

# Open Space Notes

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## Explore New Economic Models

which don't require constant growth/increased consumerism

- There are existing models of alternative economic communities. We could build on or collaborate with them. (Catholic workers, Sojourners, Atlantic Life Communities, Tiny Houses, Voluntary Simplicity....)
- There is a desire in many of us to live more radically simple lives through radical sustainability/stewardship. We need to change our behaviors to reflect the crisis of our planet. There are real life and death consequences to our choices in the U.S.
- Programs like Kiva, Heffer, CRS Partnering Programs, Fonkoze *actually* do transfer funds from first world to those who can use it in developing countries.

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## Human Trafficking

- Consolidate and share resources (link to US Catholic Sisters)
- Celebrate feast of St. Josephine Bakhita on February 8 (Celebrate/take action)
- Act on state/federal anti-trafficking legislation (Polaris bi-weekly report)
- [cleanhotels.com](http://cleanhotels.com)

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## How to use our New Technologies to Hear and Dialogue More Effectively with our Sisters in the South. How to Hear Their Voices?

Hows:

- Different models of gathering information through stories and interviews using modern technological means.
  - Affirming and supporting Sisters in the Global South
  - Raising Consciousness here.
- Networking among religious congregations in some places, e.g. Kinshasha-Sharing Resources.

What:

- Bringing voices of our Sisters in the Global South into this conversation about the transformation.

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## Immigration Reform

Advocacy:

- Network info to Action
- Justice For Immigrants (USCCB) Info and Advocacy
- Dream Act

Hands-On:

- Tutoring ESL Classes
- Women Religious Sponsoring Shelters for Immigrants

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## Integrating Contemplation and Principle of Cosmology into JPIC Work

- We are experiencing a call to be more contemplative and participate in the shift.
- Relationality is a key component.
- Experiencing a call to nurture the mystic and support the prophetic.
- Call to be educators of a new language and new consciousness.
- What are the different strategies we need in our toolboxes to work with diverse communities?

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## Pope Francis Encyclical on Environment

- Power of faith community voices on environment because it is unexpected.
- Use: Let's not waste the opportunity of the environmental encyclical because of popular Pope is going to say something concrete.
- It connects into the Love of our faith and a way to show people how all justice issues are connected.
- Make a list of people, program, issues regarding environment and religious life.
- Connect it to our charisms and people's experiences.

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## Re-Thinking Theology

What is new?

- Mystery
- Grasping for new language for new experience/ new cosmology/ new theology
- New language/Our Experiences
  - Language comes from relationships (baby needs to feel "mom before saying "mama")
- Great hope for new earth and beyond.....
- What sustains us as we journey into the mystery? *Nature, awe, wonder, community*
- How to invite one another into the mystery?
- (Share resources)

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## Relationships with Muslims

Recognizing the importance of this topic:

- we encourage seeking opportunities to interact with Muslim people;
- our media mutes Muslim voices; we encourage seeking ways to make those voices heard;

Resources (some):

- The Saint and the Sultan (book-Moses)
- Francis and the Sultan (book and video—Cathy Warren, OSF)
- JustFaith "short" program "The Saint and the Sultan"
- Film in development "The Sultan and the Saint"

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## Inter-Generational Relationships

### Guiding Principles

- Mutuality
- Reverence and respect for each other's wisdom as peers
- Integral to the survival of planet and humanity

### Practical Application

- Justice Cafés
- Mentoring programs
- Informal relationships outside your own peer group.
- Mutual intergenerational education days.
- Communal Charism (Creating)

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## Networking for Advocacy Against the Death Penalty and Promotion of Restorative Justice

- Learning about resources.
  - Death Row Support Project
- A network exists that I can connect to.
- Role of restorative justice and it's importance.
- Resources shared.
- Many people have a personal connection to this justice issue.
- New Energy

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## Re-Imagining Women as member of the Church

### **We are all Sisters. Time to Speak Our Truth**

In solidarity with oppressed women all over the world, we as Catholic Sisters during this year of Consecrated Life, are called to speak the truth of our experience of oppression as women members of the Catholic Church.

- We ask the Church to raise its voice as healer and liberator and to support oppressed women worldwide.
- We invite women all over the world to join us in this effort.

### **Suggested Letter Topics:**

- refugee women;
- inequality (economic)
- sexual/physical abuse & violence
- trafficking (labor & sex)
- genital mutilation
- second class
- mother earth

### **Suggested Activities:**

- Newspaper ad
- Social media
- Men's communities involved and other men
- Way to tally letters & publicize
- LCWR

- NCR

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## **Church Reform and LGBT Issues**

1. Write to your bishop that LGBT people are part of every family.
2. We need to educate our own communities about LGBT issues.

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## **Connecting the Dots: Mapping JPIC Around the Country and World**

We are all looking for resources and ways of networking to make a more collective impact.

Example: (database of resources, topics, speakers and more)

Critical to model interconnectedness.

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## **Divestment/Investment in Climate Solutions**

- Not either/or, but both/and;
- A vehicle to share resources & learnings;
- Communicate clearly with congregation & public;
- Specific ideas for how to invest in climate solutions;