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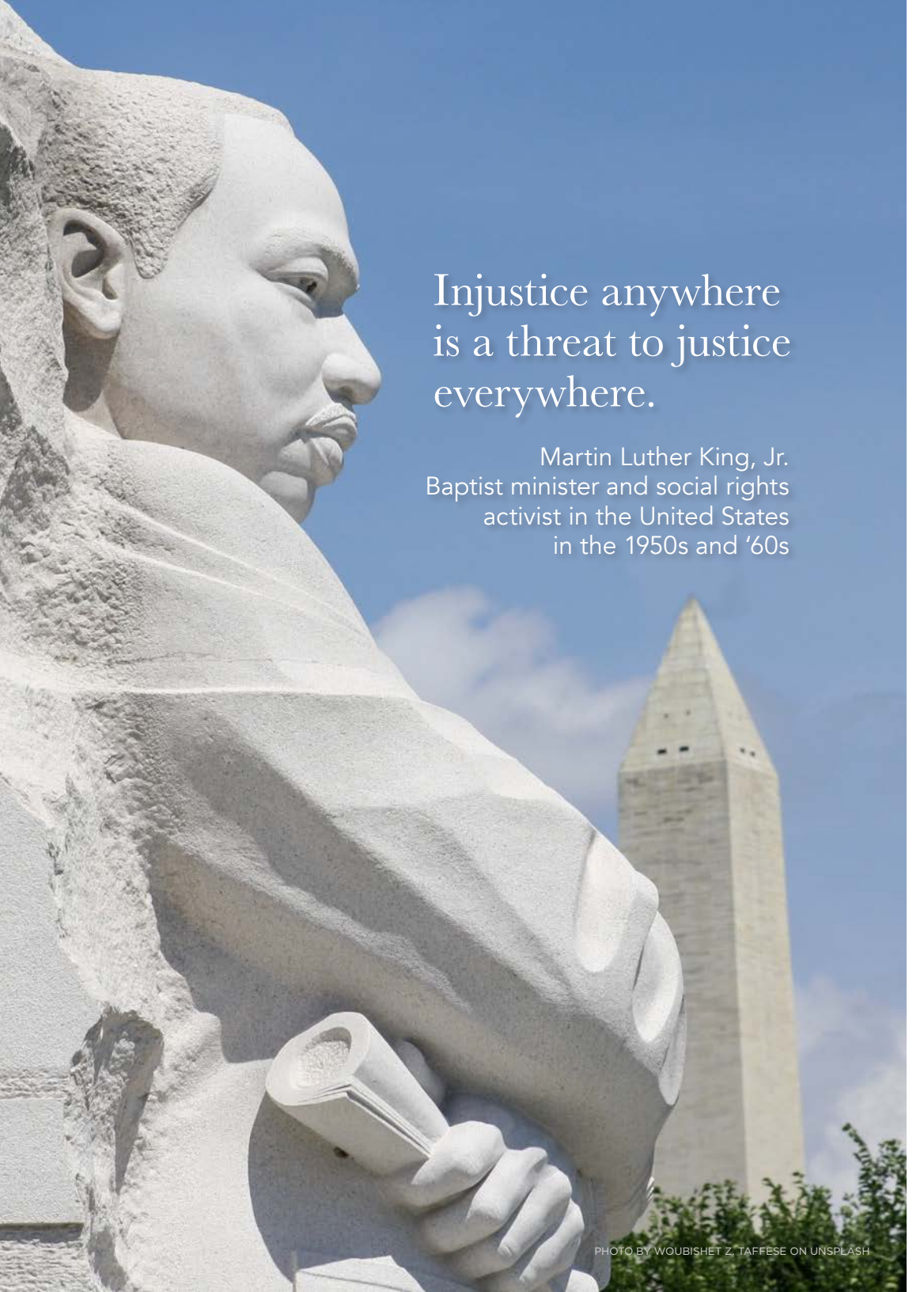
# WARCRY

CULTURE & SPIRITUALITY



**Everyday  
social justice**

Making the world  
a better place one  
choice at a time



Injustice anywhere  
is a threat to justice  
everywhere.

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Baptist minister and social rights  
activist in the United States  
in the 1950s and '60s



## The Salvation Army is about giving hope where it's needed most.

### What is The Salvation Army?

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church.

### Vision Statement

Wherever there is hardship or injustice, Salvos will live, love and fight alongside others to transform Australia one life at a time with the love of Jesus.

### Mission Statement

The Salvation Army is a Christian movement dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus by:

- Caring for people
- Creating faith pathways
- Building healthy communities
- Working for justice

# WARCRY

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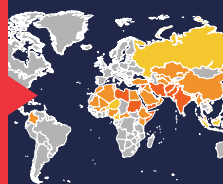


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It all began  
with a movie

## From the editor

There is no question that our world is facing some large-scale and tough social, environmental, political, economic and spiritual issues from which no country is exempt. These impact us all on a local, national and global level and can often leave us feeling overwhelmed and helpless.

While these issues definitely need to be tackled, and we all need to play whatever part we can, fighting to bring social justice doesn't always have to be a major event. It can be the lifestyle choices we make every day that make the world a gentler and more dignified place for everyone.

These choices can include treating everyone we meet with kindness and respect, volunteering to help local causes or challenging sexist jokes. It can be teaching our children (and ourselves!) to talk to lonely kids at school and to embrace diversity.

We are all on this life journey together, and together can make it a better place for everyone.

Simone Worthing  
**Assistant Editor**

# The social justice lifestyle

It's our everyday life choices that make  
the world a better place.

BY CASEY O'BRIEN MACHADO

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The idea of 'social justice' is one that has become increasingly popular in recent decades. Sometimes it is mentioned in a positive way; sometimes less so (admit it, none of us likes a social justice keyboard warrior!).

In an age characterised by increasingly polarised values, harsh politics and natural disasters, it seems that each of us can recognise that something in this world is just not right — it's just not the way it's meant to be. You'd be hard pressed to find someone who doesn't want the world to become a better place.

The idea of social justice is not new — in fact, the term 'social justice' first emerged during the Industrial Revolution in the early 19th century. The concept of an equal and fair society for all people was one which appealed to many at a time when the gap between the rich and the poor was increasing. The concept of social justice was an attempt by many to make the world look more like they believed it should.

Fast forward to today and the term is used to describe the way people work against inequality in many different parts of everyday life, including the environment, race, gender, identity.

It's important to recognise that social justice is so much more than just a list of issues or campaigns. In fact, it is a difficult thing to define as the term 'social justice' evokes a variety of responses which differ from person to person. I believe that it is impossible, and somewhat unwise, to pin down a single definition, as to do so inevitably excludes many of its elements.

However, it is my belief that working for

social justice is working to see the world become a better place — a place where all people, not just some, thrive and have the opportunity to be all that they can be; a place where we connect to the environment, to the people around us, and to God, in a healthy way.

To me, social justice is working to see the world become the place that God intended it to be when he created it. Within the Church, and within The Salvation Army, we call this 'the Kingdom of God on Earth'. When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we ask "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven". We are asking for the world to look like God's Kingdom in Heaven. Therefore, those elements on Earth which would not be present in Heaven — those social problems and injustices which affect us in the day-to-day — are not part of a world based on God's justice. They're not what God wants for the world. While this is not a clear-cut definition, it helps me to think through how I want to live my life, particularly as someone who is passionate about social justice.

Rather than being simply a list of issues, social justice is a lifestyle made up of a series of choices, every day, to live a life which makes this world better for all.

There are examples of people throughout history who have chosen to live their lives in a certain way to see the world look more like they believed it was meant to. Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King, William Booth ... the list goes on — all people who made choices in their day-to-day lives to live differently so that life would be better for others.

When we look at the life of Jesus, we



find a person whose sole purpose was to show us more of what the world *should* look like. In reflecting on his example as portrayed in the Bible, we can find practical guidance on how we should treat others. Throughout his life, Jesus consistently included the excluded, challenged harmful cultural practices, confronted the powerful and advocated for the oppressed — all values which today are recognised as ‘social justice’.

Similarly, the way we live our lives — the choices we make every day — say a lot about what we value and what we want this world to look like. Yes, sometimes we have the opportunity to be a part of big, world-altering movements, but for the most part ‘social justice’ is a series of seemingly small choices, made every day, which work together to make this world a better place.

As someone who works in the social

justice space, I am often approached by people asking which campaigns they can get on board with, or what issues they can champion. There are so many campaigns and so many issues — sometimes it’s hard to know where to start!

However, I’m a big believer in looking at what’s right in front of me. As former world No. 1 tennis player Arthur Ashe once said: “Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.”

We can have a significant impact on the world through the way we live in the day-to-day — through the way we connect to the earth we stand on and the way we connect to those around us. Let’s start living every day, in the big choices and the small ones, in a way that makes the world better for all.

*Casey O’Brien Machado works in The Salvation Army’s Policy, Research and Social Justice Department.*

## What can I do?

How can we begin to bring social justice to all members of our community?

Some ideas to consider:

- Get to know the needs in your community and take action.
- Be informed about the world and what is happening.
- Think about your own habits and beliefs and what needs to change.
- Smile at someone who needs it (all of us!).
- Give to someone who has very little.

- Treat everyone with kindness and dignity, especially those different to you.
- Volunteer your time.
- Attend a protest or sign a pledge.
- Educate yourself on a particular movement.
- Get to know your neighbours and why they think the way they do.
- Embrace and encourage diversity.
- Include the excluded and advocate for the oppressed.
- Buy ethically sourced products.



## Help the Salvos help others with a gift in your Will

After providing for those you love, why not leave a gift for those in greatest need? Including a gift to The Salvation Army will enable us to continue to assist more than one million Australians every year.

For a **FREE** copy of our **Wills information booklet** **FREE CALL 1800 337 082** or **complete and send this coupon to The Salvation Army**

- Send me a **FREE** copy of your Wills information booklet
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Send to (no stamp required):  
 Wills & Bequests, The Salvation Army,  
 Reply Paid 85105, Blackburn, Vic 3130.



# Persecution against Christians on the rise globally

World Watch List reveals where it's most dangerous to believe in Jesus.

Last month, Open Doors International, a non-government organisation that supports persecuted Christians around the world, released its 2020 World Watch List (for the 12 months ending 31 October 2019) that annually reveals the top 50 countries where it's most dangerous to believe in and follow Jesus.

The key findings of the list include:

- 260 million Christians in the top 50 countries alone experience a high to extreme level of persecution.
- Christians in 34 countries experience a very high to extreme level of persecution. This is up from 29 countries the previous year.
- One in eight Christians worldwide face persecution measured as extreme, very high or high — a 6 per cent increase from 2018.
- Persecution is going digital, with surveillance cameras, facial recognition software and biometric systems used to monitor and target Christians.

North Korea remains the most dangerous place for Christians, having been number one since the inception of the list in 2002. Something as simple as owning a

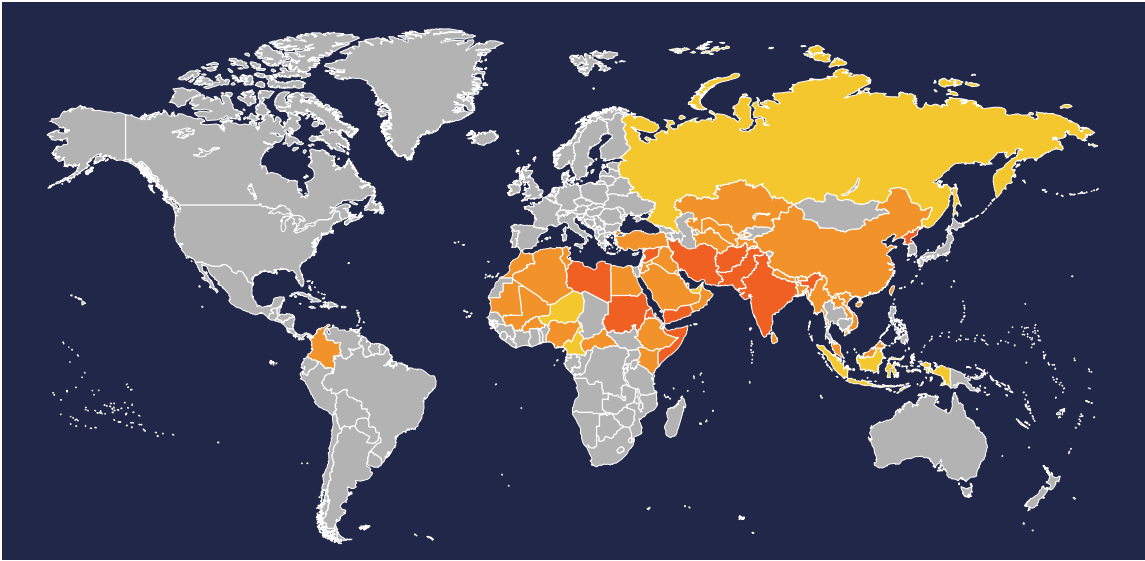
Bible can mean a person is arrested and taken to one of the country's infamous labour camps, never to return. Currently, between 50,000 and 70,000 Christians are in labour camps in North Korea.

Despite not ranking in the top 50 last year, the fastest riser on the list was Burkina Faso at #number 28. Due to increasing Islamic extremism in the sub-Saharan region of Africa, a multitude of radical Islamist jihadist groups are taking advantage of instability and poverty to set up home in states like Burkino Faso, Mali (#29) and Niger (#50). In these weak and fragile states many Christian communities are left without protection by their governments.

Sri Lanka rose significantly, from #46 in 2019 to #30, largely due to the church bombings that took place on Easter Sunday last year. The coordinated attacks claimed the lives of hundreds of Christians as they gathered to celebrate Easter.

"The 2020 World Watch List once again shows that the cost of following Jesus is increasing the world over as both violent and non-violent acts of persecution increase," says Mike Gore, CEO of Open Doors Australia and New Zealand. "Now, more than ever before, the global body of Christ needs to stand united, both





*The Open Doors map showing the 50 most dangerous countries in the world to be a Christian.*

parts serving the other, and together helping each other to follow Jesus all over the world, no matter the cost.”

To view the World Watch List in full, visit: [www.opendoors.org.au/persecuted-christians/world-watch-list/](http://www.opendoors.org.au/persecuted-christians/world-watch-list/)

## UN World Day of Social Justice

**Striving for global peace and prosperity**

Every year on 20 February the United Nations marks World Day of Social Justice. This year's theme is 'Closing the inequalities gap to achieve social justice'.

Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations. We uphold the principles of social justice when we promote gender equality, or

the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants. We advance social justice when we remove barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability.

For the UN, the pursuit of social justice for all is at the core of its global mission to promote development and human dignity.

The Salvation Army has been an affiliated non-governmental organisation (NGO) with the UN since 1947.

For more information, visit [www.un.org/en/observances/social-justice-day](http://www.un.org/en/observances/social-justice-day)

# It all began with a movie

The journey from a horrified teenager to passionate peacemaker.

BY SANDRA PAWAR

---

I remember where I was when I truly began to care about injustice in the world, especially when it came to race relations and the brokenness of the world. I was 16, and was in my history class at Wellington East Girls College in New Zealand. We came into our classroom after lunch and began to watch a movie called *Mississippi Burning*. I remember being horrified and heartbroken over what I was seeing. I remember crying and trying to wipe my eyes and my nose in such a way that would not draw attention to myself. I remember being shocked that people were killed because of the colour of their skin. I remember talking to my parents about the movie for the next week. I could not get it out of my mind.

That movie was instrumental in changing my view of the world. It moved me from a place where I felt the world was peaceful and relatively kind, to a place where I saw incredible brokenness and injustice.

That movie didn't cause me to become an activist, it didn't lead me to signing petitions, marching down the street in protest or even an understanding that I



could do anything about what I saw. It just sat with me for a long time.

During this time I went to church every Sunday. My parents were officers (ministers) in The Salvation Army and we read the Scriptures and prayed together daily, but I didn't really have a faith of my own. I was seeking to find God for myself and trying to not have my parents' faith but one of my own.

At that young age I was learning to feel compassion, disgust and anger at injustice but not yet feeling like it was my job to change the world. That would all



Sandra (second row, right) and the street outreach team who went from London to Athens to work with refugees.

“

**I was beginning to see that there was hope for the world ...**

”

come later when my personal story began to be connected to my faith in God and I discovered his heart for a just world.

It was in those days that I began to get a clear understanding of what injustice looked like. It made me angry and sad. I was also, though, beginning to see that there was hope for the world as my understanding of God began to grow.

That day in Year 12 opened my eyes to injustice, and it would become the first of many stories that I would cry about and mourn deeply for. As my faith and my relationship with God grew, so did my passion for a just world and an

understanding of the role I was to play in this world. My name, Sandra, means a defender of humankind and that is definitely who I have become. I believe that becoming a peacemaker and someone who longs to bring about justice is a transformative process. Looking back now I can see where that process began.

As my faith in God grows, I understand his heart more and more. I understand those things that we, his children, do against each other that grieve his heart. I grow bolder with my voice, and my actions against injustice become stronger.

To think it all started with a movie in a Year 12 history class and a young teenage girl with a broken heart and a desire to find God for herself.

Where will it start, or where did it start, for you?

*Sandra Pawar is a Salvation Army minister offering multicultural connections and community within Western Sydney.*

# Finding peace

**After years of seeking to understand religion, Mounib has found peace in God, and hope and a family through the Salvos.**

BY MOUNIB AHMED

---

I was born and grew up in Pakistan, in a Sunni Muslim family. My great-grandfather was of high ranking in our home town, so my family was very well known. I spent my childhood surrounded by my family.

While studying at school, I made a lot of new friends, and also met some Shia Muslims in our neighbourhood. We also connected and became friends.

I was curious about the conflict between Sunni and Shia Muslims and asked my family, including my great-grandfather, many questions. As I grew older and went to college, I did further research. The questions were always on my mind.

At the end of 2004, after college, I opened a factory making tailors' scissors and surgical instruments. This came to an end in 2009, when I discovered my business partner had been deceiving me.

In 2010, I converted to become a Shia Muslim. I only told one person in my family. That same year, I joined a Shia security company that provided services

to all religious sites, and before long I was the city adviser for them.

In 2011, I got into a political discussion with a childhood friend and told him I had become Shia. Within days I was getting phone calls — death threats — from unknown numbers. A violent and dangerous group sent a letter to my family home, telling my father about my conversion. My dad, and his brother, were shocked, angry and upset, and worried about the impact on their families. My father convinced the local Imams that I was the only convert in the family.

I left home and moved to another city, but after a few months, returned as a security adviser for a major Shia event. I was giving a security guard a break and standing in a doorway, observing the street, when a bullet just missed my head. I saw two men, one on a motorbike, the other aiming a rifle at me. I turned to run, fell, and the bullet hit the door. God saved me.

I knew it was serious now. I moved



*Mounid (centre) considers Majors Colin and Karen Elkington (left and right) to be part of his Salvos family.*

to a city near Lahore and was always accompanied by an armed guard. Seven months later, I moved to Malaysia.

I had no plans to go anywhere else. I didn't even want a 'better' life, but simply a life with freedom of religion.

Through a series of what I can only describe as miracles, I arrived in Australia in 2014. My first few years were spent in detention centres, including in Melbourne, and it was there that I met Major Colin Elkington, Salvation Army asylum seeker and refugee chaplain, who regularly visited the centre.

After receiving a bridging visa in 2017, I moved to the Melbourne suburb of Brunswick, just across the road from the Salvos' Asylum Seeker and Refugee Service. One day, Colin and I saw each other crossing the road, he remembered me, and invited me in. Colin and his wife Karen, who manages the service, helped me fill out documents for material aid and other assistance. They quickly became my friends, my mentors, my family.

In January 2019, I joined the Salvos as a volunteer. A few months later, In April, I

resigned from my job in a grocery store and started volunteering a few days a week for the Salvos.

Kevin Amiri, who works at the Asylum Seeker and Refugee Service and who also assists Colin at a Farsi-speaking Salvos corps (church), became a close and trusted friend and often talked to me about religion. Kevin gave me a Bible in Urdu (the national language of Pakistan) and I began to read it, often asking him, Colin and Karen many, many questions.

Colin spoke to me about the book of Matthew (in the New Testament of the Bible), and how we can bring our burdens to Jesus. He told me about the six-week Christianity Explained course, which I did, and I accepted Jesus as my Lord, Saviour and King.

I have found the peace I have been looking for my whole life. I don't have family but I have friends and my Lord Jesus standing in the middle of everything.

The Salvation Army is just like my family, it's like home, and I am happy to spend my time with them. I will forever be grateful to them.



## Haloumi bites



### Ingredients

¼ cup extra virgin olive oil, 225g block haloumi cheese (grated), 420g can corn kernels (drained), 2 eggs, ½ cup self-raising flour, 1 tsp finely grated lemon rind, 2 tbsp chives (chopped)

### Method

Place ½ tsp oil in each hole of a mini muffin pan. Place in oven for about 5 minutes to heat up. Meanwhile, combine haloumi, corn, eggs, flour, lemon rind and chives in a bowl

Divide mixture among the muffin pan holes. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes until golden and crisp. Stand in pans for 2 minutes before turning out onto a wire rack to cool.

## Tip for the race of life

**“This is what the Lord Almighty said: ‘Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another.’”**  
Zechariah chapter 7, verse 9  
(New International Bible)

## Did you know?



- There are four interrelated principles of social justice: equity, access, participation and rights.
- The top 1 per cent of global wealth distribution holds 46 per cent of the world’s wealth.
- Some 880 million people live in slums, and nearly 40 per cent of the world’s future urban expansion may occur in slums.
- Worldwide, malnutrition contributes to almost half of the deaths in kids under five, claiming the lives of over three million children per year.
- Every minute an average of 24 people are displaced from their home.
- About 15 million girls a year marry before age 18, one every two seconds.
- More than 21.3 million people — roughly the population of Australia — are refugees.
- Globally women hold only 22 per cent of seats in parliament, 26 per cent of seats on the highest courts and 18 per cent of ministerial positions.

*Compassion Australia, children.org*

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		2			7	4	5	1
		7		1			2	
	3	1		5		9	7	6
	6	5				1		
4		6			1			5
				3	6			
		3		7				

## Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

## Tum-Tum

On which page of this week's *Warcry* is Tum-Tum hiding?



**Answers:** 1. 20 February 2. Development and human dignity. 3. Poverty, unemployment and unfair exclusion. 4. Peaceful and prosperous coexistence. 5. To "make right".  
**Tum-Tum:** is hiding behind some bags on page 11.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

## Quick quiz



1. When is World Day of Social Justice?
2. What does the pursuit of social justice promote?
3. What are some of the issues social justice includes?
4. What is social justice an underlying principle for?
5. What is the biblical definition of justice?

## Want to know more?

Visit [warcry.org.au/want-to-know-more](http://warcry.org.au/want-to-know-more) or return the coupon to *Warcry*, PO Box 479, Blackburn VIC 3130.

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- information about The Salvation Army
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