

CLUSTER BOMB SURVIVORS TOUR

BAN THE BOMB

that Keeps on Killing

October 8, 7–8:30pm

Community of Christ

2140 Union Ave., Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Speakers from Afghanistan and Lebanon, as well as the mother of a Marine killed by a U.S. cluster munition.



Cluster bombs or rockets open in mid-air and distribute dozens to hundreds of small bomblets about the size of a softball or a D cell battery over an area as big as two football fields. These weapons kill or maim every living thing in the area where they land. They also leave behind a minefield of unexploded bomblets that keep on killing for years to come.

The vast majority of recorded casualties from cluster bombs have been civilians, very many of them children. Finally, in May 2008, more than half of the world's governments—including the closest U.S. military allies—agreed to ban these weapons.

The United States has been the leading producer, user and exporter of cluster bombs and rockets over the past 40 years. But so far, the United States has refused to participate in the global treaty, which will be opened for signing in December 2008.

Last year Congress halted cluster bomb exports. Now we must persuade Congress or the next President to ban cluster bomb use. Several mid-western Senators are key to the effort to ban U.S. cluster bombs.

“As a victim of cluster bombs, I propose to those who produce, use and transfer these harmful weapons: Please ban cluster bombs. You would ban them for sure if your own children faced them.”

–Soraj Ghulam Habib, Afghanistan

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Six year old Iman Koubaisi from Lebanon, wounded in 2006 after playing with a cluster submunition. Come meet other survivors of cluster bombs. Photo by Luis Arnal, sponsored by the American Task Force for Lebanon.

Sponsored by Community of Christ Church, United Nations Association Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Friends Meeting, Institute for Global Education

For more information, contact Tom Reynolds at 616-784-9142.