



Ancient Vision, Modern Imperative

THE BIBLE AND ADDICTION PREVENTION AND PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY



Presented by the General Board of Church and Society

SO WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL AND
THEOLOGICAL RESPONSE?



SO WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL RESPONSE?

Abundance



“I came that you might have life and have it abundantly.” *John 10:10*



SO WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL RESPONSE?

Community



“For all must carry their own loads...bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” *Galatians 6:2-5*



SO WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL RESPONSE?

Humanity



So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them.” *Genesis 1:27*

“For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”
Ephesians 6:12



SO WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL RESPONSE?

Stewardship



“The sea belongs to God who made it and the dry land because God formed it.”

Psalm 95:5

“From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required.” *Luke 12:48b*

“...Rulers have not healed the sick...” *Ezekiel 34:4*



SO WHAT IS THE THEOLOGICAL RESPONSE?

United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs



We affirm our long-standing support of abstinence from alcohol as a faithful witness to God's liberating and redeeming love for persons. We support abstinence from the use of any illegal drugs.



SO WHAT IS THE THEOLOGICAL RESPONSE?

United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs



Since the use of illegal drugs, as well as illegal and problematic use of alcohol, is a major factor in crime, disease, death, and family dysfunction, we support educational programs as well as other prevention strategies encouraging abstinence from illegal drug use and, with regard to those who choose to consume alcoholic beverages, judicious use with deliberate and intentional restraint, with Scripture as a guide.



SO WHAT IS THE THEOLOGICAL RESPONSE?

United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs



Millions of living human beings are testimony to the beneficial consequences of therapeutic drug use, and millions of others are testimony to the detrimental consequences of drug misuse. We encourage wise policies relating to the availability of potentially beneficial or potentially damaging prescription and over-the-counter drugs; we urge that complete information about their use and misuse be readily available to both doctor and patient...



SO WHAT IS THE THEOLOGICAL RESPONSE?

United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs



We support the strict administration of laws regulating the sale and distribution of alcohol and controlled substances. We support regulations that protect society from users of drugs of any kind, including alcohol, where it can be shown that a clear and present social danger exists. Drug-dependent persons and their family members, including those who are assessed or diagnosed as dependent on alcohol, are individuals of infinite human worth deserving of treatment, rehabilitation, and ongoing life-changing recovery ...



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Misuse or abuse may also require intervention, in order to prevent progression into dependence. Because of the frequent interrelationship between alcohol abuse and mental illness, we call upon legislators and health care providers to make available appropriate mental illness treatment and rehabilitation for drug-dependent persons ...



SO WHAT IS THE THEOLOGICAL RESPONSE?

United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs



We commit ourselves to assisting those who suffer from abuse or dependence, and their families, in finding freedom through Jesus Christ and in finding good opportunities for treatment, for ongoing counseling, and for reintegration into society.

UNITED METHODIST RESOLUTIONS ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS



UNITED METHODIST RESOLUTIONS ON HEALTH CARE

- ⑩ **"A Call to Action on Alcohol"**
- ⑩ **"Alcohol and Other Drugs"**
- ⑩ **"Alcohol Advertising"**
- ⑩ **"Drinking on Campus"**
- ⑩ **And positions/resolutions on tobacco and gambling.**

The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church - 2012



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEW HEALTH CARE LAW

Faithful Reform in Health Care

www.faithfulreform.org

Kaiser Family Foundation: www.kff.org

**Kaiser Family Foundation animated video of the
law:**

<http://healthreform.kff.org/the-animation.aspx>



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