

Deportation Nation: Outsiders in American History

In a presentation sponsored by the ACS Boston Lawyer Chapter, Professor Kanstroom will lead a discussion on the nature and history of the U.S. deportation system as described in his new book, *Deportation Nation, Outsiders in American History* (Harvard University Press, April 2007). Professor Kanstroom's book is a chilling history of communal self-idealization and self-protection, that highlights the post-Revolutionary Alien and Sedition Laws, the Fugitive Slave laws, the Indian "removals," the Chinese Exclusion Act, the Palmer Raids, and the internment of the Japanese Americans during World War II--laws and practices that all sought to remove from our country those whose origins suggested they could never become "true" Americans.

Daniel Kanstroom is the Director of the International Human Rights Program and Clinical Professor of Law at Boston College Law School, where he teaches Immigration and Refugee Law, International Human Rights Law, and Administrative Law. He has long served on the Board of the Directors of the PAIR Project and currently serves on the national Immigration Commission of the American Bar Association. Professor Kanstroom was the founder of the Boston College Immigration and Asylum clinic in which students represent indigent noncitizens and asylum-seekers. Together with his students, he has won many immigration and asylum cases and has provided counsel for hundreds of clients over more than a decade.

Professor Kanstroom has published widely in the fields of U.S. immigration law, criminal law, and European citizenship and asylum law. His work has appeared in such venues as the Harvard Law Review, the Yale Journal of International Law, the Georgetown Immigration Law Journal, and the French *Gazette du Palais*. He has lectured on immigration and human rights law at dozens of U.S. and international law schools, and has been featured on ABC news and Court TV.

Comments about Daniel Kanstroom's *Deportation Nation, Outsiders in American History*. " (Harvard University Press, April 2007):

"Kanstroom's legal and social history of deportation reveals the development of a second system within our immigration politics, one of exclusion and expulsion, in which few if any Constitutional protections exist. Kanstroom shows the connections between the deportation of aliens and other removal practices in American history; the warning out of the poor, native-Americans removal, and fugitive slave law - and makes a powerful and unsettling argument about the uses and abuses of today's immigration system."

-- MAE M. NGAI, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

"A brilliant study of a deportation system whose goals now include discretionary social control over millions of legal residents. Kanstroom masterfully marshals historical and contemporary evidence to show how our deportation system came about, and how it continues to subject legal residents to harsh treatment that would be unthinkable if applied to U.S. citizens. Both a devastating critique and a careful scholarly analysis, *Deportation Nation* should change the way we think about the legal treatment of noncitizens."

-- JOSEPH WILLIAM SINGER, HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

"Kanstroom unearths an important story, routinely neglected in our shared understanding of our heritage as a nation of immigrants, and he is a gifted story teller. America needs to heed these lessons as we take up another round of immigration reform."

-- DAVID A. MARTIN, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

The **American Constitution Society for Law and Policy** ("ACS") is one of the nation's leading progressive legal organizations. Founded in 2001, ACS is comprised of law students, lawyers, scholars, judges, policymakers, activists and other concerned individuals who are working to ensure that the fundamental principles of human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, and access to justice are in their rightful, central place in American law. The American Constitution Society is a non-partisan, non-profit educational organization.

Student Chapters are at the heart of the American Constitution Society. ACS began with a chapter organized by law students at Georgetown University. Now we have more than 80 chapters on campuses across the country. Through our Student Chapters, law students gain a greater understanding of the legitimacy of a vision of the law that gives human values a central place.

ACS also has **Lawyer Chapters** in over a dozen locations, including **Boston**, with more on the way. The Lawyer Chapters are comprised of lawyers, scholars, judges, policymakers, activists and other concerned individuals who are working to ensure that the fundamental principles of human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine equality and access to justice are accorded their rightful, central place in American law.

The **ACS Boston Lawyer Chapter** is composed of attorneys in private practice as well as the public sector. The Boston Lawyer Chapter has sponsored numerous events since its launch several years ago, including events on such topics as: de-politicizing the judicial selection process; the rights of Guantánamo detainees; the Roberts nomination and the new Supreme Court; discrimination in Federal jury pool selection; the "radicalization" of the Federal judiciary; the Alito nomination, the future of reproductive rights; Representative Barney Frank on the future of progressive politics; and reforming election procedures.

For more information on the ACS Boston Lawyer Chapter - and to join us - please contact **Rob Whitney**, at rawhitney@gmail.com.

**American Constitution Society
for Law and Policy**
www.acslaw.org – ascboston@yahoo.com



The Boston Lawyer Chapter of the
American Constitution Society presents:

Deportation Nation: Outsiders in American History

Featuring:

Daniel Kanstroom

Clinical Professor of Law,
Director, International Human Rights Program,
and
Associate Director, Center for Human Rights,
Boston College Law School

Tuesday, June 19, at 6:00 p.m.

**Goodwin Proctor LLP
53 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts**