Holocaust Studies Initiative

Global Jewish Studies Program



Suzanne R. and Dr. Lawrence M. Fishman Scholar-in-Residence Dr. John K. Roth, Claremont McKenna College

Losing Trust in the World

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 | 2 PM | FIU MMC | SIPA 125

The Auschwitz survivor Jean Améry said that Nazi torture destroyed his trust in the world. "Every morning when I get up," he added, "I can read the Auschwitz number on my forearm... Every day anew I lose my trust in the world." Another Holocaust survivor, Primo Levi, received life-saving aid in Auschwitz from an Italian stone mason named Lorenzo Perrone, who believed that "we are in this world to do good."

With references to current events as well as to Holocaust history, this discussion focuses on the importance of Lorenzo's belief, particularly in times and circumstances, including our own, that erode confidence about what is right and good and undermine trust in the world.

John K. Roth is the Edward J. Sexton Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and the Founding Director of the Center for the Study of the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights (now the Mgrublian Center for Human Rights) at Claremont McKenna College. Roth has published hundreds of articles and reviews and authored, co-authored or edited more than fifty books. Named the 1988 U.S. National Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, he has also received the Holocaust Educational Foundation's Distinguished Achievement Award for Holocaust Studies and Research.

The **Suzanne R. and Dr. Lawrence M. Fishman Scholar-in-Residence** program has been established as a multi-year commitment to promote the agenda of the FIU Holocaust Studies Initiative: to enhance Holocaust education through outreach to the entire South Florida region. To that end, the Fishman Scholar will engage the community annually with lectures at the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU, on campus and at a local Jewish day school.

This event is free for FIU students. For more information, please call 305-348-7266.

