



The  
CENTER for  
VICTIMS of  
TORTURE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Torture Survivor Rehabilitation Center Praises Senator Feinstein for Seeking the Truth about CIA Torture**

**St. Paul, MN & Washington, DC** – The [Center for Victims of Torture](http://www.cvt.org)™ today released the following statement in response to Senator Dianne Feinstein’s floor [speech](#) about the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence’s 6,300 page report on the Central Intelligence Agency’s former detention and interrogation program following the September 11, 2001, terror attacks.

“For five years, Senator Feinstein, as chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, has been the leading force in working to uncover the horrible truth behind the CIA’s illegal, ineffective, misguided, and immoral torture program,” said Melina Milazzo, senior policy counsel at CVT. “Her speech today is a strong affirmation of her commitment to release the Intelligence Committee report and provide the American people an accounting of the facts.

“We applaud Senator Feinstein for her leadership and, once again, standing up for what is right in the face of alleged misconduct by the CIA.

“Senator Feinstein has directed a dedicated team of Congressional professional staff to produce the most thorough and comprehensive review of how and why the CIA’s official policies of torture and cruel treatment came to be used. More than 6,000 pages long and with 35,000 footnotes, the Intelligence Committee report must absolutely be declassified and released to guarantee the United States never again returns to official policies of torture and cruel treatment.

“We wholeheartedly agree with Senator Feinstein who said in her remarks, ‘If the Senate can declassify this report, we will be able to ensure that an un-American, brutal program of detention and interrogation will never again be considered or permitted.’

“The current allegations of CIA misconduct, including an attempt to undermine a Congressional investigation, are very serious. Congress has a duty to conduct oversight of the Executive Branch to protect against unchecked power and establish much-needed safeguards against abuses occurring in the future. The Senate Intelligence Committee should be able to conduct this fundamental democratic function without intimidation or interference from the CIA.

“In her speech, Senator Feinstein also stated, ‘The White House has indicated publicly and to me personally that it supports declassification and release.’ Releasing the report has earned

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[widespread support](#), including from Vice President Joe Biden; Senator John McCain; several retired military officers, national security experts, foreign policy experts, and religious leaders.

“We welcome the White House’s support and urge President Obama, himself, to call for the report’s declassification and release as soon as possible.”

**NOTE:** CVT, in partnership with other human rights organizations, has compiled a list of political, religious, human rights, national security, foreign policy, and military leaders, and media who support releasing the Senate Intelligence Committee’s report on CIA torture. If you’d like a copy, please contact Brad Robideau at [brobideau@cvt.org](mailto:brobideau@cvt.org) or 612.436.4886.

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*The Center for Victims of Torture is a nonprofit headquartered in St. Paul, MN with an office in Washington, D.C. and healing initiatives in Africa and the Middle East. Visit [www.cvt.org](http://www.cvt.org).*