

## PROCLAMATION 2866

### UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

WHEREAS under the Charter of the United Nations member governments have pledged themselves to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion; and

WHEREAS on December 10, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations approved the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations; and

WHEREAS the Declaration enumerates civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights and calls upon every individual and every organ of society to "strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance"; and

WHEREAS the attainment of basic rights for men and women everywhere is essential to the peace we are seeking:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY S. TRUMAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate December 10, 1949, and December 10 of each succeeding year as United Nations Human Rights Day; and I invite the people of the United States to observe such day in appropriate manner.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this sixth day of December in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-fourth. [SEAL]

HARRY S. TRUMAN

By the President:

DEAN ACHESON,  
Secretary of State.

President Barack Obama issued [Presidential Proclamation No. 8464](#) proclaiming Human Rights Day, Bill of Rights Day, and Human Rights Week, 2009

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2009-12-14/pdf/E9-29865.pdf>

Human Rights achievements

<http://at20.ohchr.org/achievements.html>

Human Rights Watch – USA

<http://www.hrw.org/united-states>



**Eleanor Roosevelt and United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Lake Success, New York**

<http://docsteach.org/documents/6120927/detail?menu=closed&mode=search&sortBy=relevance&q=human+rights&commit=Go>

[http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/library/er\\_humanrights.html](http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/library/er_humanrights.html)

Human Rights Memorandum

7/8/1977

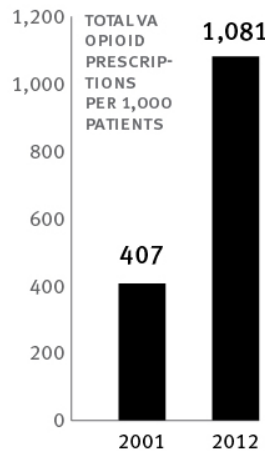
<http://docsteach.org/documents/139761/detail?menu=closed&mode=search&sortBy=relevance&q=human+rights&commit=Go&page=1>

# NO TIME TO WASTE: DRUG DEPENDENCE AMONG U.S. VETERANS



There are 21.6 million living US veterans. 9 million veterans are enrolled in Veterans Health Administration programs. An estimated 1 million veterans are taking prescription opioids, such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone, and morphine, for severe or chronic pain. Nearly half of them use the drugs chronically. Unprecedented numbers of veterans are dying of drug overdoses—both accidental and intentional.

## OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS



Between 2001 and 2012, VA opioid prescriptions per patient increased 165%.

Since 2004, VHA patients with opioid disorders increased 45%.

At VHA hospitals, 64% of veterans with severe and chronic pain complaints were prescribed at least one opioid medication.

## PTSD AND MENTAL HEALTH



Veterans diagnosed with PTSD or depression were **FOUR TIMES** more likely to suffer from **drug or alcohol use disorders** than patients without the diagnosis.

Up to **40%** of **Iraq/Afghanistan War veterans** at VHA receive a triple diagnosis of **PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury, and chronic pain**.

**75%** of **Vietnam combat veterans** with PTSD have been co-diagnosed with **substance use disorder**.

## SUICIDE AND OVERDOSE

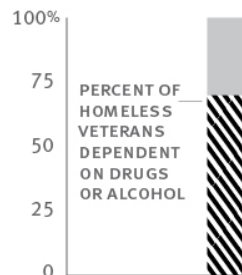


Every day in 2010, **22** veterans committed suicide.

**18-20%** of all suicides in the US are committed by veterans; while **veterans** comprise less than **10%** of the total US population.

**50%** of accidental soldier deaths were caused by **substance overdose**.

## HOMELESSNESS



**100,000 - 400,000** veterans experience homelessness at some point each year.

An estimated **70%** of homeless veterans are dependent on **drugs or alcohol**.

### SOURCES:

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; Center for Investigative Reporting; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development: Office of Community Planning and Development; News21 analysis of Individual state health and vital records, U.S. Census Bureau ACS, and Centers for Disease Control annual national mortality reports; The Homelessness Research Institute at the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

**The Universal Declaration of HUMAN RIGHTS**

Adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948, the Universal Declaration states basic rights and fundamental freedoms to which all human beings are entitled.

**WE ARE ALL BORN FREE AND EQUAL**  
**EVERYONE IS ENTITLED TO THESE RIGHTS**  
 NO MATTER YOUR RACE, RELIGION OR NATIONALITY

**EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO LIFE, FREEDOM AND SAFETY**

**You have the responsibility to respect the rights of others**  
**NO ONE CAN TAKE AWAY ANY OF YOUR RIGHTS**

No one has the right to hold you in slavery.

You have the right to own property.

No one has the right to torture you.

Everyone has the right to belong to a religion.

You have the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

Freedom of Expression: You have the right to free thought and to voice your opinions to others.

We are all equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection of the law.

Everyone has the right to gather as a peaceful assembly.

You have the right to seek legal help if your rights are violated.

Democracy: You have the right to help choose and to take part in governing your country, directly or through chosen representatives.

No one has the right to wrongly imprison you or force you to leave your country.

You have the right to a fair and public trial.

Everyone is innocent until **PROVEN** guilty.

You have the right to social security and are entitled to economic, social and cultural help from your government.

You have the right to privacy. No one can interfere with your reputation, family, home or correspondence.

Workers' rights: Every adult has the right to a job, a fair wage and to join a trade union.

You can travel wherever you want.

You have the right to leisure and rest from work.

You have the right to seek asylum in another country if you are being persecuted in your own country.

Everyone has the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their family.

Everyone has the right to education.

Everyone has the right to a nationality.

Your intellectual property as an artist or scientist should be protected.

All adults have the right to marriage and to raise a family.

We are all entitled to social order so we can enjoy these rights.

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zen pencils.com

<http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/rbec/en/home/ourwork/democraticgovernance/human-rights/universal-periodic-review/>

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations, 2013



<http://economichumanrights.org/our-vision/>

- A wooden sign with a flag talking about human rights, Unknown



<http://www.kyivpost.com/content/russia-and-former-soviet-union/kucherena-us-pushing-russia-towards-double-standards-human-rights-violations-327511.html>

- People protesting human rights, Unknown



<https://filipsagnoli.wordpress.com/2008/05/07/human-rights-facts-7/>

- A woman holding a poster about human rights and shelter, Unknown



<http://filipsagnoli.wordpress.com/2009/11/09/human-rights-quote-146-some-of-the-causes-of-wealth-inequality-ctd/>

- A political cartoon showing poverty and split-level living, Unknown

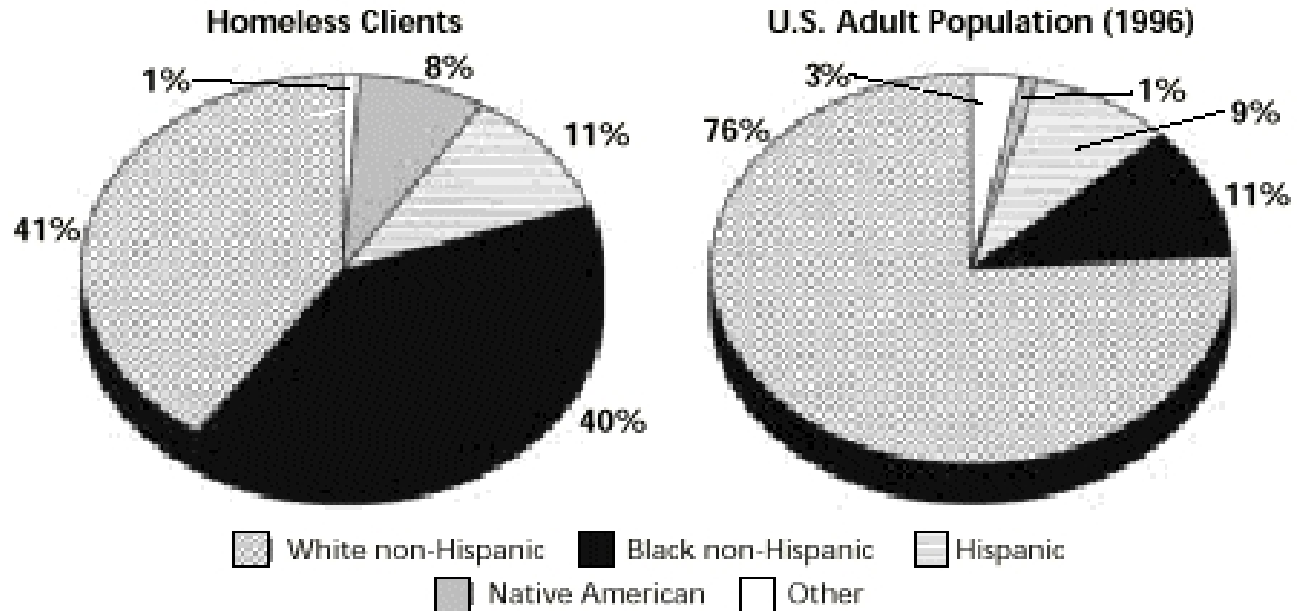




<https://filipspagnoli.wordpress.com/2008/04/06/human-rights-cartoon-58/>

- A political cartoon confusing poverty in the World when it is actually the United States, Unknown

## Race/Ethnicity of Homeless Clients and U.S. Adults



Source: Urban Institute analysis of weighted 1996 NSHAPC client data. Race/ethnicity information for the U.S. adult population calculated from Bureau of the Census (1997a), table 23.

Note: Numbers do not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

<https://filipspagnoli.wordpress.com/2008/05/07/human-rights-facts-7/>

- Two pie charts showing homeless clients and U.S. adult population, 1996



[http://www.mcmurraymusings.com/2011\\_11\\_01\\_archive.html](http://www.mcmurraymusings.com/2011_11_01_archive.html)

- A photo from The Cord of a homeless or poor young man wanting change, Unknown



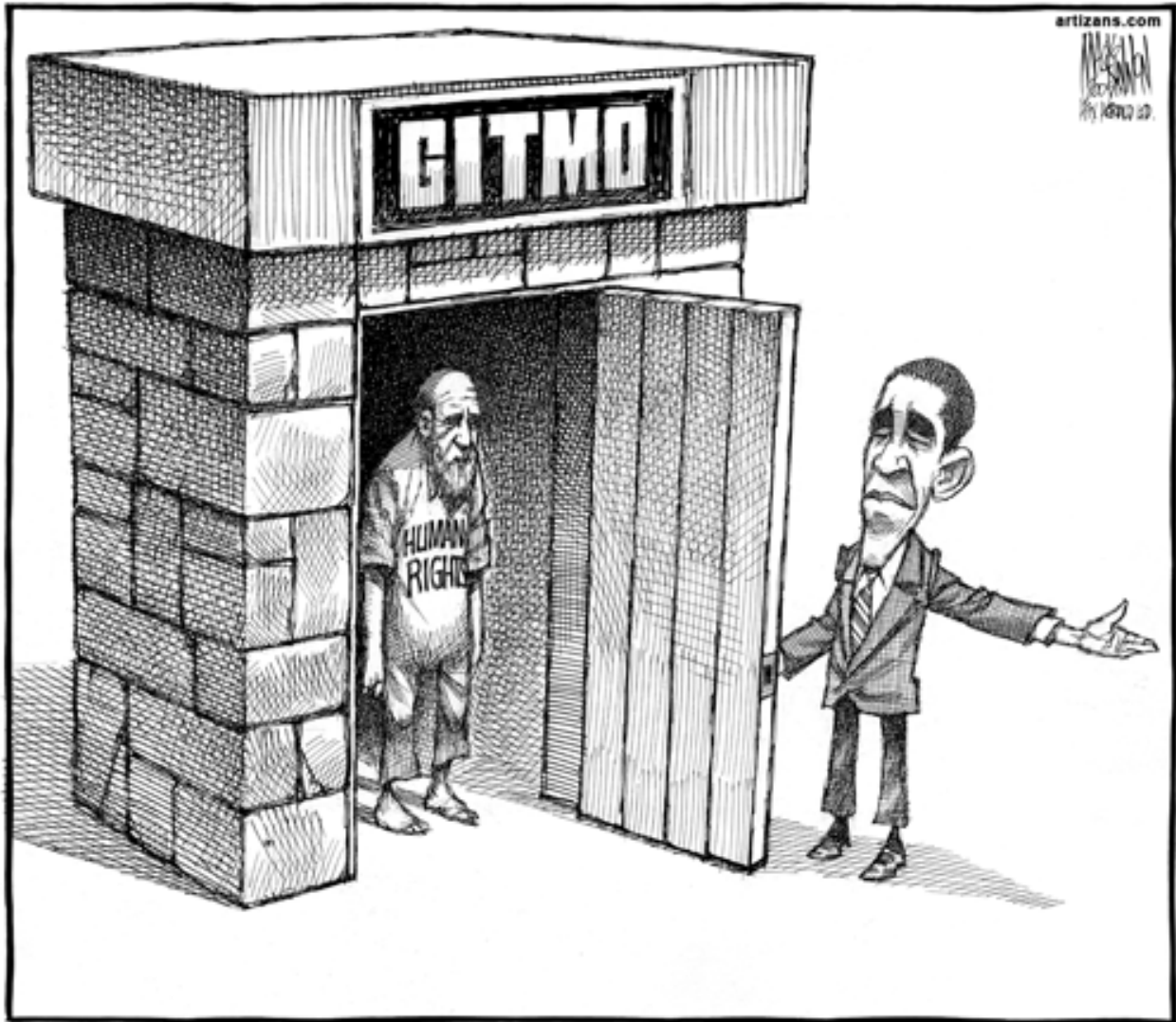
<http://prairiefirenews.com/tag/homeless-veteran/>

- A political cartoon of a homeless veteran, Unknown



<https://advisingthepresident2014.wikispaces.com/Guantanamo+Bay>

- A political cartoon by Patrick Chappatte criticizing the force-feeding used against hunger strikes at Guantanamo, Unknown



[http://www.arabamericannews.com/news/news/id\\_2211](http://www.arabamericannews.com/news/news/id_2211)

- A political cartoon about human rights at Guantanamo Bay, Unknown



<http://www.cagle.com/tag/military-justice/>

- A political cartoon by Patrick Chappatte criticizing water boarding incidents, 2013







<http://theweek.com/cartoons/index/262272/political-cartoon-va-hospital-scandal#axzz33CmVJthm>

- A political cartoon by Dan Wasserman about the mishandling of veteran affairs at the VA hospitals, 2014



<http://blogs.denverpost.com/opinion/2014/05/16/cartoons-day-va-hospital-wait-times/42967/>

- A political cartoon by Nate Beeler about the mishandling of veteran affairs at the VA hospitals, 2014



<http://jobsanger.blogspot.com/2014/03/gop-refuses-to-allow-vote-on-veterans.html>

- A political cartoon by Steve Sack about the mishandling of veteran affairs at the VA hospitals, 2014