

Nationally Recognized Activist

Roy Bourgeois

***Founder of School of the Americas Watch (SOAW)
and supporter of women's ordination and LGBT equality***

“Peace, Justice, Equality and Conscience in Latin America

Sponsored by ROCLA

(Rochester Committee on Latin America)

Wednesday, May 6, 2015

7:00 pm

**Downtown United
Presbyterian Church**

121 N. Fitzhugh Street

Rochester, NY

(handicap accessible)

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Roy Bourgeois is an impassioned, eloquent and tireless activist for human rights throughout the Western Hemisphere. He served as a Catholic priest in Bolivia for 5 years until he was expelled for standing with the poor in their struggle for human rights. In 1990, he founded the School of the America's (SOA) Watch to shut down the school where the military perpetrators of genocide, repression and torture in Latin America were trained to conduct low-intensity warfare campaigns against democratic movements in the 1980s.



He has spent 4 years in Federal prison for his nonviolent protests against the SOA and produced a documentary about the SOA, called "School of Assassins," which was nominated for an Academy. He was nominated for a Nobel Prize in 2010. More recently, he has advocated for LGBT equality and the ordination of women and has been expelled from the priesthood after 40 years.

In March, Roy and an SOA Watch delegation of 20 met with El Salvadoran President Ceren and other human rights leaders. Roy and others met with 5 of 17 ("Las 17") women who were imprisoned for 30 years for having miscarriages. He has been working hard since his return from El Salvador to ensure that "Las 17" are not forgotten. On Friday, April 24, Roy and others launched a sit-in at the Embassy of El Salvador in Washington, D.C, to bring attention to this grave injustice and free these women. They were arrested and jailed overnight. Come and hear more about "Las 17."