

Ursuline Sisters: Raising Awareness to End Torture

LOUISVILLE, Ky (June 23, 2010) - On Wednesday, June 23, 25 people gathered at the intersection of Muhammad Ali and 4th Street in downtown Louisville with a mission: to raise awareness about the effect of torture and what each of us can do to prevent the practice.

Ursuline Sisters Mary Jo Gramig, Rita Ann Wigginton, Macrina Stermec, and Julia Davis held signs decrying torture.



*Sister Rita Ann Wigginton held a sign at the vigil.
Similar signs read: "Torture is Immoral" and "End Torture Now"*

They were joined by Ginny Schaeffer, the Director of the Angela Merici Center for Spirituality, and another dozen people throughout the two hour vigil held in conjunction with similar efforts in Washington, D.C. The Ursuline Sisters of Louisville co-sponsored the Louisville Torture Abolition Project, the title given to local efforts. It's the second year the sisters have been involved.



*Organizer of the event, Marcy Allman, sat blindfolded throughout
the two hour vigil as a symbol of what many torture victims endure.
She held a sign that read "Support Survivors."*

"People are curious and we are answering a lot of questions," Sister Rita Ann Wigginton said, while standing on one corner during the vigil. "You know, it's so important that we're here to talk with people because being simply aware of the negative impact of torture is the first step toward ending it."

To find out more about the effects of torture and what you can do to prevent this U.S. sanctioned practice, go to www.TASSC.org, www.un.org or www.nrcat.org

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