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?

**Book Talk with Ananda Rose**

**Showdown in the Sonoran Desert**

*Religion, Law, and the Immigration Controversy*

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**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.