



Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

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DUBLIN, CALIFORNIA 94568

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Dear Dr. Capps,

I would like to offer myself as a possible resource for your R.S. 155 course on the Vietnam War.

I heard you mention the course during last year's pastor's retreat in Palm Desert, and I recently read an account of the class in our local newspaper which carried a part of Paul Dean's article that appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

I attended UCSB 1968-1974. I was a member of the Radical Union, spoke during the rally for Bill Allen when the petitions against his firing were presented, was a member of the "Santa Barbara 19," and spoke at a few anti-war rallies. I was also a spectator-participant during the riots.

The whole experience certainly took its toll on my life and the lives of my friends. Our experiences of arrest, having informants in our midst, enduring police brutality, etc., do not measure to the intensity of what many Viet Vets went through. Yet we as a group were also never affirmed by American Society and nearly all of us have had problems in adjusting to normal living.

For me it was Eastern Religions that for a time eased the pain and provided meaning. And it was Raimundo Panikkar who provided me the bridge back to Christianity.

Later, Bob Shofner at CSUN became my mentor. I then attended PLTS from 1978-1982 graduating with an M.Div. with honors. I have served Resurrection since Sept. '82 as an Associate Pastor.

Let me know if you think I could offer a contribution to your class. Also it would be good talking with you about that era in history next time you are in the Bay area (Dublin is 35 minutes drive from the seminary).

Sincerely,

Richard Trussell
Richard Trussell, Pastor