tion of Human Rights as a fundamental statement of principles reaffirming faith in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

On December 15 we mark the one hundred eighty-fourth anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights and on December 10 we observe the twenty-seventh anniversary of the Universal Declaration. It is fitting that in 1975, which is International Women's Year, we should recognize especially the contributions of women to political and social progress and underline our commitment to remove promptly such barriers that still remain in the way of their full participation in our Nation's life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim December 10, 1975, as Human Rights Day and December 15, 1975, as Bill of Rights Day. I call upon the American people to observe the week beginning December 10, 1975, as Human Rights Week. Further, I urge all Americans during the coming bicentennial year to contemplate the principles of liberty and justice enunciated in the Bill of Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to draw on them as the best means to assure our Nation's continued progress.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4409

American Education Week, 1975

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Our schools are no better than we make them. They can provide a solid educational foundation for our children. They can provide a training ground for leadership development. They can offer an opportunity for expanded technical knowledge and cultural enrichment through con-
continued education. They can become a center for community involvement. But the future our schools provide is in large measure dependent upon our involvement.

We must be concerned for our sake, for our children's sake and for the future of our Republic. This Nation's greatness depends upon the enlightenment of each generation.

Although we can be justly proud of our system of American education, we must not become complacent. What we teach our children in school and what adults continue to learn through advanced courses and community educational opportunities will affect our own future—and our Nation's future.

It is particularly appropriate, therefore, as we celebrate our 200 years of history, to emphasize the importance of American education in the lives of every American.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning November 16, 1975, as American Education Week.

I urge parents to visit their children's schools, to learn what their children are learning and to join with teachers and administrators in providing an enriching environment for their children's educational experience.

I urge all students to recognize the unique opportunity they have in this great Republic to reach out for greater knowledge and deeper understanding of man and his environment.

I urge students, teachers and administrators to plan appropriate activities which encourage participation in student government.

I urge everyone, either informally or in the classroom setting, to take advantage of the growing opportunities for adult education in technical skills, employment skills and cultural and intellectual pursuits.

During American Education Week, I urge every American to recommit himself to the process of continuing education for every man, woman and child.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD