

## Religious Freedom Minute – March 13, 2016

“Midlothian Friends Meeting stands together with others in our community to support religious freedom. We believe that bigotry in public discourse is destructive and divisive. We wish to support a more respectful, pluralistic, and inclusive community.

Religion should not be used as a wall to separate people from this land, from their neighbors, or from their hopes and dreams. At a time when feelings of fear and vulnerability may be heightened, we call upon public figures, private citizens, and media outlets to speak and act with respect and sensitivity.

In a spirit of equality, we stand with our Muslim friends as well as all those who are unjustly vilified as “the other.” Recognizing that there is that of God in everyone, we reach out with compassion, love, and peace.”

The minute was approved and will be distributed to local newspapers and the Thrifty Quaker.