

# The Olive Branch

## Spotlight Article: Ignacio Martín-Baró

By: Michaela Crowds

### Inside this issue:

Spotlight Article: Ignacio Martín-Baró 1-2

Impressions on the Gun Rights, Ownership, and Reform Panel 3-4

Organizations 5

On-Campus Events 6

Off-Campus Events 7

On-Campus Support Groups 8

Ignacio Martín-Baró was born on November 7, 1942. He was the fourth child of famous writer and local reporter Francisco J. Martín Abril and Alicia Baró, in Valladolid, Spain. Ignacio was one of the most brilliant thinkers in psychology from Latin America during the last quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1959, he entered the Society of Jesus in Orduna. He was transferred to the novitiate of Villagarcia and sent to Central America. At the time, he was almost 17 years old. It took his family by surprise when he informed them that he would be attending the Society of Jesus. Although his brothers also decided to pursue religious-based careers, Ignacio was the only one who did not change his career path. His brothers all abandoned the path to priesthood. After being transferred to a few different countries, Ignacio was sent by his elders to El Salvador with his other Jesuit brothers. In El Salvador, he completed his second year of religious training. In September 1961, Ignacio made his vows of pov-

erty, chastity, and obedience. After making these vows, he transferred to the Catholic University in Quito, Ecuador, where he focused on Classical Studies in the Humanities. After graduating, he began his studies at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Columbia,



Photo from:  
[www.uca.edu.sy](http://www.uca.edu.sy)

which was run by Jesuits. Ignacio graduated in 1965 with a degree in Philosophy and Literature.

As part of his religious training, Ignacio continued to travel across the world to further his studies. He first traveled throughout Latin America, eventually returning to Europe in 1976. Ignacio studied theology in Louvain, Belgium and Frankfurt, Germany. In 1970, he became an ordained

Roman Catholic priest. Ignacio then travelled to the United States, where he began studying at the University of Chicago while continuing his pastoral work. In 1979, he earned his Ph.D. in Social Psychology. He quickly became well-respected and loved as a professor. He was a profound speaker and known for his ability to integrate theories and to challenge established beliefs. He advocated for nonviolent political change, equal opportunity, and freedom from oppression. He wanted everyone to be able to hold onto their values and beliefs in justice and brotherhood, which were being challenged by their victimization. In 1986, he founded the University Institute of Public Opinion at the UCA. This institute was designed to assess the attitudes and opinions of the Salvadoran people. An active community member, he also served on the Editorial Board of the UCA magazine Estudios Centro Americanos, the Journal of Salvadoran Psychology and the Costa Rican magazine Polémica. Although he was an incredibly busy man, Ignacio still found time to promote organized

## Spotlight Article: Ignacio Martín-Baró, cont.

psychology. He was a member of the Board of Governors of the Interamerican Society of Psychology for many years and he traveled throughout the world lecturing on organized psychology.

As Ignacio furthered his education, he became inspired by liberation theology. Liberation theology was developed in Latin America within the Cath-



Photo from:

[www.libpsy.org](http://www.libpsy.org)

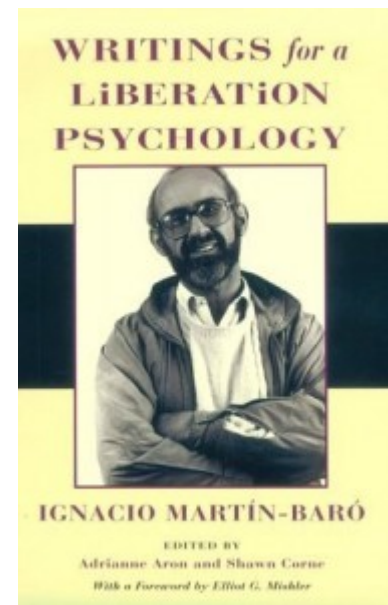
olic Church. Liberation theology proposes that fighting poverty is best accomplished by addressing the main source, sin. It explores the relationship between Christian theology and political activism, especially in relation to social justice, poverty, and human rights. Ignacio was dedicated to addressing the needs of oppressed groups, which led him to creating in the 1970s the field of liberation psychol-

ogy based on liberation theology. Liberation psychology posits that, by focusing on the oppressive social and political structures that exist in society, one can begin to understand the psychology of oppressed and impoverished communities. Ignacio believed that the field of psychology as a whole did not emphasize the social and economic conditions that have an enormous impact on the lives of the oppressed.

Ignacio's aforementioned beliefs in equal opportunity and freedom from oppression caused him to be put in imminent danger. Fliers saying "Be a patriot, kill a priest" were dispersed on the streets of San Salvador. Many in the Catholic Church, who were influenced with liberation theology, took up the cause of the poor and marginalized who were systematically oppressed by the corrupt military government. By supporting this cause, Ignacio knew that he would likely be killed for his work and his teachings. Six attempts were made to try to kill him. On one instance, his office was bombed while he was writing a social psychology textbook. On November 16, 1989, Ignacio's attackers were unfortunately successful in their attempts to kill him. Thirty men dressed in the military fatigues entered his campus living quarters and murdered Ignacio along with five other priests. He was only 47 years old.

Ignacio's last thoughts were a rejection of the injustice of his own martyrdom. His writings have continued to argue for a committed science and profes-

sion that would make injustice a phenomenon the past. In honor of Ignacio, the Martín-Baró Fund was established. This foundation supports grassroots groups throughout the world who challenge institutional repression and confront the mental health implications of violence and injustice in their communities.



Ignacio's book outlining his philosophy of Liberation Psychology

Photo from:

[www.global-find-a-book.net](http://www.global-find-a-book.net)

## Impressions on the *Gun Rights, Ownership, and Reform* Panel Discussion

By: Adriana DeTrinidad, Intern for the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

*The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of Ball State University or the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies:*

I found the Gun Rights, Ownership, and Reform panel discussion to be highly educational. As a person whom is not well versed in gun ownership nor has ever been exposed nor been interested in the subject, I found the experienced speakers had many words of wisdom to offer on the topic. The panel discussion began with a discussion of a video by Mark Carman entitled *Responsible Gun Ownership*. Click [here](#) to view the video.

Of all the panelists, I most appreciated Dr. Theresa Kruczek's point of view on the topic. Dr. Kruczek is an Associate Professor of Counseling Psychology and Guidance Services at Ball State University. Her understanding of gun ownership and the perspective of those engaging in gun violence was incredibly insightful. One of the subjects she highlighted was how some people have a problem with the word "control." She reported that people do not like to have their freedoms regulated, and the word "control" communicates that idea of regulation and supervision. Dr. Kruczek offered a solution: if that word was tweaked, people might be more willing to change their stance on gun use and ownership.

Dr. Kruczek also shared how the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health have wanted to study the effects of violence on our culture, specifically gun violence. They have wanted to do so to see the effects of it on public health and safety welfare. However, due to obstacles not fully detailed by Dr. Kruczek, these agencies have not been able to carry out this project. She indicated the American Psychological Association through extensive research has proved there is a culture of violence in the USA. Thus, an investigation on the effects of violence in our culture is important. However, inquiries have yet to be made on this subject. Further, research from other countries has shown their lack of restrictions on gun ownership like in the United States does not reflect the same level of gun violence. So, where is the United States going wrong?

Additionally, the scapegoat for gun violence on school campuses has been mental illness. However, according to Dr. Kruczek, mental illness is not always a key player in gun violence. She expressed that mental illness is merely the smoke screen that veils the overarching theme of gun violence. Many wholeheartedly believe that mental illness is the sole cause of gun violence. This is simply not the case. There are other components one must take into account when explaining gun violence. If we ignore these other factors and blame only mental illness, then the problem of gun violence will never be solved.

Lastly, Dr. Kruczek addressed the elephant in the room. What if a shooter does come on campus? How do we protect ourselves? What are our options? Dr. Kruczek reminded the audience about the quality of information they receive from the media. She pointed out most of the information is sensationalized and are not reflective of actual statistics. Dr. Kruczek said that in the course of 5 years there have been 550 mass shootings; compared to the 550,000 individual deaths that involved a gun within that same time frame. She used this evidence to show how the information we have received has turned us into a fear-based society. She advised to take this into account when fear sets in.

Many people in the audience gave reasons for wanting to carry a concealed weapon on campus, and I understand their argument. Some audience members said that they want to be able to defend themselves in case of a mass shooting. Others said they want to be able to carry their gun wherever they want, without restrictions. However, in my opinion, guns should not be allowed on campus. This university is an institution of learning. The years one has invested in primary and secondary school in preparation for higher education should come with the freedom to continue working for the life one



## **Impressions on the *Gun Rights, Ownership, and Reform* Panel Discussion, (cont.)**

has looked forward to. And, the fact of the matter is, people will continue making poor, hurtful decisions. But, we cannot allow the decisions of others to affect how we live our own. We cannot be paralyzed by fear. We cannot be paralyzed by what may or may not happen. We must look forward with hope and without dread. No one has the power to hurt you or take away your hard-earned education.



(From left to right)  
Dr. Sally Jo Vasicko, Mr. Jerry Griffis, Dr. Theresa Kruczek, and Chief Duckham,  
the four panelists for the *Gun Rights, Ownership, and Reform* program



**April 1 & 2, 2016**

The Ball State University Center for Peace and Conflict Studies along with the City of Muncie are very pleased to announce the 2nd Benjamin V. Cohen Peace Conference. Scholars, students, practitioners, and activists from all disciplines as well as laypersons are invited to submit proposals to present symposia, discussions, papers, and posters on the theme Peace in Troubled Times. We welcome submissions that focus on strategies, research, and recommendations related to peace-making and peacebuilding, and those that explore the bridge between activism and research.

Deadline to submit proposals is December 15, 2015

Early registration ends March 18, 2016

To learn about this conference, visit <http://www.bsu.edu/cohenpeaceconference>

## Organizations on Campus

### International Justice Mission

Tuesdays @ 6 p.m. in the Student Center, Rm. 301  
 November 17 - 6-8 p.m. - Documentary Night @ Student Center Ballroom  
 November 21 - 6 p.m.-Midnight - Benefit Concert @ The Living Room

IJM is a global organization that protects the poor from violence in the developing world. Ball State's chapter is a group of students who are passionate about ending slavery & human trafficking around the world. They believe that through Jesus Christ, they can create tangible change in the lives of slaves through prayer, educating people, changing our behavior, & volunteering. IJM fights by rescuing victims, bringing criminals to justice, restoring survivors, & strengthening justice systems.

### Feminists for Action

Tuesdays @ 6pm in Burkhardt Building Rm. 220.  
 A group dedicated to the empowerment of women, men, & children through advocacy & education. They strive to educate others about issues in the global, national, & community level. They encourage thought-provoking discussions & work to organize events to benefit feminist causes.

### Social Justice League

Wednesdays @ 5pm at the Center for Peace & Conflict Studies.  
 SJL seeks to promote awareness, equality, & justice on the BSU campus, in the country, & in the global community. SJL desires to educate & discuss modern injustices & social justice topics, promote the distribution of advantages to be fair & equitable to all, & actively work to change current injustices.

### Cardinal Kitchen

Cardinal Kitchen is Ball State University's campus food pantry. The pantry is located on the second floor of the Multicultural Center & is available for use to all undergraduate & graduate students. The pantry is open the first three Wednesdays of every month from 5:00 - 8:00pm. The mission is to ensure that no Ball State student goes hungry on our campus.

### Ethnic Theatre Alliance

Mondays @ 5:00 p.m. in Arts & Communications Building Rm. 308.  
 ETA uses theatre to explore cultures, diversity, & racial-discrimination to develop worldviews in BSU students, & create well-rounded artists.

### Global Brigades

Global Brigades is an international non-profit organization that empowers communities to meet their health & economic goals through university volunteers & local teams. GB offers skill-based 1-3 week brigades to Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, & Ghana. Each of these programs meets an aspect of GB's holistic model to strengthen the health & economic development of communities.

Social Media: [Twitter](#); [Instagram](#); [Facebook](#)

### MOSAIC

MOSAIC is a social justice peer education program whose mission is to engage undergraduate students in open dialogues focused on diversity and social justice topics to promote awareness, change, and inter-group understanding.

### ALIVE Campaign

Wednesdays @ 9 p.m., in the Student Center Rm. 308  
 The Alive Campaign is a student-ran group at Ball State that is dedicated to raising awareness towards Suicide Prevention by representing as a "Life Appreciation Organization".

### OXFAM America

Oxfam America is a global organization working to right the wrongs of poverty, hunger, & injustice. Oxfam saves lives, develops long-term solutions to poverty, & campaigns for social change.

### Call to Action

Wednesdays @ 7:30pm in Teacher's College Room 108  
 CTA is a student organization at Ball State looking to educate & create awareness of lesbian, gay, bisexual, & transgender (LGBT) political issues at the local, state, & federal levels in order to empower students to take positive action towards equality for LGBT individuals & to influence others to take positive action.

### Students for Life

Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Monday of each month @ 7:30pm in Bracken Library, Educational Resource Rm. 1  
 Ball State Students for Life (BSSFL) is committed to the protection of all human life; from conception until natural death. We strive to educate our members & the Ball State University community about why we value life in all its forms. We strive to respond with love, compassion, & support to those who suffer from restrictions of life.

## Timmy Global Health

Wednesdays @ 8:00pm in Bracken Library Schwartz Complex.

Timmy Global Health expands access to healthcare & empowers students & volunteers to tackle today's most pressing global health challenges.

## Student Action Team

Mondays @ 4:00pm in the Kinghorn Multipurpose Room.

SAT is an organization made up of general members & housing and residence life representatives. This organization is dedicated to volunteering & supporting Ball State University & the Muncie community, & giving back to the community.

## On-Campus Events

### Beyond Glory

Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 7:30 p.m., Emens Auditorium

Award-winning stage and screen star Stephen Lang brings the stories of eight different Medal of Honor recipients to the stage in his exciting one-man show. Adapted from Larry Smith's book, *Beyond Glory* will reach into your very soul and keep you thoroughly spellbound. *Beyond Glory* presents the stories of eight veterans from World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, rendering firsthand accounts of valor which resulted in the nation's highest military award, the Medal of Honor. The oral histories of these eight men are brought to life through Lang's commanding performance.

As a tribute to fallen soldiers, Lang performed the show on military bases, and gave a command performance on the floor of Congress with Medal of Honor Recipient Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii in attendance. *Beyond Glory* enjoyed a celebrated run on Broadway and in Chicago's Goodman Theater; Lang is now taking it to various states for a limited run in October and November.

### Visiting Artist Lecture: Susan Klein

Tuesday, November 17, 2015, 7:00 p.m., School of Art

Artist Susan Klein visits Ball State. She is one of many in a diverse group of nationally and internationally recognized artists, designers, and scholars who have been invited to visit the School of Art to share their distinct practices and voices.

### Fall 2015 Culture Exchange Series: Ethiopia

Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 12:00 p.m., Rinker Center

Come experience an insider's look at another culture as international student Yosef Teklewold presents his experiences as a native of the country of Ethiopia. The Tally Food Court will offer a dish inspired by the presentation.

### Flashdance: The Musical

Thursday, November 19, 2015, 7:30 p.m., Emens Auditorium

Celebrating its 30th Anniversary, the pop culture phenomenon of *Flashdance* is now live on stage! With electrifying dance at its core, *Flashdance: The Musical* tells the inspiring and unforgettable story of Alex Owens, a Pittsburgh steel mill welder by day and a bar dancer by night with dreams of one day becoming a professional performer. When romance with her steel mill boss threatens to complicate her ambitions, Alex learns the meaning of love and its power to fuel the pursuit of her dream.

*Flashdance: The Musical* features a score that includes the biggest hit songs from the movie, including the Academy Award-winning title song "Flashdance - What a Feeling," "Maniac," "Gloria," "Manhunt," and "I Love Rock & Roll."

### Moons: Worlds of Mystery

Friday, November 20, 2015, 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, November 21, 2015, 6:30 p.m. & 8:00 p.m., Charles W. Brown Planetarium  
Take a journey through our solar system and explore the remarkable diversity — and surprising might — of moons! From volcanoes and geysers to ice-covered oceans and methane rain, these natural satellites have some spectacular features, and many even exert a surprising influence on their planetary partners. Learn what these celestial bodies reveal about the history and workings of our solar system.

### Thanksgiving Recess

Wednesday, November 25 – Sunday, November 29, 2015

Enjoy the holiday and the break from classes!

### Dave at Ball State - #DaveatBallState

Monday, November 30, 2015, 7:00 p.m., Emens Auditorium

David Letterman, one of Ball State University's most celebrated graduates, will return to campus Nov. 30 to host a discussion with two of the nation's top young filmmakers.

Dave at Ball State features Letterman, who recently retired after 33 years of hosting *Late Night* and *Late Show*. He will discuss a variety of topics with Spike Jonze and Bennett Miller at 7 p.m. in Emens Auditorium.

## Off-Campus Events

### Indoor Farmers Market

Every Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Minnetrista.

Join friends and families in exploring the market-fresh finds and homemade treats, brought to you by the local community!



### Indiana Artists Membership Exhibition

October 9 – December 5, 2015 at Minnetrista

Discover the work of Indiana artists in this special juried exhibition at Minnetrista. Artist members must have been born in, or lived in, Indiana for the past two consecutive years, as well as having been accepted into three different sponsored exhibitions. Current members work spans a wide variety of styles and mediums, both contemporary and traditional. For more information about Indiana Artists, upcoming juror exhibitions, and more, visit [indianaartistsclub.org](http://indianaartistsclub.org).

### Holiday Handcrafters' Showcase

Friday, November 20, 2015, 8:00 p.m. at the Delaware County Exposition Center/Fairgrounds, 1210 N. Wheeling Ave.

Holiday Handcrafters' Show located at the Delaware County Fairgrounds in the Memorial Building and Heartland Hall. For more information: call 765-288-1854.

### Sesquicentennial Saturdays

Saturday, November 21, 2015, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Muncie Children's Museum, 515 S. High Street

Bring your family in for FREE Saturdays! Free Saturdays are the third Saturday of every month.

### Cornerstone Fall 2015 Session

September 14 – December 10, 2015 at Cornerstone Center for the Arts

Explore your creative side this fall with Cornerstone's diverse class offerings for the Fall 2015 session. Classes begin Monday, September 14 and run through Thursday, December 10 with a break the week of October 12th. Classes are offered for youth, family and adults in the areas of visual arts, dance, fitness, music, martial arts, and theatre. Class fees are affordable, one-time payments that cover the full twelve weeks of class. Financial aid is available to students who qualify.

### Turkey Trot

Thursday, November 26, 2015, 7:30 a.m., Cardinal Greenway Depot

Move your feet so others can eat! Come walk/run 2.5 miles on the Cardinal Greenway in order to support the Muncie Mission and the Cardinal Greenway. Please bring one non-perishable food item for the Muncie Mission! Click [here](#) to read more information about this great event!

## On-Campus Support Groups

### **INTERNATIONAL CONVERSATION HOUR**

TUESDAYS from 6:00-7:30 pm – STUDENT CENTER MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

This program is designed to help international students practice English, learn studying skills and classroom culture, and make American friends. Through interactive discussion, they can normalize their experiences and decrease their isolation, worries, and stress as well as get support from American students. ICH begins September 8th, 2015.

### **COUNSELING CENTER THERAPY GROUPS:**

(Therapy groups require appointment at counseling center before joining. Call 285-1736 or let your intake counselor know you are interested in a group.)

### **UNDERSTANDING SELF & OTHERS**

Group members explore patterns of relating to self and others by discovering understanding and acceptance of themselves and others. Discussions vary greatly from depression, anxiety, relationships, family concerns, eating issues, alcohol abuse and/or personal growth. The groups thrive on diversity as members discover the common bond through emotional experiences.

Mondays 1:30-3:30; Wednesday 3:00-4:30; Thursday 1:00-2:30

### **WEIGHT NOT, WANT NOT**

Supportive group for women with eating disorders or body image struggles who want to explore effective ways of coping.

Time to be determined by availability of group members.

### **SAFE HAVEN: GLBQ SUPPORT GROUP**

This therapy group provides a safe place for GLBQ students to explore and discuss patterns of relating to self and others by discovering understanding and acceptance of themselves and others. Topics of discussion vary greatly from coming out, finding support, relationships, family concerns, depression, anxiety, and/or personal growth.

Mondays 10:00-11:30

### **C.A.L.M.:**

Care for myself, manage my Anxiety, Live in the moment, practice Mindfulness - This group offers a secure space for students struggling with anxiety to not only explore their fears and worries, but also receive feedback and support from others with similar concerns. The group also focuses on teaching students about a variety of techniques, including mindfulness meditation, which can be particularly helpful in managing anxiety. Another benefit of being in a group is having a place to experiment applying new skills and ways of relating to others, in a safe and supportive environment.

Tuesdays 3:00-4:30

### **L.I.F.E. SKILLS**

Are you struggling with how to deal more effectively with stress? Are you your own worst critic? Do you ever wish you had some better ways to take care of yourself? This group can help teach you tangible coping skills to take with you, and from the very first session, you can begin taking active steps toward change. These brief, 4-session workshop style groups will be running at different times throughout the semester.



## Conferences

### **Annual International Conference on Ethnic and Religious Conflict Resolution and Peace Building Theme: The Intersection of Diplomacy, Development and Defense: Faith and Ethnicity at the Crossroads**

The Riverfront Library Auditorium, Yonkers Public Library 1 Larkin Center Yonkers, New York 10701 October 9-11, 2015 (Registration ends: October 9th, 2015)

<http://icermediation.org/Mediation/Daf/AnnualInternationalConference2015.html>

### **Because Kids Count Conference**

November 30-December 2, 2015

Indianapolis, IN

<http://www.iyi.org/conferences/kids-count.aspx>

### **Rotary World Peace Conference 2016**

January 15-16, 2016

Ontario, CA

<http://www.peaceconference2016.org/>

### **International Studies Association: Exploring Peace**

March 16-19, 2016 (Deadline for registration is October 23, 2015)

Atlanta, GA

<http://www.isanet.org/Conferences/Atlanta-2016>

### **Baker Peace Conference**

March 24-25, 2016

Ohio University, Athens, OH

<https://www.ohio.edu/cas/conhist/news-events/baker-peace.cfm>

## About Us

If you'd like us to include your events in the newsletter, please contact:

Michaela Crowdus (mhcrowdus@bsu.edu)

Adriana Detrinidad (adetrinidadp@bsu.edu)

Chris Held (cmheld@bsu.edu)

Hunter Sully (hmsully@bsu.edu)

Mac McKinney (rmckinney@bsu.edu)

The Center for Peace and Conflict Studies is an interdisciplinary center whose mission is to pursue research on structural and direct forms of violence and conflict; to implement nonviolent strategies to resolve conflict; to offer mediation services to individuals, groups, and organizations; and to train people in conflict resolution, mediation, peace-building, leadership, meditation, and sportsperson-ship skills. The Center also pursues public diplomacy, sports diplomacy, and cultural exchange as part of local, regional, national, and international projects designed to promote mutual understanding, appreciation, cooperation, and respect.

### **Staff Members:**

Lawrence H. Gerstein, Ph.D., Director

Gerald Waite, Research Fellow

Steven R. Hall, Ph.D., Curriculum Coordinator

Beth Messner, Ph.D., Outreach Coordinator

Hunter Sully, Graduate Assistant

### **Our Programs Include:**

Mediation training and services

Meditation classes

The Brown Bag lunch speaker series

The Muncie Interfaith Fellowship

The Social Justice League organization

310 N. McKinley Ave.

Muncie, IN 47306

(765) 285-1622

[www.bsu.edu/peacecenter](http://www.bsu.edu/peacecenter)

peacecenter@bsu.edu