

Topic: Immigration Reform: What Now?

Synopsis: Irwin P. Stotzky will be discussing refugee and reform issues as a complimentary lecture along with the "Torn from Home" exhibit. His lecture will address the possible broad based immigration reform that the President and Congress may develop.

Biography

Irwin P. Stotzky is currently Professor of Law at the University of Miami School of Law and the Director of the University of Miami Center for the Study of Human Rights. He received his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School in 1974. In 1986-87, he was a Visiting Scholar at the Yale Law School. In 1991-1992, he was a Fulbright Scholar in Argentina. For the past thirty-one years, he has represented Haitian and other refugees on constitutional and human rights issues in many cases, including several cases in the United States Supreme Court. He has served as an advisor to the Alfonsin regime in Argentina on what steps to take, including human rights trials, against those who committed massive human rights abuses during the so-called "dirty war." He has served as an attorney and adviser to Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, and as an adviser to President Renè Preval's administration. He has published numerous articles and books on democracy and human rights, criminal law and procedure, and the role of the judiciary in the transition to democracy. His books include *THE THEORY AND CRAFT OF AMERICAN LAW: ELEMENTS* (with Soia Mentschikoff) (1981), *TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA: THE ROLE OF THE JUDICIARY* (1993), and *SILENCING THE GUNS IN HAITI: THE PROMISE OF DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY* (1997). His latest book, *LAW AS JUSTICE: THE MORAL IMPERATIVE OF OWEN FISS'S SCHOLARSHIP*, is scheduled to be published in September, 2009. Another book, entitled *IMMIGRATION LAW: CASES AND MATERIALS*, is scheduled to be published in September, 2009.

For his representation of refugees in a series of cases before the United States Supreme Court and his human rights work abroad, he received human rights awards from the American Immigration Lawyers Association and the Haitian Refugee Center. For his work in investigating human rights abuses worldwide and his scholarship, he received the *Inter-American Law Review's* 1997 Lawyer of the Americas award.