

## **Religious Leaders Call on Senators to Reject the Manipulation of Faith in the Supreme Court Confirmation Debate**

December 9, 2005

Dear Senator:

As people of faith, we are privileged to live in a land of religious freedom. As a democracy, we honor the diversity of many faith voices. When dealing with the most important deliberations of Congress, our faith calls forth our best and brightest ideas, the rigors of our most strenuous work, and our most inclusive hearts.

The consideration of a nominee for the Supreme Court is among your most important duties and responsibilities as a United States Senator.

Our faith compels us to write to you today because we are troubled by recent news reports that some groups seek to manipulate this process by casting those who oppose the confirmation of Samuel A. Alito Jr. to the Supreme Court as “anti-God.”<sup>1</sup>

People of faith can and do hold widely diverse views on political and policy issues, including the make-up of our nation’s highest court.

As you undergo this important deliberative process, we ask you to reject the manipulation of faith and the suggestion that to be considered a godly public servant one must demonstrate unqualified support for the confirmation of Judge Alito. We encourage you instead to honor the diversity of the many voices through which God speaks and works in this great land.

Thank you and God bless you,

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<sup>1</sup> *Washington Post*, “Alito Distances Himself From 1985 Memos,” 12/3/05

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