

**Resolution SS1819-15****March 25, 2019**

Zachary Pearson, Senator - Keenan Hall

Aaron Benavides, Director of Faith &amp; Service - Executive Cabinet

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME TO TAKE A PUBLIC AND ACTIVE STANCE ON ISSUES OF RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION**

*Whereas*, the persecution of peoples based on their religion is a serious problem throughout the world;

*Whereas*, amongst Christians alone, 215 million individuals experienced high levels of persecution and there were 3,066 people confirmed killed for the practice of their faith in 2018;

*Whereas*, persecution also includes a confirmed 1,252 abductions, 1,020 rapes, and 793 church attacks in that same period;

*Whereas*, the statistics above only represent Christians, and countless others are persecuted for their faith every day;

*Whereas*, the lack of research on religious persecution of other faiths is a major issue;

*Whereas*, the University of Notre Dame is called to be “a force for good in the world” and should therefore stand up for the marginalized and those whose rights are being violated;

*Whereas*, the University has yet to concretely contribute to combating this global human rights issue by addressing this issue in a direct, public manner;

*Whereas*, the University has many resources to address this issue academically, culturally, and materially; be it

*Resolved*, the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac encourages the university to take an active stance against religious persecution and concretely contribute to efforts to resolve this issue throughout the world, and offers to assist it in doing so in a constructive and collaborative manner.

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Gates McGavick  
Student Body President