



TRUTH COMMISSION ON CONSCIENCE IN WAR Public Hearing: Sunday, March 21, 2010 4 - 8pm

The Riverside Church
490 Riverside Dr. New York, NY 10027
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The Truth Commission on Conscience in War is supported by your tax-deductible donations and led by a growing list of organizational and educational co-sponsors. See bottom for current list of co-sponsors.

Join us Sunday, March 21st in New York City to hear the voices of service members and veterans wrestling with profound questions about the morality of the wars they are called upon to fight. The Truth Commission on Conscience in War will bring people together to hear from recent veterans, military chaplains, religious leaders, and legal experts about the issues of moral and religious conscience facing our nation's service members.

The Commission will:

- (1) Honor and protect freedom of conscience for service members,
- (2) Bring together Just War, Just Peace, and pacifist traditions in conversation, and
- (3) Address the moral and spiritual injuries of war.

Over 70 Commissioners from pacifist, Just War, Just Peace, and other traditions will attend the Public Hearing to receive personal testimony from veterans and expert witnesses about:

- (1) Moral and religious questions facing soldiers both before and during combat,
- (2) Moral and religious criteria of just war,
- (3) International agreements governing the justification and conduct of war, and
- (4) Limits of current military regulations on Conscientious Objection.

Commissioners and testifiers will meet in Private Session on Monday, March 22, to discuss the Public Hearing testimony and identify strategies for pursuing the goals of the Commission.

On behalf of the Commission's nearly 50 organizational sponsors and co-sponsors, we hope you will join us for the March 21 Public Hearing at The Riverside Church. Together we will launch a major nationwide conversation about just war, international law, and freedom of conscience for members of our nation's armed forces. We owe this to our service members and their families, to our faith communities, and to our nation.

... more details below!

www.ConscienceInWar.org



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To join as a Co-Sponsor, please contact Ian Slattery at islattery@conscienceinwar.org or (510) 526-9500.
For press inquiries, please contact Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock (510) 459-5123 or Ian Slattery (510) 526-9500.

---- SPEAKERS ----

Commission Chair: Rev. Dr. Kaia Stern, Director of the Pathways Home Project at the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at Harvard Law School.

Commission Host: Rev. Herman Keizer, Jr., US Army Chaplain (Colonel), retired; Former Director of Chaplaincy Ministries for the Christian Reformed Church in North America; Former Chair, National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces America.

Testifiers and Expert Witnesses: Tyler E. Boudreau, US Marine (Captain) veteran of Iraq and author of *Packing Inferno: The Unmaking of a Marine*; **Joshua Casteel**, US Army veteran and conscientious objector, former Army Interrogator at Abu Ghraib; **Jacob C. Diliberto**, US Marine veteran of Afghanistan and Iraq, Founder of Veterans for Rethinking Afghanistan, Fuller Theological Seminary; **Logan Laituri**, US Army veteran with service in OIF II, Co-founder of Centurion's Guild; **Camilo Mejia**, US Army veteran and conscientious objector, author of *Road from Ar Ramadi*; **Chris Hedges**, Pulitzer Prize winning former war correspondent for *The New York Times* and author of *War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning*; **Dr. Camillo "Mac" Bica**, Professor of Philosophy, School of Visual Arts, former Marine Corps Officer and Vietnam veteran; **Rev. Dr. Pamela Lightsey**, Associate Vice President, Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, US Army veteran; **J. E. McNeil**, Executive Director, Center on Conscience & War; **Rabbi Douglas E. Krantz**, Congregation B'nai Yisrael and Executive Board Member of Jewish Peace Fellowship; **Nurah-Rosalie P. Jeter Amat'ullah**, Executive Director, Muslim Women's Institute for Research and Development, Graduate Certificate in Islamic Chaplaincy, Hartford Seminary; **Celeste Zappala**, Member of Gold Star Families Speak Out and Mother of Sgt Sherwood Baker, Pennsylvania National Guardsman, killed in Baghdad, April 26, 2004, while searching for weapons of mass destruction.

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Organizing Committee: Faith Voices for the Common Good; Mission & Social Justice Commission of The Riverside Church; Soldiers of Conscience; Starr King School for the Ministry; Union Theological Seminary.

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