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National Coalition for Literacy  
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To Whom It May Concern:

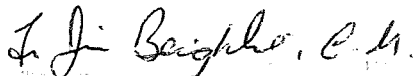
7<sup>th</sup> grade students at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in House Springs, Mo., spent time this year investigating issues of social justice. They were paired in teams to investigate individual issues and present them to the class. The students had the opportunity to choose one issue and make it the focus of a Social Justice Project. To their credit, the students decided that all the issues were important and decided to do something that would share with their school mates and the entire parish what they had learned.

Late in May, the students held a week-long awareness campaign in their school and hosted a Festival of Social Justice over the weekend at their church. They held a carnival in which each booth/game was linked to a specific issue. These 13 year old students grossed a little over \$1,500.00 with their carnival and, after expenses, had approximately \$1,375 to distribute to twelve agencies working to alleviate injustice related to the issues that they had investigated.

The 7<sup>th</sup> graders discovered that education and literacy were at the heart of just about every issue they investigated, from contributing to the cycle of poverty to a political tool to keep workers, children, women and the general population in undeveloped countries controlled. At the carnival, they created a *Sink Ignorance* booth (sinking free throws). Enclosed, please find a check in the amount of \$117.20 earned by that booth in support of your work. We realize that this is a small donation, but it comes from the students' hearts.

If you would like to see what the students accomplished, please visit the parish web, <http://www.olqpparish.org/news#0>.

Sincerely,



Fr. Jim Beighlie, C.M.