



International Council of Christians and Jews
2021 Virtual Conference
When all this is over, how do we want the world to be different?

WORKSHOP

Tuesday, June 22, 05:00 p.m. UTC:

THINKING INTERRELIGIOUSLY ON CIVIC CHALLENGES - WATER JUSTICE AND THE ABRAHAMIC TRADITIONS

Fatimah Fanusie, Heather Miller Rubens

How can religious diversity become an asset that anchors urban renewal? That question is at the heart of the Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies (ICJS) multi-year initiative *Imagining Justice in Baltimore*. The program brings the rich resources of diverse traditions into the public square to inspire and inform the work of building just cities together. The *Imagining Justice in Baltimore* initiative rests on the ideas that 1) the sacred can speak to the secular, 2) religious traditions other than our own can inspire us, and 3) cities matter.

Due to the pandemic, and the necessary restrictions on large gatherings, ICJS was not able to have in-person citywide dialogues. Instead, ICJS staff created asynchronous interreligious learning videos and study guides for public use, and then facilitated online dialogue opportunities via Zoom. By developing asynchronous learning materials, this past autumn more than 100 participants were able to spend their time in multireligious, multiracial, multigenerational dialogue on water justice informed by Jewish, Christian, and Muslim traditions.

The *Imagining Justice in Baltimore* videos and study guides are now freely available to the public-at-large. Interested ICCJ workshop participants are invited and encouraged to use these ICJS materials in their teaching. In this 60-minute workshop, Fanusie and Rubens will highlight selected study materials, as well as describe the pedagogies and interreligious frameworks specific to the 2020 *Imagining Justice in Baltimore* program. During this interactive ICCJ workshop, Fanusie and Rubens will share selected sacred texts and video clips to highlight portions of this program. While this was taught in Baltimore around the issue of water justice specifically, the curated resources are applicable to a broader audience interested in exploring how interreligious learning on water justice can inform civic conversations in cities around the world.

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