

## **Justice in Action: We Say Yes!**

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### **Say yes to the dignity and value of every person.**

We say no to a society that ascribes different value to people depending on where they were born or how they make their way in this world.

Therefore we commit ourselves to the work of peace making, reconciliation and building a society of justice and equality.

### **Say yes to closing the gap between the rich and the poor.**

We say no to the rich getting richer at the expense of the poor getting poorer.

Therefore we seek to give privilege to the voices of the poor in our communities.

### **Say yes to dignified and affordable housing that provides for the wellbeing of family and community.**

We say no to families forced to live in garages and in unhealthy over crowded homes.

Therefore we seek the collaboration of Government, businesses, social service agencies, social entrepreneurs and local faith communities to find short and long term solutions to the crisis of homelessness.

### **We say yes to safe and loving families.**

We say no to family violence.

Therefore we support white ribbon and neighbours days and conversations in our communities that break the silence on family violence.

### **Say yes to a New Zealand that is welcoming and hospitable to refugees seeking sanctuary.**

We say no to outdated government policies that fail to make New Zealand a responsible global citizen.

Therefore we advocate for an increase in the refugee quota along with communities of welcome and hospitality.

### **We the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand say yes to rolling up our sleeves and doing something about it.**

We say no to all talk and no action.

Therefore we are prepared to put our resources of time, talent and treasure to making a difference as a visible witness to the good news of Jesus Christ.

### **In the upcoming 2017 General Election and beyond we say yes to policies that deliver greater social equality.**

We say no to tax cuts that do not meet the needs of the most vulnerable.

Therefore we seek any government proposal on tax cuts be redirected towards the needs of the most vulnerable AND a review of our taxation policies to reflect an equitable society.

### **We say yes to a sustainable and zero carbon economy**

We say no to policies and practices that contribute to unsustainable growth such as dependence on fossil fuels and excessive lifestyles

Therefore we advocate movement towards clean and sustainable energy and action to limit destructive human impacts on the environment

**Within our own communities of faith we say yes to "Justice and Action" being incorporated into the life and mission of every congregation.**

We say no to blind eyes and deaf ears to the cry of the poor.

Therefore we pray that we will be broken open by the love of God for our communities and become agents of grace, compassion, healing and social transformation.

The PCANZ, along with Presbyterian Support, is sitting around the table with Government and social service agencies giving voice and advocacy on these issues.

The PCANZ, in partnership with Presbyterian Support throughout the country, is offering practical support and resources as we work together towards social transformation.

We call upon every Presbyterian, Union and Cooperating congregation to take up the gospel mandate of being agents of ***Justice and Action***.