Interfaith Worker Justice
Kim Bobo, Executive Director and Founder of IWJ, received her degree in economics from the socialist college, The New School for Social Research, is highly active and involved with the Democratic Socialists of America, and chaired a Marxist speaker’s panel for The New School.

http://www.chicagodsa.org/d2010/5.jpg
Kim Bobo’s Facebook profile indicates that she received a Master’s Degree in Economics from The New School for Social Research.

http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kim-Bobo/136671746353802
The New School advances Socialist and Marxist ideals.

Current theorizing in Marxian economics

Marxian economics has been built upon by many others, beginning almost at the moment of Marx's death. The second and third volumes of Das Kapital were edited by his close associate Friedrich Engels, based on Marx's notes. Marx's Theory of Surplus value was edited by Karl Kautsky. The Marxian value theory and the Perron-Frobenius theorem on the positive eigenvector of a positive matrix \[ \pi \] are fundamental to mathematical treatments of Marxist economics.

Universities offering one or more courses in Marxian economics, or teach one or more economics courses on other topics from a perspective that they designate as Marxian or Marxist, include Colorado State University, New School for Social Research, School of Oriental and African Studies, Universiteit Maastricht, University of Bremen, University of

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marxian_economics

The philosophical approach of The New School is to stress the teachings of Marx and Nietzsche. It's Wiki page indicates that the Critical Theory of the Frankfurt School “holds an especially strong influence on all divisions of the school.”

Philosophical tradition

The New School continues the Graduate Faculty's tradition of synthesizing leftist American intellectual thought and critical European philosophy. True to its origin and its firm roots within the University in Exile, The New School, particularly its Department of Philosophy, is in the minority in the United States in offering students thorough training in the modern continental European philosophical tradition known as "Continental philosophy." This, it stresses the teachings of Parmenides, Aristotle, Leibniz, Spinoza, Hume, Kant, Hegel, Kierkegaard, Marx, Nietzsche, Husserl, Heidegger, Arendt, Freud, Benjamin, Wittgenstein, Foucault, Derrida, Deleuze, et al. [18] The thought of the Critical Theory of the Frankfurt School: Max Horkheimer, Walter Benjamin, Theodor Adorno, Herbert Marcuse, Jürgen Habermas, et al. holds an especially strong influence on all divisions of the school. After the death of Hannah Arendt in 1975, the philosophy department revolved around Reiner Schurmann and Agnes Heller.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_School_for_Social_Research

Critical theory is a Neo-Marxist examination and critique of society and culture, drawing from knowledge across the social sciences and humanities. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Critical_Theory

The Frankfurt School refers to a school of neo-Marxist interdisciplinary social theory,[1] particularly associated with the Institute for Social Research at the University of Frankfurt am Main. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frankfurt_School
Considering that Kim Bobo received her Master’s in Economics from a college steeped in neo-Marxist ideologies, it isn’t surprising that she has participated in numerous Democratic Socialist of America (DSA) events.

In 2001, Kim Bobo was honored by the Democrat Socialists of America at their 43rd annual Debs-Thomas-Harrington Dinner.

Jackie Kendall (right) presents Kim Bobo with the 2001 Debs - Thomas - Harrington Award.

Chicago DSA’s 43rd Annual Debs-Thomas-Harrington Dinner, on the theme of “Building Coalitions for Social Justice,” honored Henry Bayer, Director of AFSCME Council 31, and Kim Bobo, Director of the National Interfaith Committee on Worker Justice. The featured speaker was Illinois State Senator Miguel del Valle. (773) 384-0327; chiildsa@chicago dsa.org.


http://www.dsausa.org/dl/dlspr2k1.pdf
In 2004, Bobo gave the opening remarks at the DSA’s 46th annual Debs-Thomas-Harrington Dinner.
In 2008, Bobo moderated a Democratic Socialist panel for Chicago DSA.

Chicago DSA took part in the Progressive Democrats of America’s statewide panel discussion on “Better Democrats, the November Election, and Beyond,” where DSA comrade Bill Barclay led a breakout session on current economic issues that progressives should focus on.

In October, Chicago DSA, with *In These Times*, sponsored a panel discussion featuring Bill Fletcher, Jr. (*Solidarity Divided*); Richard Berg, new president, Teamsters Local 743; David Moberg, senior editor, *In These Times*; and moderator Kim Bobo, executive director, Interfaith Worker Justice.

In 2009, Bobo was the featured speaker for the DSA’s Debs-Thomas-Harrington Dinner.
Bobo participated in a panel discussion at the Democratic Socialists of America 2009 Convention.

7:30 PM Fountain Room Public Forum:

Ron Baiman
Welcome
Chair Chicago DSA

The Politics of the Economic Crisis
Right Wing Populism or Left Wing Resurgence?

with

Kim Bobo
Executive Director and Founder Interfaith Worker Justice

Bill Fletcher, Jr.
co-author
Solidarity Divided: The Crisis in Organized Labor and a New Path Toward Social Justice.

Harold Meyerson
Editor At-Large American Prospect
Op-ed Columnist Washington Post
Vice-Chair Democratic Socialists of America

http://vimeo.com/channels/71711#7863267
In 2010, Kim Bobo was the Master of Ceremonies for the DSA’s 52nd Annual Debs-Thomas-Harrington Dinner.
In 2010, Bobo keynoted the DSA’s Douglass-Debs Dinner.

2010 Douglass-Debs Dinner Program

Welcome
Reverend Timothy McDonald

Introduction
Milt Tambor, Chair of Metro Atlanta DSA
In Memoriam – Buddy Hughes

Keynote Address
Kim Bobo, Executive Director and founder of Interfaith Worker Justice

http://www.dsa-Atlanta.org/DD10_album.html

In 2011, Bobo spoke at the DSA’s Douglass-Debs Dinner.

Atlanta Douglass-Debs Dinner Message: Stop Wage Theft

By Milt Tambor

At Atlanta DSA’s November 6 Douglass Debs Dinner in Atlanta, Kim Bobo, executive director and founder of Interfaith Worker Justice, urged and exhorted the 125 people in attendance to carry out the prophet Malachi’s message and fight those who are defrauding labor of their wages and depriving immigrants of justice. Bobo then graphically described the “crime wave no one talks about” – the billions of dollars stolen from millions of low wage workers in the US every year. Those abuses include paying workers far less than the legal minimum wage, denying workers their rightful overtime and purposely mis-classifying employees as independent contractors.

Charlie Flemming, Walt Andrews, and Richard Ray

Milt Tambor

Kim Bobo

President of Georgia State AFL-CIO and Charlie Flemming, president of Atlanta-North Georgia Labor Council spoke of Walt’s contribution to the labor movement and the community and the local’s critical support of the Atlanta Fighting Foreclosure Coalition.

Joe Beasley, southern regional director of Rainbow Push, paid tribute to Anita for her courage in standing up to the business community and the city of Atlanta in their efforts to remove the shelter from the downtown location.

In 2009, Bobo participated in a panel discussion titled, “Getting to Work.” The Panel discussion stressed the teachings of Karl Marx, and advanced Marxist ideologies by name. To view the discussion, go here: http://youtu.be/QbfNHUIELnw

BOOKFORUM @ The New School

GETTING TO WORK:
Labor Issues in the 21st Century
November 19, 2009 @ 6:30pm

KIM BOBO, THOMAS FRANK, THOMAS GEOGHEGAN, & ANDREW ROSS, moderated by Bookforum’s editor CHRIS LEHMANN

Tishman Auditorium, 66 W. 12th Street, New York, NY
http://www.bookforum.com/work

http://www.artandeducation.net/announcement/bookforum-the-new-school/
Senior Staff
Kim Bobo is not the lone Socialist running Interfaith Worker Justice. Many members of her staff share her Marxist ideologies.

Eric Boria is Kim Bobo’s assistant. While a grad student at Lyola University, Boria organized Marxist Roundtables at the American Sociological Association’s annual conferences.

**Eric Boria**

_Assistant to the Executive Director_

Email: [eboria@iwj.org](mailto:eboria@iwj.org)

Phone: 773-728-8400 ext. 13

Eric Boria is the Assistant to the Executive Director. He has over ten years of experience studying urban development strategies and industrial jobs with a Ph.D. in Sociology from Loyola University Chicago. He is also a FIFA International Assistant Referee, representing the USA in professional soccer. Eric comes to IWJ with an interest in learning about non-profits and worker's issues.

While at Loyola University, Eric Boria organized roundtables for the Marxist section at meetings of the American Sociological Association. The stated belief of the Marxist sections is to approach it creatively, rather than dogmatically.

From: Seth Wigderson <seth.wigderson@gte.net>
List Editor: Seth Wigderson <seth.wigderson@gte.net>
Editor's Subject: CFP: American Sociological Association - Marxist Sections
Author's Subject: CFP: American Sociological Association - Marxist Sections
Date Written: Fri, 19 Jan 2001 20:38:01 -0500
Date Posted: Sat, 19 Jan 2001 20:38:01 -0500

Please pass this on to interested others and Relevant Lists.

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
August 18-21, Anaheim, CA

Eric Boria and Ric Brown are organizing the roundtables for the Marxist Section at the ASA this year and am putting out a call for papers for this August in Anaheim, California. The Primary Organizer is Eric. Please either contact him at eboria@netnitco.net or apply via the ASA website (details below). The SMxS believes that Marxism should be approached in a creative, rather than dogmatic way, and sees aspects of Marxist perspectives as intersecting with a wide range of topics in social science.

http://h-net.msu.edu/cgi-bin/logbrowse.pl?trx=vx&list=h-labor&month=0101&week=c&msg=WEp10Q2jmo5nbUo3FU6gxQ&user=&pw=
In a message from Eric Boria to a sociology professor, he confirms in his own words that he coordinated submissions to the Marxist Section Roundtables. Note his reference to the Frankfurt School.

From: "Eric Boria"
To: "Jeanne Curran"
Subject: Re: Marxist Section Roundtables
Date: Mon, 22 Jan 2001

Thanks Jeanne. Sounds very interesting. Adorno and the Frankfurt School would definitely fit well here, as well as other modern writings on the self and consumer society. But, would it be possible to send me a tentative title for Michael, Donna, and Amy separately. Also, for you and Susan - I think ASA submission rules allow you two first author submissions. If you don’t already have two submissions, or are not first author, then you should be all right. But for now I’ll have Michael, Donna, and Amy down.

Thanks again

Eric

Jeanne's earlier message:

Hi, Eric. I was planning to be at the ASA meetings with Susan Takata of Wisconsin, Parkside, and with a number of our students. We are currently working with Slovaj Zizek’s re-interpretation of Marxist theory in the The Fragile Absolute. I am particularly fascinated by his explanation of how the ideal subject merges into trash to preserve the Void. We have been relating this to some of our interpretations of postcolonial studies, the role of art in social theory, and a critical criminology perspective of violence. We have two artists in our group, Michael Planck, and Donna Woods, and another student, Amy Johnson, who has a particular interest in how this relates to structural violence in today’s world. They’re all in either sociology or behavioral sciences. Could we do a roundtable on the topic of Re-Interpreting Marx in a Postcolonial World in which the Subject Keeps Disappearing into the Void? I worry that such a title is too esoteric, but all it really means is that in today’s world production itself is a problem because production turns into the production of trash, and there is no way to capture the Master Signifier of which Zizek speaks. This is very much what I think Adorno was saying about the Enlightenment: the very achievements we seek produce their own negative counterparts. I’d like very much to have a down to earth discussion on how much this strikes me like entropy and the Heisenberg uncertainty principle, and how it has major implications for the revitalization of the left. p-Susan and I have already submitted papers for ASA, and wouldn’t be eligible for the roundtable, but Michael and Donna and Amy would, if the topic interests you.

Thanks,
Jeanne Curran
Professor of Sociology
California State University, Dominguez Hills

http://www.csudh.edu/dearhabermas/pppreps02.htm
282. Section on Marxist Sociology. Refereed Roundtable and Business Meeting—Hilton Washington

Refereed Roundtables (to 11:30 a.m.)
Organizer: B. Ricardo Brown Organizer: Alan Spector

1. Theoretical Issues in Marxist Sociology: Human Nature and Democracy
   Table Presider: Manjur Karim
   Papers: (1) Manjur Karim; (2) Elizabeth A. Wissinger; (3) Karen Bettez Halnon

2. Radical Pedagogy and Racial Praxis
   Table Presider: Beverly H. Burris
   Papers: (1) Beverly H. Burris; (2) Peter Chua

19. Local Organizations and Local Action
   Table Presider: Daniel D. Martin
   Papers: (1) Mikala Bembery; (2) Daniel D. Martin; (3) Douglas Taylor

20. Contemporary Views of Classical Theories
   Table Organizer/Presider: Eric Boria
   Papers: (1) Eric Boria; (2) Hank Rich; (3) Derrick Brooms; (4) Jackie Zalewski, Anteaus Rezba

21. With Marx and Against Marx
   Table Presider: Dieter Bogenhold
   Papers: (1) Dieter Bogenhold; (2) Sean Noonan

Section on Marxist Sociology Business Meeting (11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m.)

Paul Sherry was a founding board member of Interfaith Worker Justice, and is currently its Public Policy Director for the D.C. Office.

Sherry has also strongly and actively advocated for homosexuality, birth control, abortion, and even supported partial-birth abortion. Sherry also participated in “The Left Forum,” a socialist convention.

Paul Sherry, Public Policy Director—D.C. Office

Phone: 773-677-9964
psherry@iwj.org

A founding board member of IWJ, the Rev. Paul Sherry, is a longtime advocate for economic justice and civil rights. Currently, he coordinates the Faith Advocates for Jobs campaign launched by IWJ in 2010. A former President of the United Church of Christ and former Executive Director of the Community Renewal Society, Paul served as the Campaign Coordinator for the Let Justice Roll Living Wage Campaign, a national anti-poverty mobilization. He is co-author of A Just Minimum Wage: Good for Workers, Business and Our Future and the editor of The Riverside Preachers. He holds a doctorate in theology from Union Theological Seminary.

http://www.iwj.org/about/staff

http://www.nccusa.org/news/03sherryhires.html
In 1996, when Interfaith Worker Justice was founded, Paul Sherry signed a letter in opposition to the Catholic Church, supporting Bill Clinton’s veto of the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act.
Paul Sherry endorsed the Religious Institute’s “Religious Declaration on Sexual Morality, Justice, and Healing”

List of Endorsers

Rev. Dr. Z. Allen Abbott; American Baptist Church, New Hampshire Council of Churches; W. Lebanon, NH

Imam Daayiee Abdullah; Muslim, Al-Fatiha Foundation; Washington, DC

Rev. Wendy Sherer; Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; London, UK

Reverend Paul Sherry; United Church of Christ, Former President, United Church of Christ; Lakewood, OH

Rabbi Dr. John Sherwood; Jewish Reform, CCAR formerly, now Temple Emet; Oxnard, CA

http://www.religiousinstitute.org/list-of-endorsers
The declaration signed by Sherry calls for same-sex marriage, comprehensive sex education in schools, seminaries and “community settings,” and “faith-based commitment” to contraception and abortion.

Religious Declaration on Sexual Morality, Justice, and Healing

Faith communities must therefore be truth-seeking, courageous and just. We call for:
- Theological reflection that integrates the wisdom of excluded, often silenced peoples, and insights about sexuality from medicine, social science, the arts and humanities.
- Full inclusion of women and LGBT persons in congregational life, including their ordination and marriage equality.
- Sexuality counseling and education throughout the lifespan from trained religious leaders.
- Support for those who challenge sexual oppression and who work for justice within their congregations and denominations.

Faith communities must also advocate for sexual and spiritual wholeness in society. We call for:
- Lifelong, age-appropriate sexuality education in schools, seminaries and community settings.
- A faith-based commitment to sexual and reproductive rights, including access to voluntary contraception, abortion, and HIV/STI prevention and treatment.
- Religious leadership in movements to end sexual and social injustice.

God rejoices when we celebrate our sexuality with holiness and integrity. We, the undersigned, invite our colleagues and faith communities to join us in promoting sexual morality, justice, and healing.

Paul Sherry is attending the 2012 Left Forum as the Director of Interfaith Worker Justice’s DC Public Policy Office. The Left Forum is firmly rooted in Socialism.

http://www.leftforum.org/about/history

Paul Sherry—Intefaith Worker Justice

Organizing the Unemployed

Labor E. Panel Session 2—Saturday 12:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.  Manny Ness—Brooklyn College, CUNY, WorkingUSA  Approved Joe Stanick—Leader in the unemployed community John Dodds—Philadelphia Unemployment Project Kian Fredericks—Flashmobs4jobs.com LaToya Egwuekwe—Ucubed Manny Ness—Brooklyn College, CUNY, WorkingUSA  Paul Sherry—Intefaith Worker Justice WorkingUSA 31 W503

http://www.leftforum.org/category/speakers-affiliations/%5Bcatpath-raw%5D-1877
In 1998, Paul Sherry wrote a letter as the former president of the United Church of Christ, expressing support for homosexuality.

Now, No Condemnation

The Rev. Paul H. Sherry
Former President
United Church of Christ
November 1998

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."
(Romans 8.1)

In recent months we have witnessed the continuance of hate crimes against gay, lesbian, and bisexual persons, while in the church discussion about their civil rights and the appropriateness of their membership and ministry in the life of the church has intensified. Several denominations in the United States, as well as some churches and bishops around the world, have adopted or reaffirmed policies that exclude gay, lesbian, and bisexual persons from sharing fully in the ministry of the church. Other Christian leaders have harshly suggested that gay, lesbian, and bisexual persons have no place at all in the life of the church and that their human rights do not deserve the full measure of legal protection. In addition, some political leaders, usually claiming religious support, have vigorously opposed efforts to secure these very rights. Sometimes these anti-gay positions have been justified by flawed scientific understandings of the nature of homosexuality. Underlying many of these convictions is the assumption, frequently untested, that the Bible in general, and Christianity in particular, teach that homosexuality is a sin.

http://www.ucc.org/lgbt/now-no-condemnation.html
Joan Flanagan is the Development Director at Interfaith Worker Justice, and is a supporter of Planned Parenthood, a donor to the pro-abortion Chicago Foundation for Women, and former development director for the pro-abortion and pro-homosexual Center for New Community.

**JOAN FLANAGAN**

Joan Flanagan is the Development Director at Interfaith Worker Justice.

She is the author of two best-selling books, *The Grass Roots Fundraising Book* and *Successful Fundraising* (2nd edition). Both books are available in the Donors Forum Library and from booksellers. Joan is also a contributor to *Grassroots Fundraising Journal*.

Joan is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and serves on the Peer Mentoring Committee of the Chicago Chapter. She also practices what she preaches as a volunteer for the Episcopal Church of our Saviour and Horizon Hospice.

Joan graduated Magna Cum Laude from Denison University with a B.A. in French.

Joan Flanagan participated in Planned Parenthood’s May 5, 2011 “Celebration of Healthy Families” gala:
http://www.plannedparenthood.org/illinois/generations-celebration-healthy-families-36501.htm

Planned Parenthood’s 1st Generations Benefit

Thursday, May 5th

Planned Parenthood of Illinois had the pleasure of hosting its first-ever Generations: A Celebration of Healthy Families gala on Thursday, May 5, raising over $300,000 to benefit the organization’s services. Topics discussed included the importance of advocating for reproductive justice and what Planned Parenthood is doing for coming generations. K.W.

Photos (18)

Play Slideshow

Rebecca Cacayuran, Joan Flanagan and Colette Holt

http://www.tcwmag.com/pictures/611-planned-parenthoods-1st-generations-benefit#18
Prior to working at Interfaith Worker Justice, Joan Flanagan was the Development Director at the Center for New Community, which supports abortion and homosexuality.

Joan Flanagan
Development Director at Interfaith Worker Justice
Greater Chicago Area | Civic & Social Organization

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<th>Current</th>
<th>Development Director at Interfaith Worker Justice</th>
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<td>Fundraising Trainer and Consultant at Joan Flanagan</td>
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<th>Past</th>
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<td>Development Director at Center for New Community</td>
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<td>Fundraising Consultant at Bethel New Life</td>
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Education: Denison University

Recommendations: 1 person has recommended Joan

Connections: 123 connections

Websites: Company Website

Public Profile: [http://www.linkedin.com/in/joanflanagan](http://www.linkedin.com/in/joanflanagan)
The Center for New Community created a voting record which shows support for abortion and homosexuality. The measure by which politicians were judged regarding “women” and “GLBT” was provided by Planned Parenthood and The Human Rights Campaign.

http://www.newcomm.org/content/view/56/88/
Joan Flanagan is a donor to the Chicago Foundation for Women, an organization that grants money abortion-advocacy organizations.
Another Marxist working for Interfaith Worker Justice is Danny Postel. Danny Postel was the Communications Coordinator for IWJ from August 2007 – June 2011.
In 2009, Danny Postel, while working for IWJ, spoke at an event sponsored by the Marxist-Humanists, the Chicago Socialist Party and the Democratic Socialists of America.

**U.S. Marxist-Humanists**
An affiliate of the International Marxist-Humanist Organization

The Democracy Movement in Iran: Where is it going?

Monday, September 28, 2009

*Speakers: Danny Postel, Ali Reza*
Monday, September 28, 2009 at 6:30 pm
Acme Artworks 2215 W. North Ave, Chicago

*Sponsored by: U.S. Marxists-Humanists*
*Co-sponsored by Chicago Socialist Party, Democratic Socialists of America, Chicago Committee in Solidarity with the People of Iran*

What has changed in Iran since the June 2009 elections and what else can we expect to change? While Iranian society, especially women and youth, is searching for greater freedom, the current regime is moving in the opposite direction. What does this mean for Iran and its freedom movements?

- Danny Postel, Author of Reading Legitimation Crisis in Tehran (2006), founding member of the Chicago Committee in Solidarity with the People of Iran, member of Chicago’s No War on Iran Coalition, Communications Coordinator for the labor organization *Interfaith Worker Justice*, Contributing Editor to *Logos: A Journal of Modern Society & Culture*.
- Ali Reza, An Iranian political activist, member and writer for the U.S. Marxist-Humanists.

30 years of the Islamic Revolution in Iran
February 18th, 2010 • Related • Filed Under

Given the recent election crisis and continuing protests in Iran and in light of the 30th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, The Platypus Affiliated Society on November 5, 2009 hosted a panel discussion at the University of Chicago entitled 30 Years of the Islamic Revolution: The Tragedy of the Left. Panel participants included Danny Postel, journalist and author of Reading Legitimation Crisis in Tehran: Iran and the Future of Liberalism; Kayeh Ehsani, editor of The Middle East Report (MERIP); Maziar Behrooz, historian and author of Rebels with a Cause: The Failure of the Left in Iran; and Chris Cutrone of Platypus. This supplement to issue #20 of the Platypus Review consists of an edited transcript of the discussion, beginning with the panelists’ prepared remarks, followed by their responses to each other, and ending with a series of questions and answers.
The Platypus Affiliated Society states that its purpose is to reconstitute a Marxist Left.

The Platypus Affiliated Society, established in December 2006, organizes reading groups, public fora, research and journalism focused on problems and tasks inherited from the “Old” (1920s-30s), “New” (1960s-70s) and post-political (1980s-90s) Left for the possibilities of emancipatory politics today. [PDF]

Statement of purpose

Platypus is a project for the self-criticism, self-education, and, ultimately, the practical reconstitution of a Marxian Left. At present the Marxist Left appears as a historical ruin. The received wisdom of today dictates that past, failed attempts at emancipation stand not as moments full of potential yet to be redeemed, but rather as "what was" — utopianism that was bound to end in tragedy. As critical inheritors of a vanquished tradition, Platypus contends that — after the failure of the 1960s New Left, and the dismantlement of the welfare state and the destruction of the Soviet Union in the 1980s-90s — the present disorientation of the Left means we can hardly claim to know the tasks and goals of social emancipation better than the "utopians" of the past did.

http://platypus1917.org/about/statement/
James Parks is the current Communications Director for Interfaith Worker Justice, and the former Senior Editor at the AFL-CIO. As Senior Editor, Parks wrote multiple articles supporting homosexuality.
In 2011, Parks wrote about the AFL-CIO’s pro-homosexuality efforts through “Pride at Work.” Parks identified the Human Rights Campaign’s (pro-same-sex marriage) recognition that the AFL-CIO’s efforts are a “key tool in our ability to attain equal rights.”

Nearly 50 national organizations for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people have signed a labor solidarity statement sponsored by the AFL-CIO constituency group Pride at Work. The statement supports the rights of public employees to bargain.

The statement says, in part:

As national, state and local organizations for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality, we stand in solidarity with teachers, firefighters, nurses and all workers across this country fighting for their basic rights—for all of our rights. We are one.

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC), which recently signed the statement, issued a statement that called collective bargaining a “key tool in our ability to attain equal rights.”

HRC affirms our belief that citizens should have the right to have a say in their future. The ability for workers to come together and negotiate with employers for the best possible future for themselves and their families is and should remain a fundamental tenet of the workplace.

http://www.aflcio.org/Blog/In-The-States/LGBT-Organizations-Back-Public-Employees
In 2007, Parks wrote in support of the Employee Free Choice Act and its importance to the advancement of homosexuality.

Employee Free Choice Act
Important for LGBT Workers

by James Parks, Feb 21, 2007

The Employee Free Choice Act would give all workers the freedom to make their own choice about whether to join a union, but for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) workers, the bill has special importance.

In 32 states, LGBT workers can be fired for no reason unless they are protected by a union contract, says Nancy Wohlforth, co-president of the AFL-CIO constituency group Pride At Work. In a new video (left), Wohlforth urges LGBT workers to join in the week of action to support the Employee Free Choice Act.

Wohlforth, who also serves as secretary-treasurer of the Office and Professional Employees, says a worker is fired or disciplined every 23 minutes for supporting workers' freedom to join a union. That fact alone makes workers fearful about trying to form a union, but LGBT workers who back joining a union are doubly vulnerable, Wohlforth says, facing possible discrimination on the job because of their sexual orientation and their union support.
In 2009, Parks wrote about Pride at Work’s new Executive Director, stressing her history as an LGBT leader.

Peggy Shorey Named Pride At Work’s Executive Director

by James Parks, Dec 17, 2009

Peggy Shorey, Pride At Work (P@W), the AFL-CIO’s lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) constituency group, has selected longtime activist Peggy Shorey as its new executive director. Shorey has been an organizer and community leader in Connecticut for the past 17 years.

A union member since 1993, Shorey began union organizing in 2001. She has worked for both the UAW and SEIU. For the past 10 years, she has been an executive officer with the Greater Hartford Central Labor Council and also served on the Executive Board for the Connecticut AFL-CIO. An openly bisexual union leader, she was founding co-president of the Connecticut chapter of Pride At Work.

Donna Cartwright, co-president of P@W, says:

Peggy has a long history as a union and LGBT leader with extensive skills running social justice nonprofits. She has built effective and vibrant coalitions—including partnerships with unions, the faith community, political and community organizations and the broader LGBT community—the kind of coalitions that change opinions and win lasting victories.

In 2011, Parks expanded Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s vision of civil rights to include homosexuality.

King’s Social Justice Vision Encompasses All People

During the second panel in today’s national symposium on “Jobs, Justice and the American Dream,” panelists made it clear that now is the time for a massive effort by progressives to come together at all levels to build a movement that reclaims the moral vision that King had and to force needed social change in our nation. They agreed that Martin Luther King Jr.’s vision of social justice is not limited to African Americans and poor people. It encompasses all people who are oppressed or denied their human rights, including working people who are either immigrants, middle class, lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender (LBGT) or young.

The Justice and the American Dream panel followed a Jobs and American Dream panel this morning at the AFL-CIO, which sponsored the event along with The King Center.

(Watch a replay of the live panel here.)

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler and Latina journalist Maria Elena Salinas, who moderated the panel, both said King’s dream is far from realized and it will take a lot of work, dedication and unity to revive the American dream.

Rea Carey of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force said there is a common strand of intolerance throughout the nation’s politics, whether it is attacks on the middle class, people of color or LBGTs.
Dianne Enriquez is the National Worker Center Network Coordinator for Interfaith Worker Justice. She was previously the Director of Young Workers United, which produced a vote guide promoting abortion, homosexuality, and prostitution. She has also participated with DSA-Chicago’s podcast, “Talkin’ Socialism.”

Dianne Enriquez, National Worker Center Network Coordinator

Phone: 312-401-0131
denriquez@iwj.org

Dianne develops collective strategies with affiliates for national campaigns, provides on-site technical assistance for local campaigns and programs, and works to build a coordinated and deeply connected national movement of worker centers with affiliates and allies. She is an expert trainer in worker center programs and organizational development and has over 10 years experience as a lead organizer, popular education trainer, and campaign coordinator. Originally from Los Angeles, Dianne previously served as Director of Young Workers United in San Francisco, a worker center that organizes young and immigrant workers in the restaurant industry.

http://www.iwj.org/about/staff
During Dianne Enriquez’ tenure at Young Workers United, they produced this 2008 vote guide, which supports abortion, homosexuality, and prostitution.

**Talkin' Socialism**

**Episode 13 -- Economic Democracy**

**Episode 8 -- 21st Century Organizing**
Interfaith Worker Justice: Its Own Actions
The actions of Interfaith Worker Justice, as an organization, have placed it in the position of supporting abortion and homosexuality.

• *Interfaith Worker Justice is an Affiliate Member Organization* (paying dues) *of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy,* which advises funding agencies to grant money to homosexual advocacy groups, reproductive rights organizations, and the like. As an Affiliate Member of NCRP, IWJ has officially attached itself as a part of the larger organization.

• As an organization, *Interfaith Worker Justice* signed and *endorsed the Unity Blueprint,* which was sent to all members of the United States Congress. The Unity Blueprint called for passage of the Uniting American Families Act, which “would provide a mechanism that would allow U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents in bi-national same-sex relationships to sponsor their foreign born partner for immigration benefits to the U.S.”
Interfaith Worker Justice is an Affiliate Member Organization of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy.

NCRP's work is made possible by the support of foundations, organizations, and individuals.

Join our effort to challenge grantmakers to strengthen communities by supporting NCRP.

**Affiliate Organization Members**

- Appleseed Network
- Common Cause
- **Interfaith Worker Justice**
- King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence (KCCADV)
- Leadership Center for the Common Good
- National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV)
- PICO National Network
- Seattle Human Services Coalition
- Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC)

*Membership list as of 10/11/2011.*

[http://www.ncrp.org/partners-members](http://www.ncrp.org/partners-members)
As an affiliate member organization of NCRP, IWJ is paying dues, which fund NCRP’s activities.

Membership Rates

NCRP welcomes individuals, nonprofit organizations, and foundations to become members. Individuals can join for only $50; membership rates for nonprofits and foundations are determined by asset size.

**Individual membership** $50

**Nonprofit memberships**

- Budget below $100k $50
- $100k - $299k $100
- $300k - $499k $150
- $500k - $749k $200
- $750k - $999k $250
- $1 mil - $2.99 mil $300
- $3 mil - $4.99 mil $400
- $5 million and above $500

**Grantmaker memberships**

- Assets below $50 million $750
- $50-$100 million $1500
- $100-$200 million $3000

For foundations with assets above $200 million, please contact Kevin Faria, at ktfaria@ncrp.org or (202) 387-9177 ext. 14.


[http://www.ncrp.org/partners-members/join](http://www.ncrp.org/partners-members/join)
NCRP’s project, Philanthropy’s Promise, officially lists the homosexual community as a priority for funding.

**Bold, innovative and effective strategies … maximum impact**

Philanthropy’s Promise is a project of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy (NCRP) that celebrates funders that apply two high impact strategies in their grantmaking: targeting grant dollars to address the needs of underserved communities, and empowering them by funding advocacy, organizing and civic engagement.

**Strategy 1: Targeted Universalism**

Applying the concept of targeted universalism, many grantmakers that have signed on to Philanthropy's Promise believe that in prioritizing the needs of underserved populations such as economically disadvantaged people, racial or ethnic minorities, women and girls, people with AIDS, people with disabilities, the elderly, immigrants and refugees, victims of crime or abuse, offenders and ex-offenders, single parents and lesbian, gay bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals, we all benefit.

[http://www.ncrp.org/philanthropys-promise/about](http://www.ncrp.org/philanthropys-promise/about)
This has been an exciting month so far for LGBTQ rights. First, on February 7, a federal appeals court panel of three judges ruled that California’s ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional, overturning Proposition 8, a ballot initiative launched in response to a state court’s legalization of gay marriage. This is a great step toward restoring marriage equality in our most populous state. (Note: No new marriages can occur until the deadline passes for Prop 8 defenders to appeal to the full nine-member circuit court. Observers predict that the ruling will be appealed and the case will ultimately come before the Supreme Court.) Then, six days later, Governor Christine Gregoire signed into law a bill legalizing same sex marriage in Washington State.
Reproductive Health – Thanks to the hard work of pro-choice organizations in the state, no anti-choice legislation has passed during the last ten years in the Montana legislature, despite the introduction of dozens of anti-choice bills every biennial session. MWV added to the effort by helping present reproductive choice within a broader framework of issues affecting the health and well-being of women and families. The MWV Coalition also provides a vehicle for other women’s organizations (such as economic justice and domestic violence organizations) to support pro-choice legislation, which helps prevent alienation of pro-choice issues. In 2005, Montana passed the state’s first pro-choice bill, protecting patient access to clinics with a “buffer zone” from protestors. MWV also worked with member organizations NARAL and Planned Parenthood on a successful “decline to sign” campaign against a “life begins at conception” ballot initiative that failed to qualify for the ballot in 2008 and 2010. MWV and its member organizations have also worked hard to promote a proactive reproductive healthcare agenda which includes increasing access to comprehensive sex education and affordable birth control.
Peppered throughout the document are statements of support for same-sex marriage.

Basic Rights Oregon successfully defended the nondiscrimination and domestic partnership laws from going to the ballot for repeal, reducing the likelihood of a national wave of similar ballot measures over the next decade. These victories resulted from a compre-

The Oregon Family Fairness Act created domestic partnerships that grant to same-sex couples many of the rights, benefits and responsibilities that are granted to opposite sex couples who marry under state law. By passing this law, Oregon became the first state in the nation to grant comprehensive state-based relationship recognition to same-sex couples under the confines of a constitutional amendment banning marriage equality. In the past, same-sex couples had to prepare legal

The Equality State Policy Center and its member organization Wyoming Equality have fended off Wyoming efforts to prohibit recognition of same-sex marriages from other states. According to ESPC Director

In 2004, Basic Rights Oregon worked hard to defeat a ballot measure excluding LGBTQ residents from marriage rights. While the exclusionary measure did pass, and the loss was very difficult, the organization built a significant infrastructure in the process that enabled major victories in the next several years.
Funding Controversial and Cutting-edge Work

The Global Fund has been willing to fund groups working in remote and politically unstable parts of the world — tiny island nations in Oceania, in Gaza and the West Bank, in Afghanistan under the Taliban, and equally willing to extend its support for groups working on controversial issues — legalizing abortion, standing up for the rights of lesbians and transgender people, or defending the rights of sex workers to be treated with dignity and respect. Because of our deep ties to the women’s movements, we often are able to infuse critical support to groups that are most invisible and marginalized, such as a group of small lesbian organizations in Mexico City. These groups organized lesbian marches for several consecutive years, and they grew in numbers each year and developed a solidarity network of indigenous people, youth and women with disabilities. Their persistent work has shifted cultural awareness and understanding so significantly that last year, Mexico City became one of the first cities in the world to legalize gay marriage.
NCRP recently celebrated the LGBTQ Funders’ “40 years of LGBTQ Grantmaking.”

Celebrating Our History: 40 Years of LGBTQ Grantmaking
posted on: Thursday, February 23, 2012

Editor's note: This is a guest posting by Tony Bowen, author of "Forty Years of LGBTQ Philanthropy: 1970-2010" and Karen Zelermyer, president and CEO of Funders for LGBTQ Issues.

by Tony Bowen and Karen Zelermyer

Across the globe, communities are evaluating how to best support lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) seniors, legislatures are discussing gender identity non-discrimination, and schools are adopting policies to prevent bullying and harassment. The LGBTQ movement continues to make progress almost 43 years after the Stonewall Inn Riots of 1969, and foundations have played a vital role every step of the way.

http://blog.ncrp.org/2012/02/celebrating-our-history-40-years-of.html
Interfaith Worker Justice signed the endorsement for the Unity Blueprint for Immigration Reform.

http://www.unityblueprint.org/Unity-Blueprint/Endorsers.html
The Unity Blueprint signed by IWJ calls for passage of the pro-homosexual Uniting American Families Act.

In addition, we propose the following further amendments to facilitate immigration within a legal framework and discourage irregular migration or the build-up of the undocumented population:

(1) Reduce the affidavit of support income test required of family-based immigrant sponsors from 125% to 100% of the federal poverty level."

(2) Currently, thousands of aging Filipino veterans, who served with the United States Armed Forces during WWII and were only in 1990 allowed to become U.S. citizens, are separated from their children and grandchildren and are spending their twilight years without the daily interaction and support of family members. The Filipino veterans family reunification bill would remedy this situation by giving priority issuance of immigrant visas to the sons and daughters of Filipino World War II veterans who are or were naturalized citizens of the United States.

(3) As with opposite-sex couples, partners in same-sex relationships seek to build a life and family with each other. U.S. immigration law, however, does not recognize same-sex relationships and bi-national couples are often forced to separate, or move abroad, or live unlawfully in the United States to stay together. The Uniting American Families Act would provide a mechanism that would allow U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents in bi-national same-sex relationships to sponsor their foreign born partner for immigration benefits to the U.S.