

## JUSTIN TOSI

Department of Philosophy  
Box 43092  
Texas Tech University  
Lubbock, TX 79409-3092

[justintosi@gmail.com](mailto:justintosi@gmail.com)  
<http://justintosi.com>

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**      Political Philosophy  
Philosophy of Law  
Normative Ethics

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE**      Applied Ethics  
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)  
History of Moral and Political Philosophy

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University, Department of Philosophy (2018–present)  
Junior Faculty Fellow, Georgetown Institute for the Study of Markets and Ethics, Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business (2017–18)  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Lecturer, Freedom and Flourishing Project, University of Michigan, Department of Philosophy (2015–17)

### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Arizona (2015)  
M.A., Political Science, Arizona State University (2007)  
B.A. (with high distinction), Philosophy and Politics, University of Virginia (2005)

### BOOK

*Grandstanding: The Use and Abuse of Moral Talk*, Oxford University Press, 2020 (with Brandon Warmke)

### BOOK MANUSCRIPT

*Why It's OK to Mind Your Own Business* (under contract with Routledge for the series “Why It's OK: The Ethics of How We Live”; with Brandon Warmke)

### PUBLICATIONS

“Moral Grandstanding and Political Polarization: A Multi-Study Consideration,” *Journal of Research in Personality* (forthcoming; with Joshua B. Grubbs, Brandon Warmke, and A. Shanti James)

“Moral Grandstanding as a Threat to Free Expression,” *Social Philosophy & Policy* (forthcoming; with Brandon Warmke)

“Moral Grandstanding in Public Discourse: Status-Seeking Motives as a Potential Explanatory Mechanism in Predicting Conflict,” *PLoS One* 14:10, 2019. (with Joshua B. Grubbs, Brandon Warmke, A. Shanti James, and W. Keith Campbell)

- “Relational Sufficiency and Basic Income,” in *The Future of Work, Technology, and Basic Income*, ed. Michael Cholbi and Michael Weber. Routledge, 2019, pp. 49–61.
- “Rethinking the Principle of Fair Play,” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 99:4, 2018, pp. 612–631.
- “A Fair Play Account of Legitimate Political Authority,” *Legal Theory* 23:1, 2017, pp. 55–67.
- “Playing Fair and Following the Rules,” *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 14:2, 2017, pp. 134–141.
- “The Possibility of a Fair Play Account of Legitimacy,” *Ratio* 30:1, 2017, pp. 88–99.
- “Moral Grandstanding,” *Philosophy & Public Affairs* 44:3, 2016, pp. 197–217. (with Brandon Warmke)
- “Punishment and Forgiveness,” in *Routledge Handbook of Criminal Justice Ethics*, ed. Jonathan Jacobs and Jonathan Jackson. Routledge, 2016, pp. 203–216. (with Brandon Warmke)
- “David Foster Wallace on the Good Life,” in *Freedom and the Self: Essays on the Philosophy of David Foster Wallace*, ed. Steven Cahn and Maureen Eckert. Columbia University Press, 2015, pp. 133–168. (with Nathan Ballantyne)
- “Anticipating the Political and Ethical Challenges of Human Nanotechnologies,” in *Nanoethics: The Ethical and Social Implications of Nanotechnology*, ed. Fritz Allhoff, Patrick Lin, James Moor, John Weckert. Wiley, 2007, pp. 185–197. (with David Guston and John Parsi)

## BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of Douglas J. Den Uyl and Douglas B. Rasmussen, *The Perfectionist Turn: From Metanorms to Metaethics*. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, Oct. 2017.
- Review of Matt Matravers, *Responsibility and Justice*. *Journal of Politics* 71:4, 2009, pp. 1600–1602.

## PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

- “Shame on You! Moral Grandstanding Is More than Tiresome. It’s Pushing People to Extremes,” *Persuasion*, (with Brandon Warmke), Dec. 7, 2020: <https://www.persuasion.community/p/shame-on-you>
- “Moralising to Impress,” *The Philosophers’ Magazine*, (with Brandon Warmke), Nov. 2020: [https://www.pdcnet.org/tpm/content/tpm\\_2020\\_0091\\_0046\\_0052](https://www.pdcnet.org/tpm/content/tpm_2020_0091_0046_0052)
- “The Immorality of Moral Showcasing,” *Discourse*, (with Brandon Warmke), Nov. 4, 2020: <https://www.discoursemagazine.com/culture-and-society/2020/11/04/the-immorality-of-moral-showcasing/>
- “The Art of the Grandstand: Solving Social Problems Comes with a Built-in Paradox,” *City Journal*, (with Brandon Warmke), Aug. 12, 2020: <https://www.city-journal.org/moral-grandstanding>
- “It’s Our Own Fault that Politicians Don’t Come Up with Policies that Actually Fix Problems,” *Marketwatch*, (with Brandon Warmke), July 6, 2020: <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/its-our-own-fault-that-politicians-dont-come-up-with-policies-that-actually-fix-problems-2020-07-06>
- “Oscar Acceptance Speeches: When Moral Outrage Verges on Grandstanding,” *CNN.com*, (with Brandon Warmke), Feb. 10, 2020: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/02/10/opinions/award-show-grandstanding-warmke-tosi/index.html>
- “Moral Grandstanding and Self-Righteous Anger: How Are We Served by This New Incivility?” public talk for Canadian Centre for Ethics and Public Affairs series *The Seven Deadly Sins*, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Apr. 26, 2018: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQ6UWQAzE5c>

- “Moral Grandstanding,” audio recording for *The Academic Minute* on WAMC Northeast Public Radio and Inside Higher Ed, Oct. 19, 2017: <https://www.insidehighered.com/audio/2017/10/19/moral-grandstanding>
- “Why There Are Costs to Moral Outrage,” *The Conversation*, (with Brandon Warmke), June 19, 2017, (Republished by Newsweek, Salon, San Francisco Chronicle, The Huffington Post, Live Science): <https://theconversation.com/why-there-are-costs-to-moral-outrage-78729>
- “Moral Grandstanding: There’s a Lot of It About, All of It Bad,” *Aeon*, (with Brandon Warmke), May 10, 2017: <https://aeon.co/ideas/moral-grandstanding-theres-a-lot-of-it-about-all-of-it-bad>  
 Reprinted as “Grandilocuencia Moral: Estar del Lado de los Ángeles,” *Revista Santiago*, translated by Patricio Tapia, Dec. 17, 2019: <http://revistasantiago.cl/pensamiento/grandilocuencia-moral-estar-del-lado-de-los-angeles/>
- “Let’s Talk About Moral Grandstanding,” So That Happened, Huffington Post Politics Podcast Dec. 30, 2016: <https://play.acast.com/s/sothathappened/e86efe00-5582-4ea9-93df-2da476ee0b9b>

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**

- “The Grandstanding Case,” *Commentary*, Sep. 2020: <https://www.commentarymagazine.com/articles/christine-rosen/media-establishment-grandstanding-caste/>
- “Social Media and Public Grandstanding,” *Christianity Today*, July 28, 2020: <https://www.christianitytoday.com/scot-mcknight/2020/july/social-media-and-public-grandstanding.html>
- “In A Pandemic, We Need Philosophers, Too,” *Forbes*, July 22, 2020: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/emilychamleewright/2020/07/22/in-a-pandemic-we-need-philosophers-too/>
- “I’ve Protested for Racial Justice. Do I Have to Post on Social Media?” *The New York Times Magazine*, June 30, 2020: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/30/magazine/ive-protested-for-racial-justice-do-i-have-to-post-on-social-media.html>
- “The Science of Why Online Outrage Is Counterproductive and Toxic,” *Inc.com*, Jan. 24, 2020: <https://www.inc.com/jessica-stillman/the-science-of-why-online-outrage-is-counterproductive-toxic.html>
- “Virtue Signalling Drowns Us in Hopelessness,” *The Irish Times*, Jan. 8, 2020: <https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/kathy-sheridan-virtue-signalling-drowns-us-in-hopelessness-1.4133070>
- “What Drives the ‘Moral Grandstanding’ that Has Infected Our Politics?” *The Guardian*, Jan. 3, 2020: <https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2020/jan/03/moral-grandstanding-politics-emotional-needs-oliver-burkeman>
- “Moral Grandstanding Is Making an Argument Just to Boost Your Status. It’s Everywhere.” *Vox*, Nov. 27, 2019: <https://www.vox.com/science-and-health/2019/11/27/20983814/moral-grandstanding-psychology>
- “Psychological Study Of ‘Moral Grandstanding’ Helps Explain Why Social Media Is So Toxic” *British Psychological Society Research Digest*, Nov. 14, 2019: <https://digest.bps.org.uk/2019/11/14/psychological-study-of-moral-grandstanding-helps-explain-why-social-media-is-so-toxic/>
- “Are You a Moral Grandstander?” *Scientific American*, Oct. 28, 2019: <https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/beautiful-minds/are-you-a-moral-grandstander/>

The Ethics Lab with Dan Munro, Ottawa Today with Mark Sutcliffe, Jan. 4, 2019:

<https://www.1310news.com/2019/01/18/the-ethics-lab-with-dan-munro-january-4-2019/>

“‘A Moral Arms Race’—Researcher Says People on the Left and Right Guilty of Moral Grandstanding,” Mainstreet NS with Bob Murphy, Apr. 26, 2018.

Live Radio Interview, The Sheldon McLeod Show, Apr. 26, 2018.

“What Are the Costs to Moral Outrage?” The Matt Townsend Show, BYU Radio, Aug. 3, 2017:

<https://www.byuradio.org/episode/3edf6c6c-d999-4f2e-8e3c-47f48b92e99e/the-matt-townsend-show-moral-outrage-chase-happiness-giving-kids-freedom?playhead=1195>

“Notre Indignation Vertueuse Permanente Tire Notre Société Vers Le Bas,” *Slate* (France), June 10, 2017: <http://www.slate.fr/story/146817/grandiloquence-morale>

“American Grandstand,” Very Bad Wizards podcast, Jan. 10, 2017:

<https://verybadwizards.fireside.fm/106>

“The Quiet Poison in American Politics,” *The Huffington Post*, Dec. 30, 2016:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/so-that-happened-moral-grandstanding\\_us\\_5865ad86e4b0eb586488dd4f](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/so-that-happened-moral-grandstanding_us_5865ad86e4b0eb586488dd4f)

## HONORS AND AWARDS

Exceptional Scholarship Award, Heterodox Academy, 2020

Texas Tech Humanities Center Alumni College Fellow, 2020-2021

Hayek Fund for Scholars Travel Grant, 2015, 2019

University of Arizona Graduate College Fellow, 2012–13

Freedom Center Fellow, 2012–13

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Scholar, 2012

Fullinwider Fellow, 2010–11

Humane Studies Fellow, 2010–11, 2013–14

Thomas W. Smith Fellow, 2008–10

## PRESENTATIONS

“Moral Grandstanding and Corporate Activism,” The Trinity Centre for Social Innovation at Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland (December 2020). (conducted via Zoom due to COVID-19)

Comments on Asma Uddin, *The Politics of Vulnerability*, Institute for Humane Studies, Arlington, VA (September 2020). (Conducted via Zoom due to COVID-19)

Comments on Chris Freiman, *Why It's OK to Ignore Politics*, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ (May 2020). (conducted via Zoom due to COVID-19)

Authors Meet Critics session on *Grandstanding: The Use and Abuse of Moral Talk*, with comments from Rebecca Tuvel and Maura Priest, 2020 PPE Society Meeting, New Orleans, LA (March 2020). (cancelled trip due to COVID-19)

“Markets and Moral Bigotry: An Argument against Consumer Boycotts”

2019 PPE Society Meeting, New Orleans, LA (March 2019).

Second Annual Workshop in Heterodox Moral and Political Philosophy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (March 2019).

Comments on Meena Krishnamurthy, “Martin Luther King Jr. on the Justification and Use of Democratic Propaganda,” and Daniel Viehoff, “Power and Equality,” *2019 Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, New York, NY (January 2019).

“Moral Grandstanding as a Threat to Free Expression,” *AAUP Annual Conference on the State of Higher Education*, Arlington, VA (June 2018).

“Why Moral Grandstanding is Ruining Public Discourse,” (with Brandon Warmke) *Workshop in Heterodox Moral and Political Philosophy*, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (March 2018).

“How to Secede Fairly”  
 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX (January 2018).  
*78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Virginia Philosophical Association*, Farmville, VA (October 2017).  
*National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar: Liberty, Equality and Justice*, St. Louis, MO (June 2012).

“Relational Sufficiency,” *The Future of Work, Technology and a Basic Income*, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH (April 2017).

“Rethinking the Principle of Fair Play”  
 New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM (February 2017).  
 University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA (November 2015).

“Moral Grandstanding in Politics”  
 University of Maryland, College Park, MD (January 2017).  
 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (January 2017).

“Moral Grandstanding,” (with Brandon Warmke)  
 Marymount University, Arlington, VA (March 2018).  
 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (February 2016).  
 Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL (October 2015; presented in absentia).  
*2015 Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, Vancouver, BC (April 2015).  
*2015 Meeting of the North Carolina Philosophical Society*, Raleigh, NC (February 2015; presented in absentia).

Comments on Amanda Greene, “Legitimacy and Political Realism,” *Chapel Hill Political Philosophy Workshop*, Chapel Hill, NC (March 2016).

“Locke as Proto-Fair Play Theorist,” University of Richmond, Richmond, VA (October 2015).

“Rescuing the Right to Rule”  
 University of Richmond, Richmond, VA (July 2012).  
*Association of Legal and Social Philosophy 2011 Annual Conference*, Coventry, UK (July 2011).  
*Northern Arizona University Conference on Philosophy, Politics, and Law*, Flagstaff, AZ (April 2011).  
*4th Annual Louisiana State University Philosophy Conference*, Baton Rouge, LA (April 2011).

“Enough Is Enough: A Defense of Sufficiency,” *Brave New World 2011*, Manchester, UK (June 2011).

“Narrow Reflective Equilibrium and Moral Theory,” *Southwest Graduate Conference in Philosophy*, Tempe, AZ (March 2011).

“Multiple Principles and the Justification of Punishment,” *Humane Studies Fellowship Research Colloquium*, Arlington, VA (October 2010).

## **WORKSHOPS**

Workshop on *Why It's OK to Mind Your Own Business*, Institute for Humane Studies, Arlington, VA (November 2020). (Conducted via Zoom due to COVID-19)

*Ideological Bias in the Classroom*, Institute for Humane Studies, Washington, DC (November 2019).

*Critical Theory and Higher Education: The Frankfurt School and Free Inquiry on College Campuses*, Washington College, Chestertown, MD (May 2019).

Workshops on *Grandstanding: The Use and Abuse of Moral Talk*

Institute for Humane Studies, Arlington, VA (March 2019).

Georgetown University, Washington, DC (May 2018).

*Teaching Professional Ethics through Experiential Learning*, Georgetown University, Washington, DC (June 2017).

Roundtable Participant, *Secession and Federalism*, Institute for Law and Philosophy, San Diego, CA (September 2012).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Texas Tech University**

#### ***Undergraduate***

Introduction to Ethics

Introduction to Political Philosophy

The Ethics and Economics of Free Societies

#### ***Graduate***

Consequentialism

Independent Study on Creating Reasons

Independent Study on Rawls and Nozick

Social Morality

State Legitimacy

Thesis Supervision: Lawson Hamilton

### **Georgetown University**

Social Responsibilities of Business

### **University of Michigan**

Contemporary Moral Problems

Independent Study on Territoriality

Privilege, Race, and Gender

The Lockean Tradition in Political Philosophy

Introduction to Political Economy

### **University of Arizona**

#### ***Instructor***

Medical Ethics

Philosophy of Happiness (traditional class and online)

Law and Morality (traditional class and online)

Business Ethics (online)

Ethics and Economics of Wealth Creation (online)

The Social Contract (online)

Philosophy of Law (online)

### ***Teaching Assistant***

Critical Thinking  
Sex, Race, and Power in the Supreme Court  
Ethics and Economics of Wealth Creation  
Contemporary Moral Problems

### **SERVICE**

#### **Professional**

Referee: *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*; *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*; *European Journal of Political Theory*; *Journal of Applied Philosophy*; *Journal of Ethics*; *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*; *Journal of Moral Philosophy*; *Journal of Political Philosophy*; *Journal of Politics*; *Journal of Social Philosophy*; *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*; *Journal of Value Inquiry*; *Law and Philosophy*; *Legal Theory*; *Philosophical Studies*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Politics, Philosophy, and Economics*; *Social Theory and Practice*  
Reviewer: *Polity*; *Routledge*; *W. W. Norton & Company*

#### **Texas Tech University**

Remnant Trust Advisory Committee (2019–present)  
Institute for the Study of Western Civilization Advisory Committee (2019–present)

#### **Texas Tech University Philosophy Department**

Faculty Search Committee (2019–20)  
Undergraduate Enrollment Committee (2018–present)  
Strategic Plan Committee (2018)

### **REFERENCES**

Thomas Christiano  
Professor of Philosophy and Law  
University of Arizona  
[thomasc@u.arizona.edu](mailto:thomasc@u.arizona.edu)

Steven Wall  
Professor of Philosophy  
University of Arizona  
[stevenwall@email.arizona.edu](mailto:stevenwall@email.arizona.edu)

Richard Dagger  
Professor of Political Science and Philosophy,  
Politics, Economics and Law  
University of Richmond  
[rdagger@richmond.edu](mailto:rdagger@richmond.edu)

Christopher Wellman  
Professor of Philosophy  
Washington University in St. Louis  
[kwellman@artsci.wustl.edu](mailto:kwellman@artsci.wustl.edu)

Daniel Jacobson  
Professor of Philosophy  
University of Michigan  
[danjac@umich.edu](mailto:danjac@umich.edu)

Michael McKenna (Teaching Reference)  
Keith Lehrer Chair of Philosophy  
University of Arizona  
[msmckenna@u.arizona.edu](mailto:msmckenna@u.arizona.edu)

12/17/20