



Regional Equity

**MARCH 5-7, 2008**

The Third National Summit  
on Equitable Development, Social Justice  
and Smart Growth

Sheraton New Orleans Hotel  
New Orleans, Louisiana

## Authors' Showcase and Book Signing

Summit participants will have an opportunity to meet some of the panelists who have published books (or book chapters) focused on economic and social justice issues. Their books will be available for purchase and the authors available to sign them at the times designated below.

All books in the Author Showcase and Book Signing are made available by deVille books, a member of the New Orleans Gulf South Booksellers Association (NOGSBA)—an organization comprised of independent booksellers in the New Orleans and Gulf South areas.

A portion of the funds from the sale of books will be used to buy books for Children's Book Bank, which provides books to needy children who would not otherwise have access to books of their own. NOGSBA members also participate in various literacy programs by serving as volunteers and sharing mailing lists.

### **Robert D. Bullard – Thursday, 2:15-3:15pm**

#### ***The Black Metropolis in the Twenty-First Century: Race, Power, and Politics of Place***

*The Black Metropolis in the Twenty-First Century* brings together key essays that seek to make visible and expand our understanding of the role of government (policies, programs, and investments) in shaping cities and metropolitan regions; the costs and consequences of uneven urban and regional growth patterns; suburban sprawl and public health, transportation, and economic development; and the enduring connection of place, space, and race in the era of increased globalization. Whether intended or unintended, many government policies (housing, transportation, land use, environmental, economic development, education, etc.) have aided and in some cases subsidized suburban sprawl, job flight, and spatial mismatch; concentrated urban poverty; and heightened racial and economic disparities.

Written mostly by African American scholars, the book captures the dynamism of these meetings, describing the challenges facing cities, suburbs, and metropolitan regions as they seek to address continuing and emerging patterns of racial polarization in the twenty-first century. The book clearly shows that the United States entered the new millennium as one of the wealthiest and the most powerful nations on earth. Yet amid this prosperity, our nation is faced with some of the same challenges that confronted it at the beginning of the twentieth century, including rising inequality in income, wealth, and opportunity; economic restructuring; immigration pressures and ethnic tension; and a widening gap between "haves" and "have-nots." Clearly, race matters. Place also matters. Where we live impacts the quality of our lives and chances for the "good life."

*Robert D. Bullard, editor, is the Ware Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Director of the Environmental Justice Resource Center at Clark Atlanta University. He is the author of thirteen books that address sustainable development, environmental racism, urban land use, industrial facility siting, community reinvestment, housing, transportation, and smart growth. His most recent book is entitled Growing Smarter: Achieving Livable Communities, Environmental Justice and Regional Equity (MIT Press 2007).*

*Beverly Wright and John A. Powell are also contributors to the book. Beverly Wright, a leading environmental justice scholar, advocate, and activist, founded the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice. John A. Powell is executive director of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. Powell holds the Williams Chair in Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at the Moritz College of Law.*

**Sheila Crowley - Thursday, 2:15-3:15pm**  
***There is No Such Thing as a Natural Disaster***

In 2005, the devastation caused by hurricane Katrina, including floods and levee breaches, claimed nearly two thousand lives, imperiled thousands more, and wreaked unprecedented damage. In this evocative and in-depth reader, Chester Hartman and Gregory Squires assemble two dozen critical scholars and activists—including Sheila Crowley and John Powell of the Kirwan Institute—who present a multifaceted portrait of the social, political, and economic implications of the disaster.

The book covers the response to the disaster and the roles that race and class played in media coverage, recovery, and redevelopment. It looks at the impact on housing for low-income people, the role of local organizing groups to restore community, and the historical context of urban disasters in America and the future of economic development in the region.

*There is No Such Thing as a Natural Disaster* offers strategic guidance for key actors—government agencies, financial institutions, neighborhood organizations—in their efforts to rebuild NOLA's shattered communities.

*Sheila Crowley is president of the National Low Income Housing Coalition, an organization dedicated solely to ending America's affordable housing crisis.*

**David Rusk - Thursday, 4:00-5:00pm**  
***Cities Without Suburbs***  
***Inside Game/Outside Game***

First published in 1993, *Cities without Suburbs* has become an influential analysis of America's cities among city planners, scholars, and the general public alike. It has been called "the Bible of the regionalism movement" by the Congressional Quarterly. This third edition is among the first books of any kind to employ information from the 2000 U.S. Census. While refining his argument with new data covering the period from 1950 to 2000, Rusk assesses the major trends of the 1990s, including the perceived rebound of central cities, the impact of Hispanic and Asian immigration, the growing similarities of older "innersuburbs" to central cities, and the emerging influence of faith-based regional reform movements. It is now in its third printing.

In *Inside/Outside*, Rusk argues that focusing solely on programs aimed at improving inner-city neighborhoods—playing only the "inside game"—is a losing strategy. Achieving real improvement requires matching the "inside game" with a strong "outside game" of regional strategies to overcome growing fiscal disparities, concentrated poverty, and urban sprawl. Rusk argues that state government action is particularly critical where regions are highly-fragmented by many competing city, village, and township governments. Rusk provides vivid success stories that demonstrate best practices for these regional strategies along with recommendations for building effective regional collaborations.

*David Rusk is an Urban Policy Consultant and one of America's foremost champions of regional strategies.*

**Charisse Carney-Nunes – Thursday, 4:30-5:30pm**  
***I Dream For You a World: A Covenant for Our Children***

With the rise to the top of the New York Times bestseller list, the *Covenant with Black America* has inspired a movement. With the release of *I Dream For You a World: A Covenant for Our Children*, the call to action has been officially extended to children. *I Dream For You A World* takes the reader on a lyrical journey through the concepts and issues set forth in *The Covenant with Black America*. Using poetry and illustrations that help explain issues such as healthcare & well-being, environmental justice, and economic prosperity, the book makes clear that a "better tomorrow" is possible, and encourages the engagement of children to realize that possibility. *I Dream For You A World* was published with the support of The Jamestown Project, a nonprofit, nonpartisan think/action tank dedicated to making real the promise of American democracy.

*Charisse Carney-Nunes, freelance writer, attorney and policy advocate, is a graduate of Harvard Law School and Harvard's JFK School of Government. She is also senior vice president of Knowledge Development & Media Relations of the Jamestown Project.*

**Jim Wallis – Friday, 12:15pm-1:15pm**

***The Great Awakening: Reviving Faith & Politics in a Post Religious Right Era***

What will it take to solve the biggest issues of our time: extreme and needless poverty, global warming and environmental degradation, terrorism and the endless cycle of violence, racism, human trafficking, health care and education, and other pressing problems? While Washington offers only the politics of blame and fear, Jim Wallis, the man who changed the conversation about faith and politics, has traveled the country and found a nation hungry for a politics of solutions and hope. He shows us that a revival is happening, as people of faith and moral conviction seek common ground for change.

Wallis also reminds us that religious faith was a driving force behind our greatest national reforms, such as the abolition of slavery and the civil rights movement. These "great awakenings" happened periodically at crucial times in our nation's history to propel us toward the common good. The time is ripe for another movement that will transform this country. With *The Great Awakening*, Wallis helps us rediscover our moral center and provides both the needed inspiration and a concrete plan to hold politics accountable and find solutions to our greatest challenges.

*Jim Wallis is the author of the New York Times bestseller God's Politics, which electrified Americans disenchanted with how the Right had co-opted all talk about integrating religious values into our politics by offering an alternative voice. Wallis is a leading figure at the crossroads of religion and politics in America today, the author of eight books, and the founder of Sojourners, a global faith and justice network.*

**Eric Alterman - Friday, 1:15-2:15pm**

***Why We're Liberals: A Political Handbook for Post-Bush America***

Thanks to the machinations of the right, there is no dirtier word in American politics today than "liberal"—yet public opinion polls consistently show that the majority of Americans hold liberal views on everything from health care to foreign policy. In this feisty, accessible primer, bestselling author Eric Alterman sets out to restore liberalism to its rightful honored place in our political life as the politics of America's everyday citizens.

In *Why We're Liberals* Alterman examines liberalism's development and demonstrates how its partisans have come to represent not just the mainstream, but also the majority of Americans today. In a crisply argued though extensively documented counterattack on right-wing spin and misinformation, Alterman briskly disposes of such canards as "Liberals Hate God" and "Liberals Are Soft on Terrorism," reclaiming liberalism from the false definitions foisted upon it by the right and repeated everywhere else. *Why We're Liberals* brings clarity and perspective to what has often been a one-sided debate for nothing less than the heart and soul of America. *Why We're Liberals* is the perfect election-year book for all of those ready to fight back against the conservative mud-slinging machine and claim their voice in the political debate.

*Eric Alterman, media columnist for the Nation, is professor of English at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, senior fellow of the Center for American Progress, and “Altercation” weblogger for MSNBC.com. He is the author of five previous books, including The Book on Bush (with Mark Green), What Liberal Media? and Sound and Fury.*

**Larry Cohen – Friday, 1:15-2:15pm**

***Prevention Is Primary: Strategies for Community Wellbeing***

*Prevention Is Primary*, written by associates of the nationally renowned Prevention Institute, is a theory-to-practice book for students, faculty practitioners, and community leaders who want to take a proactive stance against the most pressing health problems in the community, including asthma, tobacco, violence, HIV, poor nutrition and physical inactivity, health disparities, and environmental injustice. The volume provides a comprehensive and practical understanding of prevention on a community level. The authors define the elements of comprehensive, quality prevention efforts—from the necessary partnerships that need to be developed to the training, vision, and policies that go into successful efforts.

Leaders in the field of prevention contributed to this volume. They offer step-by-step approaches to action in community organizing, fostering resilience, media advocacy, food security, working within diversity, the built environment, environmental justice, and evaluating prevention efforts. *Prevention Is Primary* contains illustrative case studies of community involvement around these and other contemporary issues including health equity and social justice, public health advocacy and the power of local communities.

*Larry Cohen, MSW, Prevention Institute founder and Executive Director, has been an advocate for public health and prevention since 1972. An important focus of his work has been to develop local policies that support health and wellness and spur legislation at the state and federal levels. Mr. Cohen has authored many publications related to expanding primary prevention practice and promoting comprehensive strategies to improve public health.*

**Xavier de Souza Briggs – Friday, 4:15-5:15 pm**

***The Geography of Opportunity: Race and Housing Choice in Metropolitan America***

Many Americans think of their country as a welcoming “nation of immigrants,” yet many communities have a long history of ambivalence toward new arrivals and racial minorities. This is often expressed through segregation by race and income. In this book, some of the nation’s leading analysts and advocates show why segregation persists and how it undermines education, job prospects, and even health and safety for millions of minorities and low-income families. Calling housing “the most important invisible social policy issue in America,” the book outlines an agenda to expand the geography of opportunity and assesses the political promise—and limits—of the movement for regional solutions. This project was sponsored by the Civil Rights Project at Harvard University in collaboration with Harvard’s Joint Center for Housing Studies and the Brookings Institution’s Metropolitan Policy Program.

*Editor Xavier de Souza Briggs is associate professor of sociology and urban planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a former senior policy official at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.*