



POSITION STATEMENT

With reference to the reported involvement of members of the American Psychological Association (APA), and the Association governance as such, in state-sponsored interrogations that include the practice of torture (as stated in the APA-sponsored Hoffman Report):

The World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) condemns the use of torture under any circumstances anywhere in the world. It concurs with the recognized international definitions of torture and does not accept "degrees" of torture such as "enhanced" or "coercive" interrogation.

Professional organizations or health-care professionals of any kind should not be involved in or associated with torture or its euphemisms under any circumstances.

The WFMH urges the APA, a member society of the WFMH, to ensure that the new Code of Ethics of the Association will not allow the participation or involvement of its members in practices that include torture.

We would like to emphasize the ethical and therapeutic value of the work of mental health professionals who, under often threatening circumstances, render invaluable help to victims of torture.

WFMH Executive Committee
August 1, 2015