

Annotated Bibliography: Human Dignity, Social Justice, and Globalization

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Abstract

This annotated bibliography is a collection of websites that all have a common thread within the broader grouping of social justice—human dignity. When people join together to become a collective entity, individual responsibility seems to vanish and this is magnified with globalization. Any organization, whether it is a government or a company, seems aloof from compassion or social and political responsibility. Artists and some organizations are gradually voicing their concerns and are taking action to address these issues.

Keywords: social justice, human dignity, globalization, oppression, compassion

Doris Salcedo

Art21. Segment: Doris Salcedo in “compassion” [Online Video]. Arlington, VA: Public Broadcasting Service. Retrieved from <http://tinyurl.com/86rw883>

Doris Salcedo was born in 1958 in Colombia, South America, where she received a BFA from Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano in 1980. She completed her education in America, earning a MFA from New York University. She returned to Bogota, Colombia where she lives and works. She exhibits internationally.

Plegaria Muda is a memorial that restores the dignity of murdered young men. It is an installation that comprises of multiples each consisting of two stacked tables separated by six inches of earth with grass growing through the top table. Furniture is used as metaphor.

Carrie Mae Weems

Art21. Segment: Carrie Mae Weems in “compassion” [Online Video]. Arlington, VA: Public Broadcasting Service. Retrieved from <http://goo.gl/sx9t9>

Carrie Mae Weems is an American photographer who was born in 1953 in Portland, Oregon. She has an M.A. degree from Berkely, an M.F.A. degree from the University of California, San Diego, and a B.F.A. from the California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, California. She has exhibited extensively.

Carrie Mae Weems' *Kitchen Table Series* explores issues of identity, feminism, and racism. Her photography has an intimacy that evokes dignity, making these issues

less abstract and more real for the viewer. The photographs feature an African American man and woman seated at a kitchen table.

Vic Muniz

Aynsley, A. (Producer). (2010). *Waste Land* [Live Streaming]. Available from <http://www.netflix.com/>

Vic Muniz was born in a favela in 1961 in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He immigrated to America in the 1980s and currently lives in New York City. He is a prolific artist and although originally a sculptor, his current body of work comprises of photographic depictions from his ephemeral artwork.

The *Waste Land* photos were taken as part of the process of the documentary movie. Vic Muniz developed a relationship with workers who recycled garbage in Rio de Janeiro. He then constructed portraits of them out of the garbage they selected and auctioned the final photos. The process eliminated their facelessness.

Lalla Essaydi

Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art: Feminist Art Base: Lalla Essaydi. Lalla Essaydi [Online Article]. Brooklyn, NY: Brooklyn Museum. Retrieved from <http://tinyurl.com/7h2lyza>

Lalla Essaydi was born in Morocco in 1956. She received her M.F.A. from the Museum of Fine Arts, TUFTS University in 2003, and is currently living in New York City. She is both a photographer and a painter and her work has been widely exhibited.

Les Femmes du Maroc: Grand Odalisque is a photograph of a scene reminiscent of Ingres' *Le Grande Odalisque*. The difference between the two works forces the viewer to confront western stereotypes toward the Arab culture, particularly women. The photographs are filled with symbolism.

Wired

Johnson, J. (2011, February 28). 1 Million workers. 90 Million iPhones. 17 Suicides.

Who's to blame? *Wired* [Online Magazine]. Retrieved from <http://goo.gl/dNc9n>

This article is written for *Wired* magazine and deals with the high incidence of suicides that have occurred amongst workers in China. The article questions our materialistic culture and its relationship to the exploitation of workers, who are perceived as faceless to the consumer.

Social Justice—Definition

Social Justice. (n.d.). In Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. Retrieved from

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_justice

Wikipedia is a democratic encyclopedia that is monitored and updated by members. This specific Wikipedia defines social justice and discusses the history and

broad ramifications of the term, as well as the many interpretations of its usage. Human dignity is recognized as a human right.

WikiLeaks

TED: Ideas worth spreading. Julian Assange: Why the world needs WikiLeaks [Online Video Interview]. Retrieved from <http://goo.gl/RrdOu>

This is a video interview with Julian Assange, the creator of WikiLeaks. He describes some of the leaks and the consequences. The journalistic exposure of government and corporate secrets holds these bodies accountable for their actions. WikiLeaks serves as a check and a balance against extreme power.

United Nations

United Nations. The universal declaration of human rights. Retrieved from <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>

The United Nations is an international organization comprising of 193 countries. This website concentrates on one aspect of the organization and that is the international law dealing with social justice. This website lists thirty articles that define universal human rights.

Hiraki Sawa

YouTube. Hiraki Sawa. Mov [Online Video]. Retrieved from <http://goo.gl/HeCYm>

Hiraki Sawa was born in Ishikawa, Japan. He received his B.F.A. at the University of East London and his M.F.A. from the Slade School of Fine Art, University College, London. He lives and works in London and exhibits in many countries.

The black and white stop motion movie, *Dwelling*, is filmed in the interior of a nondescript apartment that could be anywhere in the world. Airplanes take off and land, but everywhere seems blandly similar. The homogenization aspect of globalization seems to strip everything of individuality and the dignity of the specific.

Yunus Center

Yunus Centre. Retrieved from <http://www.muhammadyunus.org/>

This website is a central hub for the Yunus Centre whose goal is to eradicate world poverty. Professor Yunus promotes the Grameen social business, which utilizes the concept of microloans. Conquering poverty is like conquering disempowerment, and in so doing human dignity can be regained.