

Kim Bobo
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"No human being is illegal. If we can translate this idea into policy changes, we will not only improve workplace rights for millions of Americans, but we will also honor people as whole human beings, neighbors and fellow children of God. Children of God deserve a birthright that respects their humanity, appreciates their contributions and offers hope for their future. The world's religions call us together to act for the sake of those who are most vulnerable."

Areas of expertise

- Religious teachings on worker rights, immigration and human rights, and the minimum wage
- Organizing religious communities for social change
- Partnerships between faith and labor communities
- Causes of poverty

Topics in the News

- [National discussion of "moral values"](#)
- The rights of undocumented immigrant workers
- The exploitation of immigrant workers by companies like WalMart, Tyson, and Cintas
- Changes in overtime law
- Economic policies that benefit low-wage workers

Biography

Kim Bobo leads a network of people of faith who educate, organize and mobilize religious communities to improve wages, benefits and working conditions for low-wage workers. In 1991, she founded the Chicago Interfaith Committee on Worker Issues, out of which the vision for the National Interfaith Committee on Worker Justice was developed. In 2003, Kim was a key organizer of the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride, which mobilized people of faith to speak out on the abuses and exploitations of immigrant workers. Every year, she brings together seminary and rabbinic students from a variety of faith traditions to work directly for unions on low-wage worker campaigns across the country, as part of the "Seminary Summer" program.

Resources by this expert

- *Organizing for Social Change* (Seven Locks Press, 2001)
- *Lives Matter: A Handbook for Christian Organizing* (Sheed and Ward, 1986)

Recent Interviews & Articles

- *Chicago Daily Herald*, April 26, 2007, "[Feds charge 22 in fake ID case; activists denounce midday sting](#)"
- *Lawyers USA*, February 26, 2007, "[Minimum wage bill in U.S. Senate includes anti-immigrant provision](#)"
- *Miami Herald*, January 27, 2007, "[Vigil planned for janitors at Nova Southeastern](#)"
- *Chicago Tribune*, December 13, 2006, by Andy Humm, "[AFL-CIO joins partnership with faith group](#)" 
- *New York Times*, December 4, 2006, by Neela Banerjee, "[At Bosses Invitation, Chaplains Invited to Workplace](#)" 
- *Chicago Tribune; Red Eye Edition*, November 30, 2006, by Brenda Gazzar, "[Minimum; Wage War](#)" 
- *The New Standard*, May 12, 2006, by Michelle Chen, "[Labor Dept. Agrees to Name 'Unlocatable' Workers](#)"
- *Miami Herald*, November 15, 2005 "[Faith-based groups take aim at Wal-Mart](#)"
- *Chicago Tribune*, July 26, 2005 "Unions bold AFL-CIO; Warring camps likely to renew organizing efforts"
- *The Nation*, January 12, 2005 "[The Real Moral Fight](#)"
- *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 12, 2004 "[Pushing Poverty into 'moral-values' debate](#). Some religious leaders trying to broaden description beyond abortion and marriage"
- *Austin American-Statesman*, August 30, 2004 "[At churches, advocates to speak up for workers](#)" 
- *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, June 26, 2004 "Group backs unionists at Cintas"
- *Isthmus*, June 24, 2004 "Sweat and the city"
- *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, June 24, 2004 "[Cintas denies claims about conditions](#)" 
- *Chicago Tribune*, June 24, 2004 "[Group criticizes conditions at Cintas](#)" 
- *The Cincinnati Post*, June 23, 2004 "[Report says Cintas treats workers poorly](#)" 
- *Alternet.org*, June 9, 2004 "[In the Business of Health and Charity](#)" 
- *The Daily Tar Heel*, January 13, 2004 "[Bush plan gets mixed response](#)" 

Organizational links for this expert

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