

Americans United for Separation of Church & State, Orange County Chapter Professor Phil Zuckerman

The Nonreligious in Today's America Saturday, June 16th at 1:45 pm

Community Room, Irvine Ranch Water District¹ 15500 Sand Canyon Ave. (at Waterworks), Irvine, CA 92618



Phil Zuckerman is a professor of sociology and secular studies at Pitzer College in Claremont, California. He is also a regular affiliated professor at Claremont Graduate University, and he has been a guest professor for two years at the University of Aarhus, Denmark.

His most recent book is *The Nonreligious* (Oxford, 2016): The number of nonreligious people has increased dramatically over the past several decades, yet scholarship on the nonreligious is severely lacking. In response to this critical gap in knowledge, *The Nonreligious* provides a comprehensive summation and analysis of existing social scientific research on secular people and societies. The authors present a thorough overview of existing knowledge while also drawing upon ongoing research

and suggesting ways to improve our understanding of this growing population. Offering a researchand data-based examination of the nonreligious, this book will be an invaluable source of information and a foundation for further scholarship. Written in clear, accessible language that will appeal to students and the increasingly interested general reader, *The Nonreligious* provides an unbiased and thorough account of relevant existing scholarship within the social sciences that bears on lived experiences of the nonreligious.

In 2011, Phil founded the first Secular Studies department in the nation. Secular Studies is an interdisciplinary program focusing on manifestations of the secular in societies and cultures, past and present. Secular Studies entails the study of non-religious people, groups, thought, and cultural expressions. Emphasis is placed upon the meanings, forms, relevance, and impact of political/constitutional secularism, philosophical skepticism, and personal and public secularity.

Phil grew up in Pacific Palisades, California and went to the University of Oregon, where he earned a BA (1992), MA (1995), and PhD (1998), all in sociology. He currently lives in Claremont, California, with his wife, Stacy, and their three children.

For more information:

www.au-oc.org, email: mail@au-oc.org or call 714-299-4551

¹ Irvine Ranch Water District neither supports nor endorses the cause nor activities of organizations which use the District's meeting rooms that are made available as a public service.