## Just Peace Shopping and Investing



### Partners

• What do you see as the key issues or questions this topic evokes?

- Basic Orientation: seek simplicity so not distracted from God's love and way of love
  - When we shop, seek to buy just peace products and avoid unjust products
  - Gospels
  - Catholic Social Teaching and Practice
  - Pope Francis



#### Whoa Nelly!



#### • Key Questions:

- Don't most products/companies have a mix of just and unjust practices?
- Doesn't avoiding or boycotting products harm workers?
- What if it's only me doing it?



### Nike Factory Worker: Indonesia



#### Just Peace Shopping Discerning Guides

- How does this bring me and others closer to God's love?
- What habits is this cultivating in my life?
- How can we do the *greatest* good for all persons and creation (not simply more good than harm)?
- What is the cultural impact? ex. brands, violence
- Seek Fair Trade Products
- Pay Attention to key areas: banking, retail, gas
- Sample Just Peace Purchasing Guidelines

### Just Peace Shopping: Fair Trade

- We at Catholic Relief Services believe that fair trade, at its heart, is about building respectful, enduring relationships. Includes, at a minimum, the following commitments:
  - Paying a just wage in the local context
  - Offering employees
    opportunities for advancement



• Providing equal employment opportunities for all people, particularly the most disadvantaged

### Fair Trade

- Caring for God's creation by engaging in environmentally sustainable practices
- Being open to public accountability
- Building long-term trade relationships
- Providing healthy and safe working conditions within the local context
- Providing financial and technical assistance to producers whenever possible

**Just Peace Shopping**  Better World Shopper Banks Retail • Gas INTEGRITY

#### Sample Guidelines

• Supply chain justice



- Production and distribution of products should be environmentally responsible and sustainable and should protect the rights and safety of workers.
- Energy efficiency
  - Efficient use of energy should be considered when purchasing products that use energy in any form. http://www.goodguide.com/categories/314607-lighting-products##products

#### Just Peace Shopping Sample Guidelines

- Responsible airline travel
  - Patronize companies with high sustainability and social justice rankings, along with purchasing carbon offsets for each flight taken.
  - Rankings:

www.greenamerica.org/programs/responsibleshopper/industry/airlines.cfm; www.betterworldshopper.com/r-airlines.html

Carbon offsets: <u>www.renewablechoice.com/reduce-your-flight-impact.html</u>



#### Sample Guidelines

- Just financial practices
  - Use banks, credit card companies, and other financial



institutions with high sustainability and social justice rankings. Prioritize companies with significant local investments and care for those living in poverty.

#### • Banks

- <u>www.betterworldshopper.com/r-banks.html;</u>
- www.greenamerica.org/programs/responsibleshopper/industry/banking.cfm
- Credit Cards
  - www.betterworldshopper.com/r-creditcards.html

### Just Peace Shopping Sample Guidelines

Promote peaceful practices

 As much as possible, purchase products and services from companies that serve and invest in peacebuilding programs. Avoid purchasing products and services from companies that are top suppliers to institutions that profit from violence.

### Companies and Products Engaged in Unjust Labor

Wal-Mart Dollar General Red Lobster Sysco Iams Fancy Feast Kroger Petco Olive Garden Safeway Chicken of the Sea Meow Mix

#### **Other Resources**

- Company Rankings
  - www.betterworldshopper.org
  - <u>www.greenamerica.org</u>
  - <u>www.goodguide.com</u>
  - <u>www.bcorporation.net</u>

• Fair Trade

- <u>www.crsfairtrade.org</u>
- **Partners:** What's your next step on this issue?

- Basic Orientation: seek simplicity so we can focus on God's love and way of love, rather than be distracted
  - If we invest, seek to support just peace companies and avoid unjust, violent companies
- Pope Francis



- Key Questions:
  - Should we invest through Wall Street?
  - How do we determine just peace companies?
  - Won't we lose money this way?
  - Who has time for this?
  - Will it have any impact?



### Practices

- Positive Investment
- Screens
- Shareholder Advocacy
- Divestment
- Public Campaigns

### Discerning Guides

- How does this bring me and others closer to God's love?
- What habits is this cultivating in my life?



- How can we do the *greatest* good for all persons and creation (not simply more good than harm)?
- What is the cultural impact?

- Discerning Guides
  - •When should I use screens?
  - •When should I do shareholder advocacy?
  - •When should I divest?



# Just Peace Investing Sample Just Peace Investing Guide

- The purpose of our investments is to
- advance our mission
- and help usher in the



fullness of the Reign of God. All financial gain is at best secondary to this primary mission.

#### Sample Just Peace Investing Guide



**GLOBAL DIGNITY** We value the life and dignity of every person and strive to ensure that all people have the opportunity to develop their full

potential and to thrive in their communities.

- We will invest in corporations which:
  - establish policies in employment and production which recognize the importance of families and local communities to the common good including providing paid sick and family leave, flexible work arrangements, and childcare support;
- We will not invest in corporations which:
  - actively participate in production, distribution, or administration of products that threaten, take, (or prevent) human life, including the unborn.

- Sample Just Peace Investing Guide
- We encourage ecological balance, care of the environment, development of renewable energy sources and the use of recycled materials.
  - We will invest in companies which:
    - prioritize the production and use of renewable energy;
    - develop explicit, substantive green policies.



- We will not invest in corporations which:
  - have been cited for land, water and/or air pollution using for example the EPA Toxic 100, and have not taken corrective measures;

### Just Peace Investing: Resources

#### Violationtracker.org

- Corporations with the most penalties: BP (\$25.4 billion), Anadarko Petroleum (\$5.2 billion) and GlaxoSmithKline (\$3.8 billion).
- Industries with the most: oil and pharmaceuticals
- Fortune 500 and Global 500 companies account for 81% of penalties.

- Better World Shopper/Good Guide
- Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility
- USCCB investment guide
- GoFossilFree.org

#### May Christ's Just Peace Be With You!