

Mr John Fitzgerald was Dublin City Manager from 1996 until 2006. In 2007 he was appointed Chair of the Regeneration Agencies set up in Limerick resulting from the his report to Government on problems of Social Exclusion in Limerick.



Mr Ray Mc Andrew is currently chair of the Commission for the Support of Victims of Crime, an independent body operating under the aegis of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. Since 2005 the Commission has allocated €5m to voluntary sector organisations supporting victims of crime.

Pat Leahy is Chief Superintendent in charge of the Dublin Metropolitan North Central Division of An Garda Síochána. He has experience in a wide range of areas of policing gained from national and international postings.



Ms Dearbhail Mc Donald is the Legal Editor of the *Irish Independent*. She is a member of the Law Council of the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, and holds an LL.B (Law) from Trinity College Dublin as well as a Masters Degree in Journalism from Dublin City University. Dearbhail is currently working with Manresa, the Jesuit Spirituality Centre in Dublin, developing a leadership programme for young and emerging leaders.

Dr Andrew McGrady is the Director of the Mater Dei Institute of Education in Dublin. He is a distinguished academic of international standing and has published widely in the area of education and religious education.

The Irish Commission for Justice and Social Affairs

The role of the Irish Commission for Justice and Social Affairs (ICJSA) is to support the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference in promoting the social teaching of the Church and to advise on issues of social concern, both nationally and internationally.

Established in 2005 by the Irish Bishops' Conference, the newly formed ICJSA combined the Bishops' Council for Social Welfare and the Irish Commission for Justice and Peace.

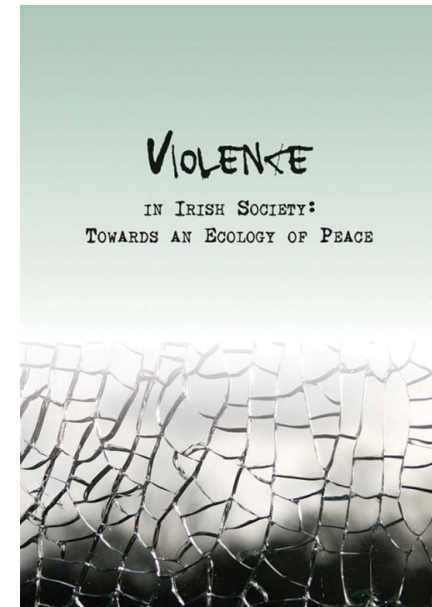
Contact the ICJSA:

Nicola Rooney
Research Coordinator
ICJSA
Columba Centre
Maynooth
Co Kildare
Tel: + 353 (0) 1 505 3016
icjsa@iecon.ie
www.catholicbishops.ie

Violence in Irish Society

A seminar based on the ICJSA position paper
Violence in Irish Society: Towards an Ecology of Peace

Mater Dei Institute of Education
Friday 25 September 2009



Hosted by the Irish Commission for
Justice and Social Affairs of the
Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference



Agenda

- 2.00pm: Welcome**
Dr Andrew Mc Grady,
Director, Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin
- 2.05pm: Opening Remarks**
Bishop Éamonn Walsh
Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin, Chair of the Bishops' Council for Immigrants and Vice-Chair of the Irish Bishops' Drugs Initiative
- 2.15 pm: Overview**
Reverend Dr Eoin Cassidy, ICJSA member and Head of the Department of Philosophy, Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin
- 2.25pm: Session I - Speakers**
(i) Mr Paul Reynolds, RTÉ Crime Correspondent
(ii) Ms Stephanie Holt, Children's Research Centre, Trinity College, Dublin
(iii) Mr John Fitzgerald, Chairman, Limerick Regeneration Agencies
(iv) Mr Ray McAndrew, Chairman, Commission for the Support of Victims of Crime
(v) Garda Chief Superintendent Pat Leahy
- 3.55pm: Break**
- 4.15pm: Session II - Panel Discussion**
Questions and answers style format chaired by Ms Dearbhail McDonald,
Legal Editor of the *Irish Independent*
- 5.30pm: Closing Remarks**
Bishop Éamonn Walsh

Violence in Irish Society: Towards an Ecology of Peace

On 5 June 2008 Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin, launched the ICJSA publication *Violence in Irish Society: Towards an Ecology of Peace*. Today's seminar is an invitation to the specialist speakers and key interest groups in attendance to respond to this document and to participate in a questions and answers session.

"A response [to the problem of violence] that is more than reactionary, one that can indeed move beyond fear, one that involves difficult choices at societal, community and personal level, is in fact the only really useful way forward."

Excerpt from *Violence in Irish Society: Toward an Ecology of Peace*

Speaker Biographies:



Bishop Éamonn Walsh is Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin. Bishop Walsh is Chair of the Bishops' Council for Immigrants and Vice-Chair of the Bishops' Drugs Initiative.

Rev Eoin Cassidy is a member of the Irish Commission for Justice and Social Affairs and Chair of its International Sub-group. He is Head of the Department of Philosophy at Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin.



Paul Reynolds is a journalist and author. He joined RTÉ in 1991 and was the first person to be appointed to the position of Crime Correspondent following the murders of Detective Garda Jerry McCabe and journalist Veronica Guerin in 1996. He has worked for RTÉ News and Current Affairs in television, radio and online for over ten years. In June 2009, he won 'Political and Current Affairs Journalist of the Year' from the Irish National Media Awards. Paul is also the author of two books on drugs and prostitution in Ireland.

Ms Stephanie Holt is a lecturer in social work in Trinity College, Dublin. She is currently conducting doctoral research on a child's experience of post-separation contact with their father, where there has been a history of domestic abuse.

