

Sandra Sullivan-Dunbar
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Loyola University Chicago
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CURRENT POSITION

Associate Professor of Christian Ethics

Research Interests: Feminist Ethics (Christian, Philosophical, Political), Sexual Ethics, Reproductive Justice, Christian Social Ethics, Economic Ethics.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Religious Ethics 2010
University of Chicago Divinity School, Chicago, IL

Master of Divinity 2003
Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

M.A. in Ethics and Social Theory 2003
Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA

Master of Public Policy 1997
University of California, Berkeley, CA

B.A. in Religious Studies 1988
Brown University, Providence, RI

BOOK

Human Dependency and Christian Ethics. Cambridge University Press, 2017.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

“Catholic Abortion Discourse and the Erosion of Democracy,” *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 43:1 (Spring/Summer 2023), 55-73.

“Family: Structures and Conditions,” in *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Religious Ethics*, ed. William Schweiker and Elizabeth Bucar. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell (2022), 1280-1287.

“The Care Economy as Alternative Economy,” in *Working Alternatives: American and Catholic Experiments in Work and Economy*, ed. John Seitz and Christine Firer Hinze. New York: Fordham University Press (2020), 21-44.

“Valuing Family Care: Love and Labor,” in *Sex, Love and Families: Catholic Perspectives*, ed. Julie Hanlon Rubio and Jason King. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press Academic (2020), 151-162.

“Gratuity, Embodiment, and Reciprocity: Christian Love and Justice in Light of Human Dependency,” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 41:2 (June 2013).

“Christian Love, Material Needs, and Dependent Care: A Feminist Critique of the Debate on Agape and ‘Special Relations,’” *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 29:2 (December 2009), 39-59.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Nichole M. Flores, *The Aesthetics of Solidarity: Our Lady of Guadalupe and American Democracy* (Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2021), *Journal of Law and Religion* 38:3 (September 2023).

Review of Rebecca Todd Peters, *Trust Women: A Progressive Christian Argument for Reproductive Justice* (Boston: Beacon Press, 2018), *Theology and Sexuality* (February 2023).

Review of Joshua Dubler and Vincent W. Lloyd, *Break Every Yoke: Religion, Justice, and the Abolition of Prisons* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2020), *Theological Studies* 82:4 (December 2021).

Review of Mara H. Benjamin, *The Obligated Self: Maternal Subjectivity and Jewish Thought* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2018), *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 87:4 (December 2019).

Review of Cristina Traina, *Erotic Attunement: Parenthood and the Ethics of Sensuality Between Unequals* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011), *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 33:2 (Spring/Summer 2014).

Review of Cristina Grenholm, *Motherhood and Love: Beyond the Gendered Stereotypes of Theology*, tr. Marie Taqvist (Grand Rapids/Cambridge, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co, 2011), *Journal of Religion* 93:1 (January 2013).

Review of Julie Hanlon Rubio, *Family Ethics: Practices for Christians* (Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2010), *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 31:2 (December 2011).

Review of Mary J. McDonough, *Can a Health Care Market Be Moral? A Catholic Vision* (Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2007), *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 29:2 (December 2009).

WRITINGS FOR A BROADER PUBLIC:

“On Teaching Walter Wink in an Introduction to Christian Ethics Course,” *Political Theology Network*, October 21, 2021. Available at <https://politicaltheology.com/on-teaching-walter-wink-in-an-introduction-to-christian-ethics-course/>

“Against Manufactured Truth: Fostering Respect for a Complex and Ambiguous Reality,” *Conversations in Jesuit Higher Education* Volume 52, Article 9 (2017). Available at <http://epublications.marquette.edu/conversations/vol52/iss1/9>

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

“Policing Abortion Debate: How Discourse About Abortion Polling Reinforces Conservative Christian Norms,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2023 (accepted).

“Religion, Reproductive Justice, and Democracy: Making the Connections in a Catholic University Classroom,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2022.

Panelist, “Re-Engaging the Powers: Reading Walter Wink’s Non-Violent Resistance During Russkiy Mir,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2022.

“Catholic Abortion Discourse and the Erosion of Democracy,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2022.

Panel member, “Dependence, Disability and Disvalue,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2020.

Panel member, “Maternal Experience as Resource and Challenge to Religious Ethics,” Society of Christian Ethics and Society of Jewish Ethics, January 2019.

“Epistemic Injustice in Education Policy Debates: Post-Katrina New Orleans as a Case Study,” Society of Christian Ethics, January 2017.

“The Christian, Economic Family,” Society of Christian Ethics, January 2015.

“Abilities, Limits, and Justice: Tensions and Synergies Between Feminist ‘Dependency-Based’ Approaches to Justice and Christian Theologies of Disability,” American Academy of Religion, November 2011.

“Categories versus Limits: Crafting a Theological Response to John Rawls on Justice for Persons with Disabilities,” McCormick International Ethics Colloquium, Loyola University Chicago, November 2011.

“Strong Agape and Basic Goods: The Integration of Justice and Charity in the Provision of Care,” Society of Christian Ethics, January 2011.

"Christian Love, Material Needs, and Dependent Care: A Feminist Critique of the Debate on Agape and 'Special Relations,'" Society of Christian Ethics, January 2009.

"Christian Love and Dependent Care: Feminist Political Theory as a Resource for Resolving the 'Problem' of 'Special Relations,'" American Academy of Religion, Midwest Regional Conference, April 2008.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Loyola University Chicago Theology Department Series, Feminist Ethicists Respond to Dobbs: "Abortion Policies and Politics: How Did We Get to Dobbs and What Comes Next?" November 2022.

Webinar Panelist, "Thinking Theologically About Reproductive and Economic Justice," Wendland-Cook Program in Religion and Justice at Vanderbilt Divinity School, October 2022 (Invited).

Loyola University Chicago Theology Department Series, Feminist Ethicists Respond to Dobbs: "The History of Abortion Law and Practice in the United States, or Correcting Sam Alito's Bad History," September 2022.

Loyola Women's Studies and Gender Studies Feminist Lecture Series, "Electing Grassroots Feminist Legislators: The Sister District Project," September 2020.

Presenter, "Civic Engagement in the Classroom," Loyola University Chicago workshop series on Anti-Racist Pedagogy, July 2020.

Faculty Panel Member for discussion of film by Martin Doblmeier, "Revolution of the Heart: The Dorothy Day Story," February 2020.

Breakfast with an Author – discussion of Sandra Sullivan-Dunbar, *Human Dependency and Christian Ethics* (Cambridge University Press, 2017), at Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics, January 2019.

Testimony before the Illinois General Assembly Committee on Revenue and Finance hearing on a progressive state income tax in Illinois, May 2018.

Faculty Panel Member of film by Martin Doblmeier, "American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story," April 2017.

"The Economics of Caregiving: Many Layers of Inequality," presentation to Hinsdale-Oak Brook branch of the American Association of University Women, September 2016.

"Love Mercy and Do Justice: Christian Love and Caregiving Relations," presentation as part of Adult Faith Enrichment Series at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Evanston, IL, February 2016.

“The Gospel of Creation.” Invited presentation as part of the symposium, *Laudato Si @ LUC*, Loyola University Chicago, September 2015.

"Giving Care, Receiving Care: Lessons for Christian Love and Justice." Invited presentation in the "Growing in Wisdom, Age, and Grace" series for the Sisters of Mercy at St. Xavier University, Chicago, Illinois, April 2014.

"Teaching Climate Change in the Core: Navigating Denial, Anxiety, and Agency." Invited presentation as part of a panel, *Ecology and Religion: Pedagogical Challenges and Opportunities*, as part of the Theology and Ecology Event Series, April 2014.

"Negotiating Critical Moments of Race and Gender in the Classroom: Muddling Through." Co-developed and co-facilitated this workshop at the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religious Studies, June 2013.

“Theology and the Church: The Challenges Ahead.” Invited presentation as part of a panel, “*Habemus Papam: Abdication, Conclave, and the Chair of St. Peter,*” sponsored by the Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage, Loyola University Chicago, February 2013.

“What Are ‘Christian Family Values’ Anyway?” Invited presentation at Loyola University Chicago Department of Theology Majors and Minors Event, October 2010.

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Loyola University Chicago Faculty Development Leave, Fall 2023.

Nominee, Transformative Education Award, Loyola University Chicago Student Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, 2018.

Cohort Member, Public Voices Greenhouse/The Op-Ed Project, Loyola University Chicago, 2018.

American Association of University Women Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, 2014-2015.

Nominee, Ignatius Loyola Award for Excellence in Teaching, Loyola University Chicago, 2014.

Participant, Workshop for Pre-Tenure Religion Faculty in Colleges and Universities, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religious Studies, 2012-2013.

Loyola University Chicago Summer Research Stipend, 2011.

The Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship, 2008-2009.

Martin Marty Center Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2007-2008.

Graduate Fellow, Collegium Summer Colloquy on Faith and Intellectual Life, 2007.

Jerald Brauer Seminar Fellowship, University of Chicago Divinity School, 2004.

Graduate Tuition and Stipend Fellowship, University of Chicago Divinity School, 2003-2007.

Member, Alpha Sigma Nu (Jesuit Honor Society), inducted 2002.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participant, Anti-Racist Pedagogy Series, Loyola University Chicago, Summer 2020

Online Teaching Courses: ITRS Boot Camp; Instructional Technologies Course; OTC Design; OTC Facilitate (all Summer 2020)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of Christian Ethics
American Academy of Religion

SERVICE TO LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

To the Theology Department:

Departmental Advisory Committee, Department of Theology (elected) (2010-2011; 2013-2014; 2015-2016; 2016-2017; 2017-2018; 2019-2020; 2020-2021; 2024-2025)
Chair, Ad-hoc Committee on Course and Department Promotion, August 2022 – June 2023.

Undergraduate Programs Committee Member, Department of Theology, July 2020-present.

Chair, Undergraduate Programs Committee, Department of Theology, July 2020 – June 2022

Member, Theology Department Ad hoc Committee on Anti-Racism, July 2020 – December 2021.

Teaching Mentor to Dannis Matteson (PhD Student), Fall 2019

Search Committee, Lecturers in Theology (2 lines), Spring 2019

Graduate Program Director, Department of Theology (July 2016 – June 2019)

Graduate Program Committee, Department of Theology (2010-2019)

Master of Arts Program Advisor, Department of Theology (2010-2016)

Panel Member, "What Can You Do with a Degree in Theology and Religious Studies?"
April 2014.

Presented to Graduate Caucus on how to begin publishing research, Fall 2013.

Panel member: How to Apply to Graduate School in Theology and Religious Studies, Fall 2013.

Participant, weekend retreat on formation in Loyola doctoral programs in Theology,
funded by Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religious
Studies, September 2011
Events and Arrangements Committee, Department of Theology (2009-2010)

To the University:

Core Working Group Committee Member, July – December 2021
Faculty Appeals Committee, July 2019-June 2021 (Chair, July 2020-June 2021).
Graduate Council Member, August 2016-July 2018.
Graduate Council Curriculum Committee Member, 2017-2018.
Search Committee, Director of the Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage, 2017.
Search Committee, Director of the Gannon Center for Women and Leadership, 2017-2018.

To the Profession:

Editorial Board, *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, January 2021- March 2024.
Session Convener, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, 2008, 2010-2020.
Peer Reviewer: *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics; Journal of Religious Ethics;*
Political Theology; Irish Theological Quarterly; Christian Scholars Review;
Teaching Theology and Religion.
Anonymous Peer Reviewer, Book Manuscript, Routledge Publishing
Anonymous Peer Reviewer, Book Proposal, Routledge Publishing
Anonymous Peer Reviewer, Book Proposal, University of Bristol Policy Press

To the Community:

Volunteer Leader, Sister District Greater Chicago, Sister District Project, 2017-present.

COURSES TAUGHT

THEO 185: Introduction to Christian Ethics
THEO 186: Introduction to Religious Ethics
THEO 203: Social Justice and Injustice
THEO 278: Religion and Gender
HONR 301: (Honors Capstone): Moral Responsibility: Perspectives on Justice
THEO 343: Contemporary Christian Sexuality
THEO 378: Religion and Reproductive Justice
THEO 378: Christianity and Political Activism
THEO 393: Roman Catholic Moral Theology
THEO 393: Christianity, Race, Prisons and Policing
THEO 478: Feminist Issues: Religion and Reproductive Justice
THEO 480: Graduate Seminar in Christian Ethics: Christianity, Race, Prisons & Policing
THEO 480: Graduate Seminar in Christian Ethics: Sexual Ethics
THEO 480: Graduate Seminar in Christian Ethics: Roman Catholic Moral Theology
THEO 480: Graduate Seminar in Christian Ethics: Christianity and Political Activism
THEO 480: Graduate Seminar in Christian Ethics: The Family and Social Justice
THEO 480: Graduate Seminar in Christian Ethics: Dependency, Agency, and Ethics

