

The Founding Fathers' Religious Reasons for Separation of Church and State

**Americans United for Separation of Church and State
Orange County Chapter - General Meeting**

Saturday, April 18th at 2:00 pm

Irvine Ranch Water District¹ 15600 Sand Canyon Ave. (at Waterworks) in Irvine



Our next speaker will be Dr. Barbara McGraw, a strong supporter of separation of church and state and the founder of the Center for Engaged Religious Pluralism at St. Mary's College in Moraga, California.

Dr. McGraw will talk about the founding fathers from a religious perspective and why they believed in the separation of church and state.

Ever wonder why separationists and the religious right can find quotes from the American founders to support their very divergent views? She will show that the answer to that seeming inconsistency is that both the separationists and the religious right are "half right" and "half wrong" about what the founders accomplished. Dr. McGraw will be looking to the past to find a way to understand how the two "half rights" can pave the way for an American future that preserves the separation of church and state, while also welcoming religious voices in the public square.

Dr. McGraw received her Juris Doctor from USC in 1984 and her Ph.D. in Religion and Social Ethics also from USC in 1999. She has taught at Saint Mary's College of California since 1998. She was a finalist in the "Religion and Politics Division" Book Award Competition for her book "Rediscovering America's Sacred Ground: Public Religion and Pursuit of the Good in a Pluralistic America." Her interests include:

- Religion, Moral Values, and Pluralism in American Public Life
- Religion in America
- Interfaith Leadership
- The World Religions and Social Ethics Issues
- Political Theology and Political/Economic Culture
- Civil Discourse Across Sacred Boundaries

We hope that you will join in the discussion!

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.

For more information:

www.au-oc.org or email: orangecountyau@yahoo.com
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