

Briefing

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Events in Victoria March 2019



5 March. Forum: Increasing resistance to Church & social justice movements in the Philippines. Sr Pat Fox began by working with street kids and women in housing commission flats. After studying law in the early 1980s, she worked in legal aid centres in Victoria, before volunteering for the Philippines in 1990. She worked in rural areas, and was later elected National Coordinator of the Rural Missionaries of the Philippines. More recently, she has worked with an Agricultural Workers Union. Her support for people struggling for human rights and social justice antagonised powerful figures in the Philippines, and she was forced by President Duterte to leave in November 2018. Cost: Free, donations are welcomed. 7.30 to 9.00 pm. Yarra Theological Union Study Centre, 34 Bedford Street, Box Hill. [Information](#).

9 March. Lecture: 'Space and Bodies, Walls and String'. Marking the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall, we look at the historical rise and fall of walls; we examine the wall as a metaphor for organising space and societies; we look at walls visible and invisible, physical and mental; and at the histories of movements to destroy walls, and to imagine and create alternatives to walls. The series opens with reflections by the internationally renowned textile conservator, Dinah Eastop, on the transformative properties of different materials and media for delineating space. Cost: Free, registration essential. 5.15 to 6.15 pm. The University of Melbourne, Fritz Loewe Theatre, McCoy Building, Parkville Cnr Elgin and Swanston Streets, Carlton. Enquiries: (03) 8344 1521 or [email](#). [Information and registration](#).

21 March. Seminar: 'Inequality and Australian Political Discourse'. Wayne Swan, National President of the Australian Labor Party and former Federal Treasurer, has argued that the era of 'trickle-down' economics is over. He will be in conversation with Glyn Davis, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne. They will discuss the changing political discourse on inequality and what this change means for Australian politics today. There is increasing talk of economic inequality, of the perils of unconstrained greed, and that economic policies themselves may be driving inequality. Some have spoken of the need to 'rein in' the excesses of the rich. Others have pushed back against what they see as 'the politics of envy' and the resurgence of 'class talk'. Cost: Free, registration essential. 6.00 to 7.30 pm. The University of Melbourne, Medley Theatre, Redmond Barry Building, Parkville campus. Enquiries: [email](#). [Information and registration](#).

26 March. Modern Slavery Act Workshop – Fundamentals. This introductory workshop has been designed for anyone who has a need to understand and/or manage supply chains of any size and wants to make a real difference in help eradicating modern day slavery. The workshop will cover: Understanding the definition and forms of modern day slavery; Understanding the reporting requirements introduced by the Australian Modern Slavery Act; Exploring common challenges and concerns faced by organisations; Exploring approaches to identify modern slavery risks in your supply chain; and Understanding the wider risks for your business. Cost: \$450.00 + GST. 8.30 am to 4:30 pm. Location TBD, Melbourne CBD. Enquiries: [email](#). [Information and registration](#).

27 March. Stop the Traffik. Towards Slavery-Free Business. The forums will focus on: Building an understanding of Modern Slavery in supply chains (as it applies to the Australian Modern Slavery Act); point to resources and tools for businesses; and create a space for conversation, networking and mutual learning. The Australian Modern Slavery Act is now law. The first reporting period, for many businesses, will be 1 July 2019 - 30 June 2020. Cost: various. 8.30 am to 4.45 pm. Pullman (on the Lake), 65 Queens Road, Albert Park, Melbourne. [Information and registration](#).

28 March. Seminar: 'Inequality, Tax and Welfare'. Professor Miranda Stewart, Professor Roger Wilkins and Dr Troy Henderson will examine the evidence and consider our current tax and welfare policy settings. Australia's progressive income tax has been very effective in raising revenue and enabling redistribution over the last century. But it may not tax capital income and savings enough and avoids taxing wealth or inheritance. Is income and wealth inequality on the rise in Australia, and, if so, is this a problem? A progressive taxation system and our social security and transfer systems have achieved a significant

reduction in inequality of disposable income for Australian households. But if inequality is rising is it time for a re-think? Can we do better? Cost: Free, registration essential. 6.00 to 7.30 pm. The University of Melbourne, Medley Theatre, Redmond Barry Building, Parkville campus. Enquiries: [email](#). [Information and registration](#).

4 April. Voices for Justice Human Rights Watch Annual Dinner. Join the Human Rights Watch as they honour Nujeen Mustafa of Syria with our highest tribute, the Alison Des Forges Award for Extraordinary Activism, in recognition of her unwavering, fearless commitment to human rights. Cost: various. 6.30 pm. Luminare, Cnr Browns Lane & York Street, South Melbourne. Enquiries: Kate Rosenberg, (04) 1950 5354 or [email](#). [Information and registration](#).

2 May. Roundtable: 'Domestic and Family Violence'. If you are someone within your church who works at developing resources, implementing training or drafting policy on domestic and family violence, we want to have you present! The purpose of the roundtable is to bring together people who work in the domestic and family violence area of their church; To provide a space where people can share, learn and build networks with others working within the domestic and family violence space within churches; and to encourage the member churches to actively promote the international ecumenical Thursdays in Black Campaign throughout their networks. Cost: Free, RSVP by 26 April. 10.00 am to 3.30 pm. Barbara Dowling Room, Chapter House, 209 Flinders Lane Melbourne, Anglican Diocese of Melbourne. Enquiries: Emily Evans, (02) 8259 0886 or [email](#). [Information and Registration](#).

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