

**“The Moral Claims of Irregular Migrants:
The Case for Amnesty”**

Joseph H. Carens, PhD

Abstract

In this talk I will argue that people who have settled in liberal democratic states without authorization should acquire legal resident status after the passage of a number of years. The claims for regularization are stronger still if the person has come as a young child or if the person marries a citizen or legal resident, but the passage of time is sufficient by itself to establish this claim. I criticize the three most common objections to a policy of legalization: that it is unfair to those waiting in line, that it rewards lawbreaking, and that it creates incentives for further unauthorized migration.

Thursday, March 26, 2009

12:30 to 2:30 pm

SAC Salon D & E

Luncheon/Workshop

RSVP Required