

SOCIOLOGISTS WITHOUT BORDERS

Resolution on Imperiled Sociologists

Invitation to Join Us

Committed to the advance of human rights worldwide, and indeed, recognizing that human rights are universal and respect no borders, Sociologists without Borders (SSF) condemns any State action that denies academic freedoms to scholars, researchers, writers, and teachers, especially to sociologists and regardless of their affiliation and subspecialty. Imprisonment and endangering the wellbeing of anyone for political or ideological reasons or on the basis of their gender, race, ethnicity, sexual preference, or religion is **unjust, and imprisonment and endangerment of scholars (in any occupational capacity) are particularly heinous** because these acts not only threaten persons but also collective knowledge and the free flow of ideas in a society and, indeed, in the global society.

Members of Sociologists without Borders recognize that all sociologists around the world constitute a virtual community. We share knowledge and many of the same approaches to our subject matter. We also share a commitment to enhancing societies and advancing equality, robust democracies, and the social and economic security of peoples, and this is the case even when we have distinctive perspectives and views. Because we comprise a worldwide community, sociologists have collective obligations to one another.

Therefore, be it resolved that Sociologists without Borders, along with other sociological associations, will coordinate efforts to intervene - by letter or petition - when any sociologist in the world is arrested or imprisoned for political, religious, cultural or ideological reasons or because of their race, ethnicity or gender.

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We invite your sociological association to be a signatory to this Resolution to create a large alliance for the purpose of protesting when harm comes to any sociologist. This alliance would not be able to respond in complex cases, but surely can in straightforward cases, with, for example, letters to the Head of State or the State's Chief Justice. All governments boast about the caliber of their educational institutions and the noteworthiness of their intellectual elites, and therefore cannot easily dismiss criticism that comes from the international community of sociological associations and societies.

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Who we are: Sociologists without Borders/Sociólogos sin Fronteras (SSF) is an international association of teachers, researchers and students who promote understanding and advocacy of human rights, collective goods, and participatory democracy. SSF has members from 35 countries and chapters in Spain, U.S., Brazil, Chile, Italy, and Iran.

30 March 2007

Signatories

Association for Humanist Sociology, USA

Sociological Association of Aotearoa (New Zealand)

Southern Sociological Society, USA

Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS)