


Why Buddhism and the Modern World Need Each Other

“The mercy of the West has been social revolution. The mercy of the East has been individual insight into the basic self/void. We need both.” — GARY SNYDER

October 28, 2017 | 2–4 p.m.

Lincoln Park Student Center Room 220, 2550 N. Sheffield Ave.



The highest ideal of Western civilization (now globalized) has been to restructure our societies so that they are more socially just. The most important goal for Buddhism is to awaken and put an end to the dukkha (suffering) due to the delusion of a separate self. Today it has become obvious that we need both: not just because individual transformation and social transformation complement each other, but because each needs the other in order to be successful.

DAVID LOY is a writer, professor, and Zen teacher in the Sanbo Kyodan tradition of Japanese Zen Buddhism. His many stimulating books include *A New Buddhist Path: Enlightenment, Evolution, and Ethics in the Modern World*; *Money Sex War Karma: Notes for a Buddhist Revolution*; *The Great Awakening: A Buddhist Social Theory*; *The Dharma of Dragons and Daemons: Buddhist Themes in Modern Fantasy*; and *A Buddhist History of the West: Studies in Lack*. His essays from major journals and his books have been translated into many languages. David lectures nationally



and internationally, focusing primarily on the encounter between Buddhism and modernity, especially concerned about social and ecological issues. He also leads meditation retreats, including at the Rocky Mountain Ecodharma Retreat Center, of which he is a founding member.* Loy is a professor of Buddhist and comparative philosophy, with a PhD from the National University of Singapore. He has been on the faculty at Bunkyo University, Japan, Xavier University in Cincinnati, and Naropa University in Boulder, and has been a visiting professor or lecturer at many universities.

*Visit rockymountainecondharmaretreat.org for more information.

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