

## **Gustavo Arellano: “The Collision of Religion and Politics in Orange County”**

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

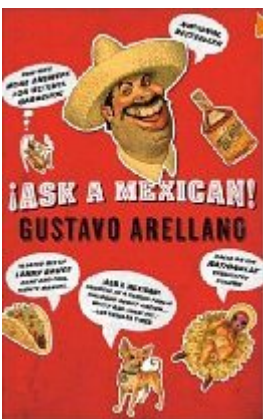
**Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm**

**Irvine Ranch Water District<sup>1</sup> 15600 Sand Canyon Ave. (at Waterworks) in Irvine**



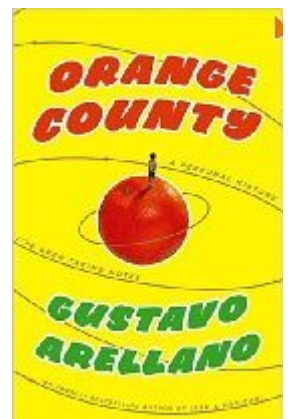
Gustavo Arellano, religion and political reporter for the “OC Weekly,” is the featured speaker for our July meeting where he will discuss the intersection of religion and politics in Orange County. There are few reporters who cut to the heart of the issues of religion and society the way Gustavo does. In his book “*Orange County – A Personal History*” he covers Saddleback Church, Calvary Chapel and the Trinity Broadcasting Network. He doesn’t leave out the sex-abuse scandal in the diocese. He also discusses Islam, including both Imam Siddiqi who prayed with George W. Bush following 9/11 and the Muslim Student Union at UCI who did not. Even the Buddhist temple gets a mention. In his columns, Gustavo has covered all religions – the good, the bad and the political.

Gustavo is a staff writer with OC Weekly, author of “*¡Ask a Mexican!*” and “*Orange County – A Personal History.*” Gustavo has a radio show on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm on KPFK.



He is a winner of the 2006 Association of Alternative Weeklies award for Best Column for Ask a Mexican! He was a finalist for the 2005 Maggie Award's Best Public Service Series for his work on the Catholic Diocese of Orange sex-abuse scandal, a topic for which he was the recipient of the Lilly Scholarship in Religion from the Religion Newswriters Association.

He was a finalist for the 2005 PEN USA Literary Awards for Journalism for his profile on a disabled Latino veteran of the Iraq War. He is also a frequent contributor to the OC Weekly column “*Gimme That OC Religion.*”



*“When it comes to hate in any context, the best way to approach it is by shining a light on it. If you shine a light, you’ll be surprised to see how quickly the hate skitters away or disappears.”*

<sup>1</sup> 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:**

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Fax: 714-515-4248 or call: 714-299-4551 or 714-957-0748