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Pope Francis, Human Rights, and the Crises of Our Time

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Going Against the Grain

University of Dayton Human Rights Center
Social Practice of Human Rights Conference, Oct. 1-4, 2019

Pope Francis, Human Rights, and the Crises of Our Time

Presented by:

John Sniegocki, *Xavier University*

Session: Economic Inequality and Climate Justice

Abstract:

My paper/presentation will explore the holistic understanding of human rights contained in Catholic social teaching, with a focus on how Pope Francis applies this tradition to some of the major crises of our time. Particular attention will be given to issues of economic inequality, ecological devastation, migration, violence, and the rise of neo-fascist populist movements around the world. Francis' integrated analysis of the common roots of these problems and his proposed constructive responses will be explored and assessed. Strong emphasis will be placed upon his understanding of the critical role to be played by grassroots movements and widespread popular mobilization.

Presenter information:

John Sniegocki is an associate professor of religious ethics and director of the Peace and Justice Studies program at Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is the author of *Catholic Social Teaching and Economic Globalization: The Quest for Alternatives*, published by Marquette University Press, as well as numerous journal articles and book chapters on Catholic social teaching, economic justice, food ethics, ecology, the Catholic Worker movement, and Buddhist-Christian dialogue.