



**Sister Helen Prejean. *Consistent.***

In 1982, a friend asked Sister Helen Prejean if she would correspond with convicted murderer Elmo Patrick Sonnier, housed in the Louisiana State Penitentiary. Thus began a journey—recounted in her book *Dead Man Walking*—that continues today in her tireless work to abolish the death penalty.

A Catholic nun since 1957, Sister Helen embraces the consistent ethic of life. She works toward the recognition that every life has dignity—not only the innocent, but also the guilty—and she rejects all violence, from conception to natural death.

"I stand morally opposed to killing: war, executions, killing of the old and demented, the killing of children, unborn and born... I believe that all of life is sacred and must be protected, especially in the vulnerable stages at the beginning of life and its end."

Her Catholic faith led her to a life of working with the poor in her Louisiana parish, and to a profound recognition of the value of life.

"Allowing our government to kill citizens compromises the deepest moral values upon which this country was conceived: the inviolable dignity of human persons."



Sister Helen has worked for life issues for more than 40 years, and is the recipient of numerous awards and honorary degrees. She continues to travel the country on a rigorous schedule, advancing her conviction that a compassionate God rejects violence—and that a renewed society will embrace *all life*.

"Jesus' biggest challenge to us is to love our enemies. On death row, I encountered the enemy—those considered so irredeemable by our society that even our Supreme Court has made it legal to kill them. For 20 years now, I've been visiting people on death row, and I have accompanied six human beings to their deaths. As each has been killed, I have told them to look at me. I want them to see a loving face when they die. I want my face to carry the love that tells them that they and every one of us are worth more than our most terrible acts."

Sister Helen Prejean is a Consistent Life supporter. Will you join her?

*We are committed to the protection of life, which is threatened in today's world by war, abortion, poverty, racism, the death penalty, and euthanasia. We believe that these issues are linked under a 'consistent ethic of life.' We challenge those working on all or some of these issues to maintain a cooperative spirit of peace, reconciliation, and respect in protecting the unprotected.*



**Consistent Life**

[www.consistentlifenet.org](http://www.consistentlifenet.org)