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STARR FORUM

SHOWDOWN IN THE SONORAN DESERT

RELIGION, LAW, AND THE IMMIGRATION CONTROVERSY

How can we preserve the integrity of sovereign borders while also respecting the dignity of human beings? How should a border —that imaginary line in the sand be humanely and effectively maintained? And how should we regard "the stranger" in our midst?

Event details

Tues, Sept 11, 2012 5:00p - 6:30p MIT Bldg E25-111 45 Carleton St, Cambridge

Book Talk with Ananda Rose Showdown in the Sonoran Desert

ANANDA ROSE

Religion, Law, and the Immigration Controversy

About the speaker



Ananda Rose holds a doctorate from Harvard University. She is a published poet, journalist, and theologian. Her book, *Showdown in the Sonoran Desert*, Oxford University Press, was published in June 2012.

Rose traveled to the Sonoran desert, a border region where the remains of some 2,000 migrants have been recovered over the past decade. There she interviewed Minutemen, Border Patrol agents, Catholic nuns, humanitarian aid workers, left-wing protestors, ranchers, and many other ordinary citizens of southern Arizona. She discovers two starkly opposed ideological perspectives: that of religious activists who embrace a biblically inspired hospitality that stresses love of strangers and a "borderless" compassion; and that of law enforcement, which insists on safety, security, and strict respect for international borders.

A Starr Forum event co-sponsored by the MIT Center for International Studies and The Inter-University Committee on International Migration