



Advocacy Update

Sent November 17, 2010

CEDAW! Senate Hearing Scheduled!

Women's Rights Are Human Rights

- Hillary Clinton, Beijing, China: 5/9/95

The Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law, chaired by Senator Durbin (D-III), will hold a hearing tomorrow, Thursday, November 18th, on ratification of CEDAW, the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. CEDAW was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1979 and has been ratified by 186 of 193 countries worldwide. The United States is one of seven countries that have not ratified CEDAW, countries such as Iran, Somalia, and Sudan.

CEDAW, the sole international treaty to focus only on women, addresses violence against women, the right to vote, sex trafficking, access to education, and other issues of concern. Go to the [CEDAW2010 website](#) for more information.

Canadian Prime Minister Makes Powerful Statement on Anti-Semitism

WRJ Vice President Sara Charney informed us about Prime Minister Harper's important speech at the global Conference on Combating Anti-Semitism, held in Ottawa on November 8, 2010. According to *the National Post*, Prime Minister Harper "delivered a strongly worded warning about the resurgence of anti-Semitism in Canada and abroad. He said the persecution of Jews is becoming a global phenomenon in which anti-Semitic ideologies target the Jewish people in their 'homeland' of Israel and uses the 'language of human rights to do so.'"

The URJ Commission on Outreach and Membership Needs Your Help

Cynthia Wolf, member of the WRJ Board of Directors, represents WRJ on the URJ Commission on Outreach and Membership. The commission is collecting information about congregational practices in regard to death and mourning procedures with interfaith families.

Please ask your rabbis, temple administrators and/or presidents about the death and mourning procedures for interfaith families in your congregations and send your information to cwolf@gt.rr.com.