



WSBA World Peace through Law Section

January 2010

January 26: The Right to Housing

The Section's meeting on January 26, 2010, will feature Professor Steve Herbert speaking on "*U.S. Social Exclusion Policies and the Right to Housing*", noon – 1 p.m., at the WSBA Offices, 1325 4th Ave., Ste. 600, Seattle, 98101.

Herbert is Professor in Law, Societies and Justice Program, UW and co-author (with Katherine Beckett) of *Banished: The New Social Control in Urban America* (Studies in Crime and Public Policy) Oxford University Press, 2009. He has also written *Citizens, Cops, and Power: Recognizing the Limits of Community* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006), and *Policing Space: Territoriality and the Los Angeles Police Department* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1997) and numerous refereed articles, reviews and other works in law and geography.

Section Chair Martha Schmidt will provide an introduction on the international right to housing. Section members are urged to review the report of the UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing, Raquel Rolnik, who recently completed an 18-day fact-finding mission to the USA:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/housing/> .

Cost: WPTL Section members: Free; Non-WPTL Section members: \$25; Law students: \$12 (includes Section membership). 1 general CLE credit applied for. *We hope to see you there!*

2010 Upcoming Events

- **February 23:** We will discuss Section name, bylaws, organization and future direction. If you're not in it just for the free CLE, please come or submit your comments via the list serve.
- **March 23:** Attorney Rebecca Smith, coordinator, Immigrant Worker Justice Project of the National Employment Law Project, will speak on international labor rights.
- **April 27:** We will be doing a CLE program on international environmental issues.
- **May 25:** Professor and attorney Rick Lorenz will speak on the Legal Obligations of an Occupying Power under International Humanitarian Law.
- **June – December:** Programs tbd. Let's hear your ideas!

"Essential to
... human life
beyond simple
survival
is access to
adequate
housing. "

- Universal
Declaration of
Human Rights

"Everybody
has to be
somewhere."

- Bing Crosby

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800-945-WSBA (9722)
206-443-WSBA (9722)

Ralph H. Bunche Award 2009

The Section presented the 2009 Ralph J. Bunche award to Ann Fagan Ginger, who spoke to the Section in October 2009. Section Chair Nandini Rao made the presentation on December 16, 2009, with Professor Ginger participating by phone.

PRESENTATION OF RALPH J. BUNCHE AWARD

16 December 2009

To ANN FAGAN GINGER of the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute

It is an honor to present the Ralph J. Bunche Award to Ann Fagan Ginger, noted human rights and peace lawyer, founder and executive director of the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute (Berkeley, California) since 1965. From the Civil Rights era to today's global human rights movement, she and the Institute have traveled the path from education and advocacy for civil and political rights to working for an expanded vision of human rights, including individual social, economic, and cultural rights, as well as collective rights, such as the right to peace and to a clean and sustainable environment. Ann has made it her life's work to ensure that American jurisprudence follows international human rights law. As lawyer, professor, writer, she has treasured and promoted the UN Charter and the core human rights treaties.

Ginger has worked tirelessly with governmental bodies. As chair of the Berkeley City Commission on Peace and Justice, she was instrumental in getting that city council to incorporate obligations derived from Articles 55 and 56 of the UN Charter into a human rights ordinance, creating a model for others to use. She recently was key in convincing the Berkeley City Council to file periodic reports on compliance with treaties ratified by the U.S., the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights [ICCPR], the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination [CERD], and the Convention Against Torture and all other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment [CAT]. Ginger has often testified, including before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the UN Human Rights Committee.

One of Ginger's most important contributions has been to help develop the system of shadow reporting within the network of U.S. human rights NGOs. These NGO reports to the U.N. Human Rights Committee (and similar bodies charged with treaty oversight) have expanded the role of civil society in demanding accountability from its political representatives and invigorated the democratic process.

Besides presenting CLE programs like her recent one for our section (on how to win for clients and causes using UN treaties and the Offices of the Inspector General), Ginger was editor in chief of the California Criminal Law Practice in the 1960s and has written and edited many books, including many editions of the *Human Rights and Peace Law Docket* (MCLI, 1955-1995); *Carol Weiss King: Human Rights Lawyer, 1895-1952* (1993); *Minimizing Racism in Jury Trials* (1969); *The Relevant Lawyers* (1972); *The Cold War Against Labor* (1987); *Nuclear Weapons are Illegal: The Historic Opinion of the World Court and How it Will be Enforced* (1998) and *Challenging U.S. Human Rights Violations Since 9/11, How to Use 'New' Civil Rights Laws After 9/11*.

This is a publication of a section of the Washington State Bar Association. All opinions and comments represent the views of the author and are not necessarily endorsed by WSBA, its officers or agents.