



SOCIO-LEGAL SEMINAR SERIES TRINITY 2019

Law's Wars, Law's Trials

The liberal state is founded on the rule of law, whose core meaning elicits broad agreement and support across the political spectrum. But bitter experience reminds us that the rule of law is most endangered precisely when it is most essential—when the state feels itself threatened: the Miners' Strike and IRA bombings in the UK and during the two World Wars, Cold War and civil rights and anti-war movements in the US. The “war on terror,” which George Bush declared in response to the 9/11 attack and Barack Obama continued, has committed numerous violations of the rule of law. In this lecture I analyze the fate of the rule of law in the US during those two administrations because those who defend it must maximize their limited resources and political capital in what I fear will be an endless “war on terror.”

Professor Richard L. Abel

*Michael J. Connell Distinguished Professor of Law Emeritus and
Distinguished Research Professor, UCLA Law*

**5.00pm, Tuesday 7th May 2019
Seminar Room C, Manor Road Building**

~ All welcome, light refreshments served afterwards ~