

# **The Veritas Forum at the University of California, Santa Cruz**

**October 16-20, 2006**  
*Christian Social Justice*

Tuesday, October 17, Noon – Discussion: “**Social Justice in Food Systems: A Look at California**” - Community Studies student Dorothy Stowe will lead a Brown Bag Lunch discussion. All are welcome to participate. Bay Tree Building, room TBA. Bring your own lunch, drinks will be provided.

Tuesday, October 17 – 7pm - Film: TBA

Wednesday, October 18, 7pm - “Social Justice Locally”

Todd Madigan of Sacred Heart Social Services, will speak on “**Justice of Solidarity: The Paradox of Poverty.**” 7pm Room TBA

Thursday, October 19, 7pm – “Social Justice Globally”

Bethany Hoang of International Justice Mission will speak on “**Why Good People Do Nothing.**” 7pm Room TBA

Friday, October 20, 7pm – “Social Justice Nationally”

Ron Sider of Eastern University will speak on “**A New Vision of Overcoming Poverty in America.**” 7pm Room TBA

Daily – Entertainment by the **New Earth Tribe**, Bookstore Plaza, noon.

Art exhibit – “The Catholic Worker Lithographs of Fritz Eichenberg.”

We, the Forum's planners, believe that Jesus Christ has something relevant to offer in coming to terms with power in our world. To that end, Veritas at UCSC hopes to promote open and honest conversation among the members of the University community. The events we have planned will draw participants, both speakers and audiences, into substantial and continued conversations and friendships.

We believe that social justice has its roots in Christ's teaching and the prophetic utterances of the Old Testament. We seek justice – the fair, moral and impartial treatment of all persons.

It is our aim that Veritas events such as this will lead to ongoing conversations about the important things in life.

#### Sponsors (with websites)

International Students, Inc. - [www.isiwebnet.net/sites/PeggyPollard](http://www.isiwebnet.net/sites/PeggyPollard)

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship UCSC - <http://studentorgs.ucsc.edu/ivcf/>

Campus Ministers Fellowship

The New Earth Tribe

Twin Lakes Church – <http://www.tlc.org/>

Community of Christian Students

Bethany University - <http://www.bethany.edu/homeb/index.htm>

## **Speaker Profiles**

### **Todd Madigan:**

*"Justice as Solidarity: The Paradox of Poverty"*

Presentation Description: Christ lived and taught a peculiar brand of solidarity that is as repugnant to the prosperous as it is good news to the poor. We will explore the nature of this solidarity and ask ourselves if in its light the injustice of poverty might be closer than we think.

Biography: Todd holds a B.A. in Philosophy and an M.A. in English. After teaching high school for a few years, he began taking trips to Russia to work with children abandoned to the streets of Moscow and St. Petersburg. This experience led him to forgo teaching and undertake full-time work with the homeless of San Jose. For the past year he has served as the Community Involvement Coordinator at Sacred Heart Community Service, an agency committed to ending poverty in their community. He lives with his wife and two teenage children in San Jose and attends St. Stephen Orthodox Church.

### **Bethany Hoang:**

"Why Good People Do Nothing"

Biography: Bethany Hoang serves as the Education Program Manager at International Justice Mission. IJM is an international human rights agency that rescues victims of violence, sexual exploitation, slavery and oppression. Based on referrals of abuse received from relief and development organizations, IJM conducts professional investigations of the abuses and mobilizes intervention on behalf of the victims.

Mrs. Hoang received her B.A. in Religion and History from Miami University of Ohio, and she received her Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary where she graduated with the honor of receiving the Fellowship in Theology.

As the Education Program Manager at IJM, Mrs. Hoang is responsible for creating, implementing, and overseeing a variety of cutting-edge initiatives that are designed to engage the worldwide church and academic communities. Mrs. Hoang offers her speaking, teaching, writing, analytical, and organizational skills to IJM's goal of deepening the church's level of

understanding, passion, and commitment to seek justice on behalf of those who suffer abuse and oppression in our world.

**Ron Sider:**

*“A New Vision of Overcoming Poverty in America”*

Biography: Dr. Sider is one of the most respected and passionate advocates of holistic biblical faith in the Christian world (delete). Ron grew up in rural southern Ontario, the child of a Canadian Brethren in Christ pastor (delete). Ron attended the University of Waterloo, in Waterloo, Ontario, and received a B.A. in European history. It was there that Ron came in contact with the apologetic work of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and set his sights on a career in academia. Upon graduating in the late '60s with a M.Div. and Ph.D. in history from Yale, Ron expected to teach early modern European history on secular university campuses, and continue his apologetic work for IVCF. Faced with the glaring needs and blatant injustice of the inner city, Ron began to work toward developing a biblical response to social injustice. He brought together a network of similarly concerned evangelicals, which in 1973 became the *Thanksgiving Workshop on Evangelical Social Concern*. It was this conference that issued the now historic "Chicago Declaration of Evangelical Social Concern."

In 1977, Ron's ground-breaking book, Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger, was published. Hailed by *Christianity Today* as one of the one hundred most influential books in religion in the twentieth century, Rich Christians has sold over 350,000 copies. 1978 also saw the formation of Evangelicals for Social Action (ESA), a movement that continues to shape and influence North American Christian thinking on issues of biblical justice and spirituality. Ron currently teaches at Eastern University.