

Catholic
Charities
USA.®

Working to Reduce Poverty in America.

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a bright orange sticky note. The word "WHY?" is written on the note in bold, black, hand-drawn capital letters. The background is dark and out of focus, showing a blurred hand.

WHY ?

**do YOU
do
what
you do?**

Where's the quote from?

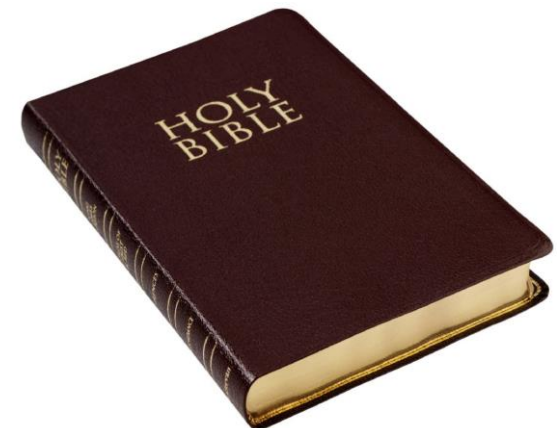
“All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.”



- U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Preamble to the Declaration of Independence
- Bible



UNITED NATIONS





Sources of Catholic Social Teaching

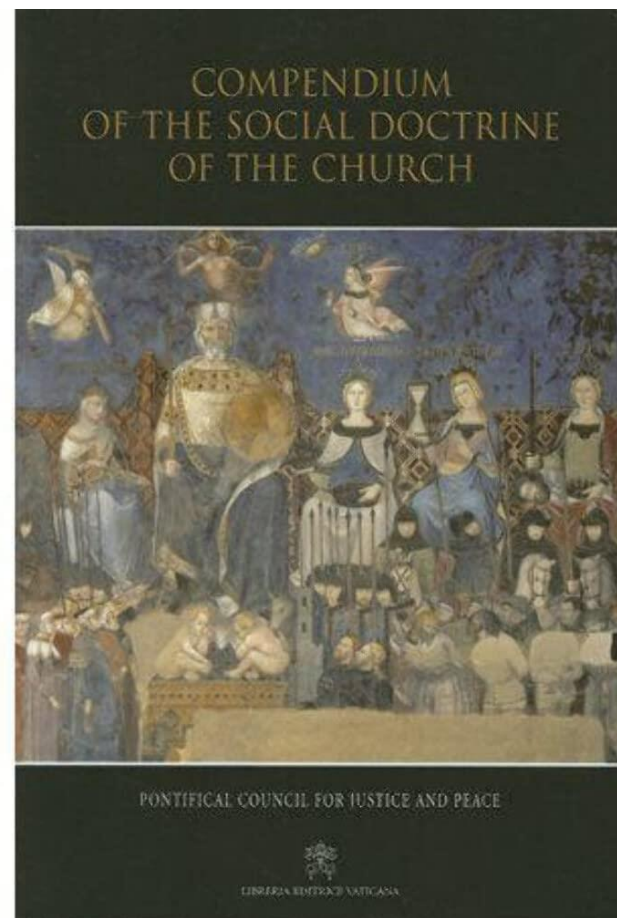


1. Jesus (and Jewish tradition)
2. The early church (apostles, church fathers)
3. The Magisterium (popes, bishops)



What is Catholic Social Teaching?

1. It's not a checklist
2. It's not a series of Q&A's
3. It is a body of teaching, a moral vision





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Major Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

1. Life and Dignity of the Human Person
2. Family, Community and Participation
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
5. Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
6. Solidarity
7. Care of God's Creation

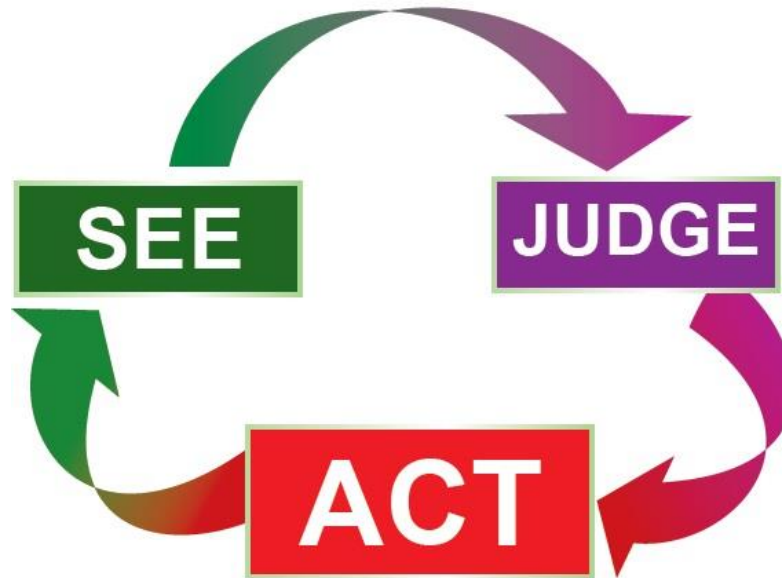
(USCCB)

1. Human Dignity
2. Common Good
3. Subsidiarity
4. Solidarity

(Compendium)

CST and Catholic Charities

- What is going on here?
- Why is it happening?

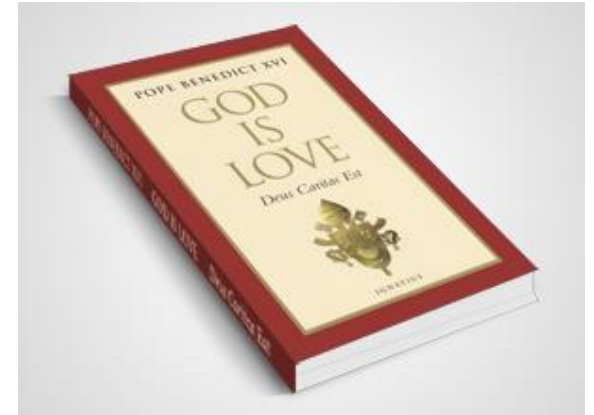


- What should be going on?
- What is at the heart of the matter?
- What insights does our faith give us regarding the current reality?

- What actions/steps do we now need to take?
- How effective has our response been?

Things to Do

1. Start with Deus caritas est (The “Magna Carta” of Catholic Charities)
2. Read CCUSA papers
3. Periodic days of reflection
4. Annual retreat
5. Begin and end everything with prayer





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Stay Engaged!

- Text **“CCUSA”** to 855-564-3197 to receive action alerts
- Subscribe to the **Washington Weekly** for policy updates <https://bit.ly/3fLLFI3>





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Need help developing your advocacy priorities & strategies?

CCUSA's Social Policy/Government Relations team is here for you!

Contact us at

socialpolicy@catholiccharitiesusa.org

