

## Christopher Queen

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My work on contemporary Buddhism focuses on the transformation of the tradition as native practitioners, immigrants, and new converts attempt to apply traditional teachings and practices to social, economic, political, and environmental challenges. The emergence of "engaged Buddhism" may be traced to the conversion of India's untouchables from Hinduism to Buddhism since the 1950s, and to the peace activism of Vietnamese monks and laypeople in the sixties and seventies. In North America, Europe, Australia, and South Africa, Buddhist immigrants and converts are also addressing the dislocations of social change and globalization with new insights and strategies. The resulting blend of Buddhist teachings and western values has been analysed in a series of volumes I have edited: Engaged Buddhism: Buddhist Liberation Movements in Asia (with Sallie B. King, 1996).

American Buddhism: Methods and Findings in Recent Scholarship (with Duncan Ryuken Williams, 1999), Engaged Buddhism in the West (2000), and Action Dharma: New Essays on Engaged Buddhism (with Charles Prebish and Damien Keown, forthcoming). I am working on a book of stories from the Buddhist conversion movement in India among the followers of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (1891-1956).

From <a href="http://www.pluralism.org/events/interfaculty2004/participants.php">http://www.pluralism.org/events/interfaculty2004/participants.php</a>

Echo Chamber interview with Dr Queen: http://www.echochamberproject.com/queen

Dr Queen is also the Convener and Honorary Chairman of the Journal of Buddhist Ethics' online conference, Socially Engaged Buddhism:

http://www.buddhistethics.org/online.html