

## TORTURED NATION: RESOURCE GUIDE FOR FURTHER READING

In carrying out investigations, the regulation against the use of torture, even in the case of serious crimes, must be strictly observed: 'Christ's disciple refuses every recourse to such methods, which nothing could justify and in which the dignity of man is as much debased in his torturer as in the torturer's victim'. [830] International juridical instruments concerning human rights correctly indicate a prohibition against torture as a principle which cannot be contravened under any circumstances.

*Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, para. 404*

“In this circumstance, I reiterate the firm condemnation of all forms of torture.”

*Pope Francis in Angelus prayer, 6/22/14*

For the purposes of this Convention, torture means any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions.

*U.N. Convention Against Torture, Article 1.1*

### **Learn more through the arts:**

Documentary film- *Beneath the Blindfold* (2013) <http://beneaththeblindfold.com/>  
(available in ND Library)

*Guantanamo Diary* (2015) Larry Siems and Mohamedou Ould Slahi  
<http://behindthelinespoetry.blogspot.com/2011/01/torture-by-wislawa-szymborska.html>

*Cut Loose the Body: An Anthology of Poems on Torture and Fernando Botero's Abu Ghraib*  
<http://berkeleyartm710.corecommerce.com/Cut-Loose-the-Body-An-Anthology-of-Poems-on-Torture-and-Fernando-Botero-s-Abu-Ghraib-Paintings-p34.html>

Fernando Botero's "Abu Ghraib" paintings (2005)  
[http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/15/arts/design/15chan.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/15/arts/design/15chan.html?_r=0)

**Learn more through organizations:**

American Civil Liberties Union: <https://www.aclu.org/>

Amnesty International: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/issues/torture>

Association for the Prevention of Torture: <http://www.apt.ch/>

Center for Constitutional Rights: <http://www.ccrjustice.org/>

Center for Justice and Accountability: <http://www.cja.org/>

Coalition for the International Criminal Court: <http://www.iccnw.org/>

Human Rights First: <http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/>

Human Rights Watch: <http://www.hrw.org/>

International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims: <http://www.irct.org/>

National Religious Campaign Against Torture: <http://www.nrcat.org/>

Quaker Initiative to End Torture: <http://www.quit-torture-now.org/>

Rabbis for Human Rights: <http://www.truah.org/>

School of the Americas Watch/ SOAW: <http://www.soaw.org/>

Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition/ TASSC International: <http://www.tassc.org/>

UN Declaration of Human <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CAT.aspx>

Witness Against Torture: <http://www.witnesstorture.org/>

USCCB Study Guide on Torture: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/torture/index.cfm>

**Learn more through the activities of Torture Treatment Centers:**

Center for Victims of Torture (CVT), Minneapolis: <http://www.cvt.org/>

Heartland Alliance Marjorie Kovler Center, Chicago: <http://www.heartlandalliance.org/kovler/>

International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims: <http://www.irct.org/>

National Consortium of Torture Treatment Programs: <http://www.ncttp.org/>

Program for Torture Victims (PVT), Los Angeles: <http://www.ptvla.org/>