

# JUSTIN TOSI

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**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

Associate Professor, Texas Tech University, Department of Philosophy (2023–present)  
Affiliated Faculty, Texas Tech University, Free Market Institute (2023–present)  
Visiting Associate Professor, Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business (Fall 2023)  
Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University, Department of Philosophy (2018–2023)  
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)

## BOOKS

*Why It's OK to Mind Your Own Business*, Routledge, 2023 (with Brandon Warmke)  
*Grandstanding: The Use and Abuse of Moral Talk*, Oxford University Press, 2020 (with Brandon Warmke)  
Translations: Portuguese, Korean, Arabic

## ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

“Don’t Block the Exits,” in *New Directions in Free Speech*, ed. J. P. Messina. Routledge, 2022, pp. 50-60. (with Brandon Warmke)  
“Conservative Critiques,” in *Routledge Companion to Libertarianism*, ed. Ben Ferguson and Matt Zwolinski. Routledge, 2022, pp. 579-592. (with Brandon Warmke)  
“Moral Grandstanding, Narcissism, and Self-Reported Responses to the COVID-19 Crisis,” *Journal of Research in Personality* 97, 2022. (with Joshua B. Grubbs, A. Shanti James, and Brandon Warmke)

- “Moral Grandstanding and Political Polarization: A Multi-Study Consideration,” *Journal of Research in Personality* 88, 2020, pp. 1-12. (with Joshua B. Grubbs, Brandon Warmke, and A. Shanti James)
- “Moral Grandstanding as a Threat to Free Expression,” *Social Philosophy & Policy* 37:2, 2020, pp. 170-189. (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/e86efc00-5582-4ea9-93df-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/emilychamlewright/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/3cedf6c6c-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

## RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- “Censorship Promotes the Credibility of Bad Ideas”
- Keynote Address, *AGENT Conference*, University of Texas at Austin (October 2023)
- Workshop in Heterodox Moral and Political Philosophy*, University of Colorado Boulder (April 2023).
- “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)

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).

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

### **SELECTED 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).

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **Texas Tech University**

##### ***Undergraduate***

Introduction to Ethics

Introduction to Political Philosophy

The Ethics and Economics of Free Societies

History of Modern Political Thought

##### ***Graduate***

Independent Study on Topics in Political Philosophy

Proseminar: Moral Psychology

Consequentialism

Independent Study on Creating Reasons

Independent Study on Rawls and Nozick

Independent Study on Anarchism

Political Philosophy

Social Morality

State Legitimacy

Thesis Supervision: Lawson Hamilton; Luke Winbery; Emily Adams

## **Georgetown University**

Ethical Values of Business  
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*; *Philosophy Compass*; *Polish Journal of Aesthetics*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Politics, Philosophy, and Economics*; *Public Affairs Quarterly*; *Social Theory and Practice*; *Synthese*  
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; 2022–23)  
Degree Assessment Committee (2021)  
Undergraduate Enrollment Committee (2018–2019)  
Strategic Plan Committee (2018)