American Nurses Association: Ethics and Human Rights Statement  
(January 2017)

Nursing is committed to both the welfare of the sick, injured, and vulnerable in society and to social justice. The ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements (2015) establishes the ethical standard for the profession in its fervent call for all nurses and nursing organizations to advocate for the protection of human rights and social justice.

- A fundamental principle is respect for the inherent dignity, worth, unique attributes, and human rights of all individuals.  
  Interpretive Statement 1.1
- Nurses must bring attention to human rights violations in all settings and contexts and must respond when these violations are encountered.  
  Interpretive Statement 8.4
- Nurses must always stress human rights protection with particular attention to preserving the human rights of vulnerable groups, such as the poor, the homeless, the elderly, the mentally ill, prisoners, refugees, women, children, and socially stigmatized groups.  
  Interpretive Statement 8.4
- Ethics, human rights, and nursing converge as a formidable instrument for social justice and human rights must be diligently protected and promoted.  
  Interpretive Statement 8.2

Additional Relevant Resources:


