



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL  
MAYOR

May 10, 2014

Dear Friends:

Today we are gathered to stand with the Nigerian community in Chicago and around the world as we fight to #BringBackOurGirls, and raise our voices to denounce human trafficking, violence against women, and the actions taken by Boko Haram which translates to “Western education is sin” as intolerable and unacceptable.

As you know, on April 14<sup>th</sup>, the terrorist group Boko Haram abducted 276 girls from an all-girls school in the northeastern village of Chibok. The freedom and future of every girl is invaluable to the world and indelibly shapes each of us. Those girls – and all girls – deserve safe, affirming spaces to grow into women who serve as leaders, providers, thinkers and truly inspiring forces that create, nurture, and fortify society, culture, and business. I am saddened by this crime against humanity and fully support the Senate and White House’s condemnation of such a horrible event. The world aches every second these young girls remain missing and like any parent, my heart goes out to the families of these girls.

In the face of such a tragedy, I urge all Chicagoans to come together and promote the efforts to #BringBackOurGirls, while assisting and supporting the greater Nigerian community during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Mayor