

ACHTUS

The Academy of Catholic Hispanic
Theologians of the United States

Press Release

Hispanic Catholic Theologians Call for Just and Comprehensive Immigration Reform

San Antonio, TX, June 7, 2006

The following statement is issued for immediate release:

We, the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States (ACTHUS), stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters, the undocumented immigrants in this nation. In faithfulness to the Gospel of Christ and the social teachings of the Catholic Church, we affirm the dignity of all human beings, regardless of national origin, and we call for just, comprehensive, and humane immigration reform.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has clearly stated that our current immigration system is broken and perpetuates the unnecessary suffering of migrants. We further recognize that this situation is driven by structural, economic disparities. These, in turn, breed various forms of racial, gender, and environmental violence.

We oppose the criminalization of undocumented immigrants and of those who serve them, the construction of border walls, the militarization of the border, and the conditions that result in the deaths of so many immigrants.

Through our scholarship and our ministries, we commit ourselves to dispel falsehoods about immigration, to protect civil rights, to promote justice, and to make known the gifts, talents, and contributions of immigrants to our society. Failing to stand for just and comprehensive immigration reform impoverishes us all.

May our common journey with our immigrant brothers and sisters bring us all to share equally at the table of God's justice.

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