

The Two Feet of Social Action

In our commitment to seek justice, we work to be in solidarity with the poor and the earth, our home. There are two elements of such a commitment: Charity (Relief Work) and Justice (Social Change), changing the social, political and economic structures that cause poverty and injure the eco-system.

Thus, one foot of our Christian commitment is in direct service with and to the *victims* of poverty and eco-destruction, while the other foot is in our efforts to end *victimization*.

We need both feet to walk and keep our balance as Christians in today's world.

Obviously, this is not an all-inclusive list but it does show the two basic elements of the Gospel call to seek justice for the poor and the all of God's creation.

(Adapted by the 8th Day Center for Justice, www.8thdaycenter.org, from <http://www.usccb.org/cchd/twofeet.shtml>)

"In the struggle against injustice, 80% of our time and effort must be devoted to changing structures and promoting human advancement; but 20% must be set aside for tending the wounded..." Archbishop Camara

