



INTERFAITH COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR JUSTICE & PEACE

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*Religious communities must  
stop blessing war and violence...*

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*Affiliations listed are for  
identification purposes only*

## STATEMENT ON INS DETENTIONS

APPROVED BY ICUJP STEERING COMMITTEE, DECEMBER 20, 2002

Interfaith Communities United for Justice and Peace (ICUJP) joins the American Civil Liberties Union, Iranian American Lawyers Association, Council on American-Islamic Relations, Muslim Public Affairs Council, Southern California Leadership Conference, Asian Pacific Legal Center, Progressive Jewish Alliance, National Lawyers' Guild, People for the American Way, Japanese American Citizen's League and others in condemning the principles and application of the INS Special Call-In Registration Program.

ICUJP calls upon the Justice Department and the Administration to repeal this program, which is based on the discredited notion that ethnic profiling is an effective way to combat enemy activity on U.S. soil, a notion that in the past led to the incarceration of Japanese-Americans and other shameful episodes of American history. Any governmental program that targets people based upon national origin, race or religion is repugnant to the core values of our Constitution

ICUJP also condemns any governmental program that leads to the unjust and secret detention of law-abiding persons, many of whom are guilty of nothing more than minor administrative flaws in their applications for lawful permanent status. Rather than enhancing security, such mass arrests divert resources from more effective initiatives and make lawful residents and visa holders fearful of cooperating in the fight against terrorism.

Finally, ICUJP deplors the treatment being accorded to thousands of law-abiding persons who have come forward in good faith, only to find themselves detained in inhuman conditions and denied food, medicine, blankets, sleep and other basic necessities. Many of these individuals came to the United States as a haven from persecution in their own countries. ICUJP appeals to the Justice Department and the Administration to grant to all persons the basic dignity and respect that are the hallmark of a free society. We insist on due process for all people within our borders.

Mass roundups are the brand of tyrannies. ICUJP urges the Justice Department and the Administration to repeal this ill-advised and wrongful program.

For further information:

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