

Women at the Wall - 1989

As religious Jewish women, the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, representing the Women of Reform Judaism, is committed to religious freedom for every person of faith and to differing expressions of religious belief.

In recent months, some women in Israel have been holding prayer services at the Kotel (Western Wall) in Jerusalem, a national historic site that belongs to the entire Jewish people. Unfortunately, the women have been attacked by men who object to women praying with a Torah at the Kotel.

We, the Board of Directors of NFTS, the Women of Reform Judaism, declare our solidarity with these women who are seeking to express their sense of Jewish identity, and

We call on municipal authorities in Jerusalem to insure the safety of Jewish women who seek only to practice Judaism in accordance with their understanding of the tradition, and

We call on those who would harm Jewish women through the distortion of Jewish law to stop using violence and abuse as a weapon to further their aims, and

We call on Jews everywhere to speak out in support of those wishing to pray in peace at the Kotel or wherever Jewish women offer their prayers to the Almighty.