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The Sleepy Lagoon Case

Constitutional Rights and the Struggle for Democracy
A Commemorative Symposium
May 20-21, 2005

In a 1942 trial characterized as “more of a ceremonial lynching than a trial in a court of justice” by lawyer, writer, and activist Carey McWilliams, three young men were sentenced to life in prison and nine received lengthy sentences for the murder of a young Mexican man. In a wartime atmosphere of anxiety and hysteria, it would take two years of work by a group of volunteers before the convictions were overturned on the basis of insufficient evidence.

This symposium commemorates, investigates, and evaluates the Sleepy Lagoon case and reflects upon its parallels with current events.

Participants

Luis Alvarez
Ralph Armbruster Sandoval
Steven Arvizu
Frank Barajas
Edward J. Escobar
Juan Gomez-Quinones
Deena J. Gonzalez
Jaime Gonzalez Monroy
Carlos Manuel Haro
Alice Greenfield McGrath
Sonia Mercado
Douglas Monroy
Mary Pardo
Catherine Ramirez
Peter Richardson
Thomas A. Saenz
Kinan Valdéz



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Full conference details and an online exhibition are available at
<<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/special/scweb/sleepylagoon.htm>>.

RSVP by May 10 to 310/794-4408 or email <spec-coll@library.ucla.edu>.

For suggestions of places to stay, visit
<<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/special/scweb/hotels.htm>>.