

SIHR Rapid Response Policy

- I. Legislative bills or public activities brought to the attention of the Social Issue/ Human Rights (SIHR) Committee
 - A. By SIHR committee itself, if monitoring legislative activity
 - B. By any WSPA member, the Executive Board, the Council, or any committee or task force.
- II. SIHR Committee determines if item meets minimum criteria for support and if it is amenable to the rapid response process:
 - A. Generally aligned with psychological principles
 - B. Of minimal controversy
 - C. Important to the WSPA membership for education or information on a social issue.
- III. If item does meet minimum criteria, SIHR Committee decides if the association needs to take a stand on the issue, as outlined in general SIHR policy.
- IV. If answer to III is no, item may be suggested as alert item for WSPA member listserve, which completes the rapid response policy.
 - A. The Council is queried, asked for relevant feedback, which is sent to the Executive Board for consideration and approval.
 - B. If approved by the Executive Board, it is sent out in email to all members of the listserve.
 - C. The SIHR committee would coordinate with any identified committees and task forces also involved in the social issue.
- V. If answer to III is yes, the general SIHR policy would be enacted (see SIHR Policy, re: "Method by which the association may take a stands on issues or join coalitions").

Plan for organizing SIHR Committee

- I. WP article describing:
 - expansion of SIHR to include researching issues as they arise, educating interested members about issues, and advocating for WSPA endorsement of specific issues of merit
 - need for cadre of “member experts” in selected areas (based on legislative issues, many of which will be brought up again next year) that can be called upon to provide background research for committee
 - need for committee members to help monitor issues of interest in the legislature and other public arenas
 - SIHR’s Rapid Response Plan as either approved by Council, or if Council so directs, for member input/approval
 - Plans for listserv to alert members about social/human rights issues
2. Creation of listserv of all WSPA members when first issue comes to the fore (e.g. lobbying against the constitutional amendment regarding marriage.) In the first email, members would be given a means of removing themselves from the list so they would not get emails about other social/human rights issues.