Office of Peace, Justice &
Integrity of Creation
370 Neeb Rd. #101,
Cincinnati, OH 45233
513-451-9444
akerslou@aol.com

www.srcharitycinti.org/opjic.htm



CONGO AWARENESS



Sisters of Charity
of Cincinnati

“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.” –Mother Teresa

“In Congo, if someone starts an armed group or kills people, they have a better chance of becoming a senior minister or a general than being put behind bars.”

- Anneke Van Woudenberg,
Human Rights Watch



Photo © Mia Farrow www.miafarrow.org

“We are cursed because of our gold. All we do is suffer. There is no benefit to us.”

-Congoese Gold Miner

“It is more dangerous to be a woman than to be a soldier right now.”

- Major General Patrick
Cammaert, Former UN
Deputy Force Commander

WOMEN IN CONGO

At least 250,000 civilians, most of them women and children, were newly displaced by the fighting, bringing the total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the province from this and previous rounds of conflict to well over one million.

The United States should seize this opportunity to play a leading role in ending this violence and ensuring that Congolese women can once again feel safe in their own communities.

- Hundreds of thousands of women are raped as a weapon of war
- Victims of sexual violence do not have adequate medical services, rehabilitation programs, or psychological counseling
- Out of more than 4.4 million children who are not in school in the Congo, 2.5 million of these children are girls
- Women in the Congo are often treated as little more than private property, and they are often denied access to health care, property, education, and information

Congregational Stand

We, Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, commit ourselves to be informed about the human rights violations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and call on our government to do everything in its power to end the violent conflicts there through the following actions:

- **Pass** legislation that would help stop trade in conflict minerals that is sustaining a brutal war of unfathomable atrocities in the Congo, especially against women.
- **Create** conditions of security for the return of displaced peoples to their lands.
- **Provide** diplomatic support from the US Government for MONUSCO (the UN Organization Stabilization Mission) so that it can fulfill its mandate of forestalling armed attacks against local communities and enforcing the UN arms embargo on Congo.
- **Continue** high-level US diplomatic engagement with the African Union, European Union and the United Nations to avert wider regional armed conflict.

We further commit ourselves to pray for the people in the Congo and for their leaders.