



Jaime Guzman E.













JAIME GUZMÁN FOUNDATION

The Foundation was created in 1991 after the murder of Jaime Guzman with the specific purpose of preserving the philosophy of the late Senator, and to inspire future generations. The mission of the Foundation is to mentor young people and to transform Chile according to the principles of a free, fair and a responsible society. In order to accomplish its mission, the Foundation works with young people with public service vocation. By positioning public servants, the Foundation seeks to achieve a larger transformational influence in Chilean society.

The Foundation is actively involved in public affairs promoting and defending the ideas of human dignity, freedom and justice, which are the basis of a free society. The Foundation seeks to influence public discussion by providing municipal and parliamentary authorities advice, and participates in the public debate through public policies and publications that contribute to the development of our country and follow Jaime Guzman's thought.













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Mission

"To form and inspire young people on the transcendent nature of human beings, and to transform Chile according to the principles of a free, fair and responsible society".







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Vission

"To engage and promote a generation of public servants who seek to influence and make an impact in Chilean society".













Biography

Jaime Guzman Errazuriz was born in Santiago on June 28, 1946. He was son of Jorge Guzman Reyes and Carmen Errazuriz Edwards. Both parents came from families with a tradition in public service. He was the only boy of three siblings. His parents instilled the virtues and Christian faith that characterized Jaime Guzman throughout his life.

Between 1951 and 1962 he studied in the Sagrados Corazones School of Santiago. Jaime Guzman was recognized by his intelligence and sense of humor. He was an outstanding student, cooperating in the school magazine and becoming President of the Literary Academy. During these academic activities, he discovered his true calling for public service. He finished school with a vibrant farewell speech, which is still remembered by those who graduated with him.



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Family photograph with his parents and sisters





In 1963, at the age of 16, he entered Law School at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile. Jaime Guzman immediately stood out because of his leadership, being elected to several positions. He outlined the first ideas of what would become the Movimiento Gremial of the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile (MGUC), in 1967.

The MGUC promotes the autonomy of intermediate organizations and their independence from the control of ideologies. At the time, civil society

had been co-opted by totalitarianism and ideologies such as atheist communism and Marxist socialism. These ideas soon began to permeate not only in universities throughout the country, but also in unions and other civil society organizations. Jaime Guzman was convinced that democracy, autonomy of intermediate organizations, and economic freedom was the way forward. The MGUC thus became a school of thought whose legacy is still valid today.





University photos

Jaime Guzman obtained his law degree in 1968 with the highest distinctions, and he received the Monseñor Carlos Casanueva and the Institute of Criminal Science awards in recognition for his outstanding grades. He graduated as a lawyer in 1970 after completing his thesis titled "Theory of the University". Later he held academic positions within the law school, first as a graduate assistant, then as an assistant professor and finally as professor of political theory and constitutional law. As a professor, he was member of the law fac-

ulty Council and, between 1972 and 1973, he represented the faculty in the University's Superior Council.

To promote his ideas, from 1968 and almost uninterruptedly, he played different roles in the media. He wrote legal, political, social and religious articles that were published in all the major newspapers and magazines in the country.















Presidential election campaign 1970





In 1970 he had an important role in the presidential candidacy of Jorge Alessandri, organizing young people and advising on constitutional matters in Alessandri's presidential program. As a representative of young people he joined the National Campaign Board participating in several television forums as well as traveling with the candidate throughout the country.

Between 1970 and 1973, once President Salvador Allende was elected, Jaime Guzman fought against the government of Unidad Popular through the use of written, broadcast and television media. His main concern at this time was that President Allende was leading the country towards a Marxist totalitarian government and civil war.

After President Allende was overthrown -in September 1973- Jaime Guzman was appointed by the new military Government together with other six law professors, to draft what would become the new Constitution of 1980. Jaime Guzman contributed to the doctrinal chapters laying the basis of new institutions and constitutional rights. He promoted the principles of subsidiarity, autonomy of intermediate organizations, human rights, and free enterprise. These concepts became an enduring legacy of Jaime Guzman's thought and doctrine.





Since September 1973 until February 1983 Jaime Guzman also worked as a government counselor in several legal and political issues. Between 1983 and 1989 he joined the Council of Constitutional Organic Laws. From this position he contributed to Chile's transition towards democracy.

Anticipating the return to democracy, Jaime Guzman founded the Indepen-

dent Democratic Union (UDI) political party and became its first president. In 1989, after defeating Ricardo Lagos Escobar, Guzman was elected Senator for Santiago. Until Jaime Guzman's assassination on April 1, 1991, he had become the most important opposition leader of President Patricio Aylwin (1990-1994).

Days before his death, Jaime Guzman voted in Congress against a consti-





Senatorial Campaign, 1989

tutional reform that would allow the President to pardon convicted terrorists. The Reform was finally approved on Saturday March 23. Nine days later, while leaving his Constitutional Law class at Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, he was gunned down by terrorists at the door of the university. Until his death Jaime Guzman remained devout to his faith and calling as the mentor of young people and rock

solid defender of the ideas and principles concerning human dignity, freedom, social market economy and the necessity of building a society based on Christian principles.











Human Profile

Jaime Guzman was a man of simple tastes and many hobbies, such as music and football (soccer). He was fond of popular music, being a regular attendee at the Song Festival of Viña del Mar. He was also fond of football (soccer) being a fan of the Catholic University Team. He took a referee's course that allowed him to enjoy this popular sport from this position. At the same time he took pleasure in opera and classical music, never missing an opera season in the Municipal Theatre or any concert of the pianist Roberto Brayo, who was his friend.

Jaime Guzman had a sociable character and had many friends of all ages. He was an entertaining conversationalist and had a very particular sense of humor which he displayed whenever he was invited to TV shows. Within his circle of friends he enjoyed imitating national political figures and was particularly fond of good gastronomy. According to the testimonies of those who knew him, Jaime Guzman stood

out in kindness and capacity to listen. By his own virtue, he became not just a leader, but also a mentor of several generations devoted to public service. Yet, what best characterized him was Jaime Guzman's profound spirituality. His constant encounter with prayer and sacraments became a form of spiritual nourishment. He always tried, with deep sincerity, to be guided by the Divine Providence and God was always the center and engine of his daily work.



