



# Not in *OUR* DC!

## Pledge to Keep the Capital Clean

### Discussion/Self-Reflection Questions

#### Vignette VIII — Society of Convenience

1. The documentary opens telling us about the plastic bottles, food wrappers and other trash the city's work crews clean out of sewers, rivers and streets. Have you seen evidence of this? Where? Did you contribute to it or do something about it? Why or why not?
2. Why, do you think, do people not use the trash bins on sidewalks, in parks and other public places? What ideas do you have for ways to help these people change their behavior?
3. Richard Hughes, a teen in the documentary, says this about trash in the streets: "That's how rodents and stuff get around, roaches, and it makes the city seem just dirty." Do you think people are aware of such risks? Why or why not? If they are aware, why do they do it? If they are not aware, what would it take to make them aware?
4. What does it mean to be a "throw away society?" How does that affect the amount of litter? How are we a "society of convenience?" Convenient for whom?
5. Another teen in the documentary, Alison Cross, says, "It's our job to keep it clean. The people who live here, it's our job to keep it clean. The sanitation workers, they're supposed to help with it. But ultimately, if we don't care about it, then no one else will." Do you agree or disagree with her statement? Why?