



WALTER H. CAPPS CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF  
ETHICS, RELIGION, AND PUBLIC LIFE

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Contact: Dr. Leonard Wallock, Associate Director  
Walter H. Capps Center for the Study  
of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life  
(805) 893-2317 / [leonard.wallock@cappscenter.ucsb.edu](mailto:leonard.wallock@cappscenter.ucsb.edu)

## N E W S R E L E A S E

Martin E. Marty Lecture on Religion in American Life

# Amy Sullivan

## Culture War Games: Religion and the 2012 Election

**Tuesday, April 10 / 8:00 p.m. / Free**  
**Lobero Theatre, 33 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara**

## S U M M A R Y F A C T S

- Amy Sullivan, former senior editor at *TIME* Magazine and author of *The Party Faithful: How and Why Democrats are Closing the God Gap*
- Tuesday, April 20 / 8:00 p.m.
- Lobero Theater, 33 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara
- FREE
- Information: Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at UCSB (805) 893-2317
- Digital copies of press materials available at [www.cappscenter.ucsb.edu/news/press-releases/](http://www.cappscenter.ucsb.edu/news/press-releases/)

## **Event Description:**

The economy was supposed to be the number one issue in the 2012 election. But just seven months before American voters go to the polls, the culture wars are back. Liberals howl about the GOP's "war on women," while conservatives claim Democrats are waging a "war on religion." Why do issues of religion and politics so polarize Americans? And why do we view political opposition as a "war" on everything we hold dear?

## **Speaker Profile:**

Amy Sullivan is a writer and former senior editor at *TIME* Magazine who covers politics, religion, and culture. She previously served as the magazine's nation editor, coordinating coverage of the 2008 presidential campaign, and as editor of *The Washington Monthly*. Her first book, *The Party Faithful: How and Why Democrats are Closing the God Gap*, was published by Scribner in 2008. According to E.J. Dionne, Jr., "Long before most journalists or Democratic activists were paying attention, Amy Sullivan understood that what was happening in the religious world mattered enormously to the political world." She was a 2009 Templeton-Cambridge Journalism Fellow in Science & Religion. She holds degrees from the University of Michigan and Harvard Divinity School.

## **Reviews of *The Party Faithful*:**

"Amy Sullivan is an exceptional journalist who has become one of our most insightful commentators on the American religious-political landscape. *The Party Faithful* is filled with discerning reporting, behind-the-scenes stories, and astute analysis. Her history of the evangelical social conscience will be illuminating to many. She shows that faithful voters do not belong to only one party, but are looking to bring their moral passion to politics and are more likely now to hold both sides accountable. She understands the sea change going on in faith and politics in America." - Jim Wallis, author of *The Great Awakening* and *God's Politics*

"Long before most journalists or Democratic activists were paying attention, Amy Sullivan understood that what was happening in the religious world mattered enormously to the political world -- and she saw the damage being done to the Democratic Party in the name of God. With empathy, superb reporting, a sense of history, and an ear for the good story, Sullivan describes what went wrong in the party of Roosevelt and Jimmy Carter, and the struggles and strategizing designed to level the religious playing field. *The Party Faithful* is a fascinating account, brimming with humanity -- and hope." -- E. J. Dionne Jr., author of *Souled Out: Reclaiming Faith and Politics After the Religious Right*

"Amy Sullivan is one of a small group of political journalists who understand that the phrase 'religious progressive' is not an oxymoron. Her book is the answer to my prayers." -- Paul Begala, CNN political analyst and former counselor to President Clinton

"The religious vote is up for grabs in unprecedented ways in 2008, and in this thoughtful and moving book, Amy Sullivan not only explains why but suggests what liberals and Democrats can do to capture it." -- Alan Wolfe, author of *Does American Democracy Still Work?* and director of the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life, Boston College

"The most exciting voice on the religious left. Period. She produces the most interesting, path-breaking writing on religion and politics." -- Steven Waldman, cofounder of Beliefnet

"There is far too little great reporting and sound thinking on the perennial subject of religion and politics in America, but Amy Sullivan is changing that. With intelligence, insight, and grace, she has given us a great gift in *The Party Faithful*, a new book that sheds light on a question that too often simply generates heat." -- Jon Meacham, author of *American Gospel* and *Franklin and Winston*

**Sponsor:**

This event is presented by the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at UCSB.

**For more information, call  
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at (805) 893-2317**

**Editor: For color images,  
please call Leonard Wallock at (805) 893-2317.**

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