



The Richard W. Smith Endowment in Cultural Studies

Named CSUN's 1991-92 Professor of the Year, two-time Distinguished Faculty Award winner Richard Smith had the care of many students' minds during his 41-year career at CSUN. His aim always was to open up those minds, to make his scholars think like cultural psychologists, "from the perspectives of other peoples, other cultures."

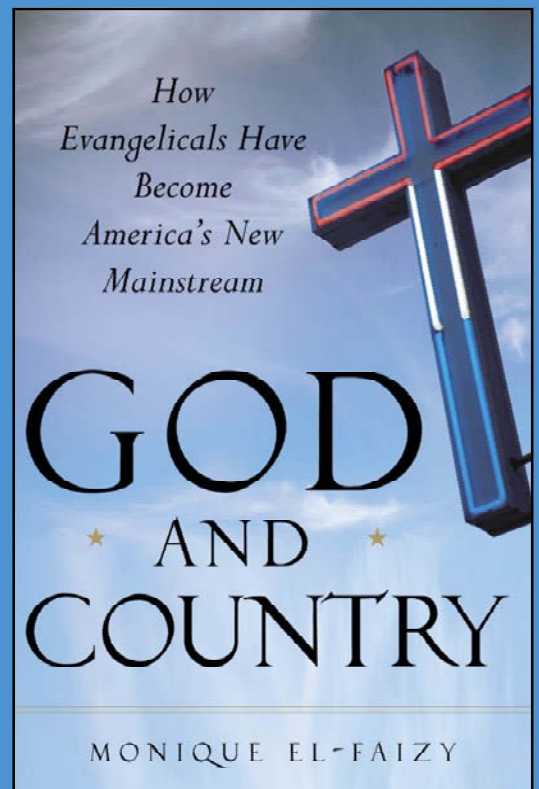
In establishing the Richard W. Smith Endowment for Cultural Studies, Smith will continue looking after his students. The endowment will support activities within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences promoting the study of non-Western culture, including the Richard W. Smith Professor in Cultural Studies, the Richard W. Smith Lecture in Cultural Studies, and the Richard W. Smith Student Award in Cultural Studies.

Twice nominated by his students for "Who's Who Among American Teachers" and twice the recipient of the CSUN Student Ambassadors' Polished Apple Award, Smith is credited with a "profound and lasting impact" on the lives of those he taught.

College of
Social and Behavioral Sciences
California State University, Northridge
Richard W. Smith Lecture

Monique El-Faizy

author of



"How Evangelicals Have Become America's New Mainstream"

Tuesday, December 5, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.
Whitsett Room, Sierra Hall 451

Program is free of charge
Reception immediately following

Parking information at the Information Booth at
Prairie Avenue and Darby Street
For more information call (818) 677-3317

Evangelical Christianity—its culture and its massive influence—is perhaps one of the most misunderstood phenomena of our day. The 2004 Presidential election opened the eyes of many so-called blue state Americans to the reach of evangelical Christianity—red state Americans were already aware of it—yet much of the media and Hollywood still fail to understand the paradigm shift that has placed evangelicals in the American mainstream.

Former fundamentalist Christian Monique El-Faizy tackles everything from the history of the Evangelical movement to defining its myriad incarnations in God and Country; How Evangelicals are Transforming America. El-Faizy was raised by immigrants in a fundamentalist Christian community in California. Within weeks of leaving home to attend the University of Pennsylvania she began to question her faith; soon after she abandoned it altogether. But years later, after noticing a megachurch in Times Square, she wondered what had happened—why were so many Americans embracing a faith she had rejected?

Based on her own experience, El-Faizy will discuss the change in the evangelical movement, from the fire and brimstone Jerry Falwell era of her youth, which emphasized fear of hell and damnation, to the inviting, friendly, franchise-able, message of Rick Warren. From Christian rock to Christian publishing, to education, politics, and family life, El-Faizy presents an in-depth look at the lives of evangelical Americans.

Monique El-Faizy is a journalist whose work has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, the *St. Petersburg Times*, *Cosmopolitan Magazine* (UK), *GQ Magazine*, *Parents Magazine*, *Moscow Magazine* and the *Moscow Guardian*, among others. She has worked at the *New York Daily News*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *Associated Press* and the *Bergen Record*. She lives in New York with her husband and two sons.

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