

Robert Barlow

Department of Political Science
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EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, California
PhD. In Political Science (expected early 2016)
Primary field: Political Theory
Secondary fields: Comparative Politics, Political Institutions
Committee: Rob Reich (Chair), Josiah Ober, Alison McQueen

University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario
M.A. in Political Science (2007)

Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia
B.A. in Political Science (2006)

RESEARCH

Dissertation Abstract

Citizens around the world are constantly engaged in struggles for political reform, yet only a small portion of political theory is devoted to understanding how these efforts should be evaluated from a moral perspective. Instead of characterizing just or legitimate political outcomes, my dissertation focuses on the moral status of political action. It addresses a simple moral question that all political reformers face, and to which contemporary political theory offers few answers: what is to be done? The response I provide is grounded in liberal theory, and explains how reformers should integrate outcome-focused theories describing idealized political outcomes into political practice. In separate chapters, I consider how and to what extent pursuit of highly aspirational political ideals should figure in reformers' choice of political actions, what exactly it means to pursue justice through one's political actions, how we should evaluate the sufficiency of citizens' efforts to bring about political change, and how circumstances affect the duties we hold towards ourselves and others, including duties not to engage in coercion, intimidation, and violence.

Works In Progress

“Aspiration and Political Choice.” (available upon request)
“What Does it Mean to Promote Justice?”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Violence, Duty, and Liberal Political Reform.” American Political Science Association Conference, Washington, DC. August 29, 2014.

“Value Monism and its Consequences.” Association for Political Theory conference, Nashville, TN. October 11, 2013.

“Value Monism and its Consequences’.” American Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL. August 29, 2013.

Discussant for Hyunseop Kim’s “Rawls, Stability, and Climate Change.” Stanford Political Theory Workshop. May 3, 2013.

“Value Monism and its Consequences.” Western Political Science Association Conference, Hollywood, CA. March 28, 2013.

Accepted to present “Value Pluralism and the Limits of Political Exclusion.” American Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA. August 30, 2012. *Conference canceled due to Hurricane Sandy.*

Discussant for Sam Arnold’s “High Liberalism, Market Democracy, and Basic Liberty.” Stanford Political Theory Workshop. February 24, 2012.

“Pragmatic Deliberation: Legal Dispute Resolution and Deliberative Democratic Theory.” American Bar Association Section on Dispute Resolution, Spring Meeting. April 3, 2008.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Stanford Preparing Future Professors Program 2013-14

Stanford University Doctoral Fellowship 2007-12

SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarships Master’s Scholarship 2006-7

Valedictory Speaker, Simon Fraser University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences 2006

Rama Reddy Scholarship (Top Graduating GPA, Political Science Department) 2006

Pauline Jewett Scholarship (Top Third-Year GPA, Political Science Department) 2005

Simon Fraser University Open Scholarship 2004-06

TEACHING

Adjunct Professor (Contracted)

GLB 3XX: “Global Politics of Human Rights”, Hult International Business School, Winter 2016

PHL 211: “Contemporary Ethics”, Hult International Business School, Fall 2015, Winter 2016

CLNI 80: “Global Issues”, University of California Santa Cruz, Fall 2015

Adjunct Professor (Completed)

PHIL 211: “Contemporary Ethics”, Hult International Business School, Winter 2015

CLNI 80: “Global Issues”, University of California, Santa Cruz, Fall 2014

POLISCI 238: “Political Disagreement”, Stanford University, Spring 2013

Invited Lecture

“Rousseau’s Social Contract” at San Jose State University. POLS 160b: Modern Political Thought, Spring 2014 (Prof. Lawrence Quill)

Teaching Assistant

“Collective Action: Ethics and Policy”, Stanford University, Winter 2013 (Inst. Mark Budolfson)

“The Ethics and Politics of Public Service”, Stanford University, Winter 2009 (Prof. Rob Reich)

“Justice”, Stanford University, Fall 2008, 2009 (Prof. Joshua Cohen), Fall 2012 (Prof. Kristi Olson)
“Theories of Global Justice”, Spring 2009 (Inst. Avia Pasternak)
“Politics of International Human Rights”, Winter 2009 (Prof. Terry Karl)

Training

Preparing Future Professors Program, Stanford/San Jose State, Winter 2014

DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Instructor, Department of Political Science TA Training Seminar, Stanford, 2012

President, Stanford Political Science Graduate Students Association (PSGSA), 2009-10

Coordinator, Linda Randall Meyer Workshop on Global Justice, 2008-10

President, Political Science Student Union (PSSU), Simon Fraser University, 2005-6

REFERENCES

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Alison McQueen

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