

Duquesne University

Duquesne Scholarship Collection

Hallowed Secularism

The Collective Works of Bruce Ledewitz, Adrian
Van Kaam C.S.Sp. Endowed Chair in Scholarly
Excellence and Professor of Law

2-23-2012

February 23, 2012: Greetings From Sunny Malibu

Bruce Ledewitz

Duquesne University, ledewitz@duq.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dsc.duq.edu/ledewitz-hallowedsecularism>



Part of the [Constitutional Law Commons](#), and the [Law and Philosophy Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Ledewitz, B. (2012). February 23, 2012: Greetings From Sunny Malibu. Retrieved from <https://dsc.duq.edu/ledewitz-hallowedsecularism/623>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the The Collective Works of Bruce Ledewitz, Adrian Van Kaam C.S.Sp. Endowed Chair in Scholarly Excellence and Professor of Law at Duquesne Scholarship Collection. It has been accepted for inclusion in Hallowed Secularism by an authorized administrator of Duquesne Scholarship Collection. For more information, please contact beharyr@duq.edu.

Title: Greetings From Sunny Malibu

Date: 2012-02-23T18:05:00.000-05:00

2/23/2012—Today is the beginning of the Second Annual Religious Legal Theory Conference, this year at Pepperdine Law School. I speak on a panel on Saturday and I will be reporting back throughout the next few days. [Note: I will be on break from Monday, 2/27-Monday, 3/5. Patt and I will be visiting Guatemala where I hope to learn something of the religious sensibilities of Mayan civilization.]The Conference begins this evening with a basic question: what is the central meaning of the religion clauses—separation or neutrality. Actually, there are numerous other possibilities and we will be discussing them undoubtedly. Clearly we are at something of a crisis point with regard to secularism and religion in the public square. The two “sides” are both feeling under assault. Both sides are making symbolic and political points rather than seeking compromise or common ground. Two examples: Catholic institutions have been living with something like the compromise offered by the Obama Administration in other places; and here’s one on the other side—during the Vietnam War, liberals strongly supported religious exemptions from the war.