

The Most Reverend Desmond M Tutu, O.M.S.G. D.D. EK.C. Anglican Archbishor Emeritus of Cape Town

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08 July 2009

Dear Parole Commission

## **RE: LEONARD PELTIER**

I am contacting you to express my views and support of Leonard Peltier and his upcoming review for parole. I feel that based upon the morals, integrity, and support of humanitarianism of the United States, the matter of Leonard Peltier's parole and release are of paramount significance.

I feel that it is relevant to point out that Leonard Peltier has been incarcerated for thirty-three years based upon what your own courts have admitted was fabricated evidence, both withheld, and then later discovered to be tampered with and questionable. These very courts have admitted that Leonard Peltier did not commit the murders of the FBI agents at the Pine Ridge Reservation in 1976. It is clear Leonard Peltier was persecuted because of his beliefs and refusal to accept the injustices imposed upon the peoples at Pine Ridge during that time.

Because of these facts, I feel that the system has failed and the continued incarceration of Leonard Peltier is a sad commentary on the US government and the humanitarian values Americans profess to have.

I express a deep hope that your commission will grant parole and release to Leonard Peltier. Thank you for your time.

God bless you.

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Archbishop Desmond Tutu