



Office of the General Assembly
Clifton Kirkpatrick, Stated Clerk

December 27, 2005

Mr. Greg Brenneman, CEO
Burger King Corporate Office
5505 Blue Lagoon Drive
Miami, FL 33126

Dear Mr. Brenneman:

I am writing on behalf of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to encourage Burger King to meet with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) to address the sub-poverty wages and exploitative working conditions of farmworkers in your company's supply chain.

The PC(USA) supports the historic agreement achieved between the CIW and Yum! Brands in March of this year. This agreement has guaranteed improved wages for farmworkers and established an enforceable, human rights-based code of conduct for Taco Bell's tomato suppliers. But farmworkers picking for suppliers of other companies, such as Burger King, still face horrible conditions.

Pickers for Florida-based tomato companies earn 40-45 cents for every 32 pound bucket of tomatoes that they pick. At this rate, a farmworker must pick 2 tons of tomatoes to earn just \$50. Additionally, farmworkers often work 10-12 hour days with no overtime pay, no benefits, no right to organize and no sick days. In the most extreme cases, farmworkers are held in situations of modern-day slavery and forced to work against their will.

Our church teaches that we are stewards of God's creation which includes our economic life together. We believe that people of faith and conscience agree that the conditions faced by farmworkers are deplorable and must change. A significant part of this change must come from high-volume purchasers, like Burger King.

As consumers, our congregations and members want to be assured that the food served at Burger King is produced in a way that respects the human rights of farmworkers. I urge Burger King to work with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers to implement and expand the principles of social responsibility established in the Yum! Brands-CIW agreement.

Cordially yours,

Clifton Kirkpatrick Stated Clerk of the General Assembly