

TAMARA METZ

Professor of Political Science and Humanities
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Contemporary political theory; history of western political thought; liberalism and its critics; feminist and critical theory; gender, marriage, family, care and neoliberalism.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2022 - present	Reed College Departments of Political Science and Humanities <i>Professor</i>
2011 - 2022	Reed College Departments of Political Science and Humanities <i>Associate Professor</i>
2006 - 2011	Reed College Departments of Political Science and Humanities <i>Assistant Professor</i>
July 2004 - July 2006	Harvard University Department of Political Science <i>Lecturer</i> Committee on Degrees in Social Studies <i>Lecturer; Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies</i>
July 2004 - June 2005	Harvard University Bok Center for Teaching and Learning <i>Postdoctoral Fellow</i>
Summer 1998	Humboldt State University <i>Visiting lecturer</i>

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

2021-2024	Reed College Office of the Dean of the Faculty <i>Associate Dean of the Faculty</i>
2018-2021	Reed College Center for Teaching and Learning <i>Director</i>

EDUCATION

2004	Harvard University Ph.D., Government
1992	Brandeis University B.A., Summa cum Laude

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2024-2025	Maure L. Goldschmidt Memorial Research Fellowship
2020-2022	NEH Summer Institute, Philosophical Perspectives on Care, Summer 2021. (\$168,877). Co-director, with Elizabeth Brake (Rice University).
2017, 2018, 2020	Social Justice Research and Education Fund Award
2014-2015	Maure L. Goldschmidt Memorial Research Fellowship
2008-2021	Faculty Development Awards, Reed College
2009+	Corbett Grant for Faculty-Student Collaborative Research, Reed College
2008-2009	Mellon Grant for Post Baccalaureate Support, Reed College
2008	Okin/Young Award, American Political Science Association
2004-2005	Cabot Post-Doctoral Fellow, Derek Bok Center for Teaching, Harvard University
2001-2002	Beard Graduate Fellow, Program in Ethics and the Professions, Harvard University
2001	Graduate Society Dissertation Grant, Harvard University
1997-2006	Derek Bok Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University
1995-1997	Judith Shklar Memorial Fellowship, Harvard University
1995	Program on Constitutional Government Enhancement Grant, Harvard University
1992	<i>Phi Beta Kappa</i> , Brandeis University

PUBLICATIONS (selected)

Books

Untying the Knot: Marriage, the State and the Case for Their Divorce. Princeton: Princeton University Press (2010).
Justice, Politics, and the Family, edited volume with Daniel Engster, Boulder, CO: Paradigm Press (July 2014).

Articles and Chapters

"Marriage," with Ophelia Vedder, *Oxford Handbook of the Philosophy of John Rawls*, (December 2025).
"Family and Marriage," *Oxford Handbook of Social Ontology*, in press.
"Family Matters," with Nancy J. Hirschmann, "A Different Freedom," *Boston Review*, Cambridge, MA (December 2023)
"Marriage and the Neoliberal Politics of Care," *Stating the Family: New Directions in American Politics*, Carol Nackenoff and Julie Novkov, eds., Lawrence: University of Kansas Press (2020).
"Marriage," *Encyclopedia of Political Thought*, Michael Gibbons, ed.. Hoboken, NJ: Blackwell-Wiley (October 2014).
"Demands of Care and Dilemmas of Freedom: What We Really Ought to be Worried About," *Politics and Gender*, 6 (2010): 120-128.
"Should States be in the Marriage Business at All?" *American Constitution Society Book Talk*, (April 29, 2010).
"The Future of Marriage and the State," *Marriage and Family: Complexities and Perspectives*, Elizabeth Peters, ed., New York: Columbia University Press (2009).
"The Liberal Case for Disestablishing Marriage." *Contemporary Political Theory*. 6 (2007): 196–217.
"Why We Should Disestablish Marriage," *Just Marriage*. Mary Lyndon Shanley. New Democracy Forum. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press (2004).

Book Reviews

"Review of Judith Butler, *The Force of Nonviolence*," *American Political Thought*, (Spring 2020).
"Review of Clare Chambers, *Against Marriage*," *Political Theory*, (May 2018).
"Symposium Comment on Stephen Macedo, *Just Married*," *Syndicate Philosophy*, (January 2018).
"Review of Stephen Macedo, *Just Married*," *Journal of Politics*, (May 2017).
"Review of Joan Tronto, *Caring Democracy*," *Contemporary Political Theory*, (2016).
"Perils of Marriage and Neoliberal Politics of Care," B.U. L. Rev. Annex (April 22, 2016).
"Review of Elizabeth Brake, *Minimal Marriage*," *Social Theory and Practice*, (January 2014).

“Review of Brian Duff, *Parent as Citizen*,” *Perspectives on Politics*, 10:2 (June 2012).

“Review of David Archard, *The Family: A Liberal Defence*.” *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, (August 2011).

“Review of Linda McClain, *The Place of Families*.” *Politics and Ethics Review*. 2 (1) (2006).

Commentary

“What’s Next? Disestablish Marriage!” In “What’s Next for the LGBT Movement?” *The Nation*. June 27, 2013.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Possessive Familialism and the Crisis of Democracy,” with Nancy J. Hirschmann, (R&R, due March 2026)

TALKS, PRESENTATIONS and CONFERENCES (selected)

- May 2024 **Caring Futures**
Paper: “Possessive Familialism: Lockean Roots of the Neoliberal Present,” co-authored with Nancy J. Hirschmann
- September 2022 **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**
Paper: “Possessive Familialism: Lockean Roots of the Neoliberal Present,” co-authored with Nancy J. Hirschmann
- August 2021 **International Social Ontology Society**
Keynote address: “Neoliberal Familialism and the Crisis of Democracy”
- August 2020 **Escuela de Ciencias Sociales y Gobierno, Tecnológico de Monterrey**
Talk: “The Social Contract Tradition in Contemporary Context”
- April 2019 **Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting**
Paper: “#MeToo and the Neoliberal Gender Politics”
- September 2018 **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**
Chair: #MeToo: What Kind of Politics?
Paper: “#MeToo and its Critics: A Case Study of Neoliberal Gender Politics”
- September 2017 **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**
Co-chair and participant, “The First 222 Days: Sex, Gender, Race, Class” Roundtable
- March 2017 **Association for Law and the Humanities Meeting**
Talk: “Marriage and the Neoliberal Politics of Care”
- March 2016 **Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting**
Paper: “*Obergefell v Hodges*, Marriage and the Neoliberal Politics of Care”
- October 2015 **Beyond Same Sex Marriage Conference, Arizona State University**
Invited paper: “*Obergefell v Hodges*: An Advance?”
Public panel discussant
- October 2015 **Association for Political Theory, CU Boulder**
Paper: “Citizen Cyclists: Are Bikes Good for Democratic Politics?”
- March 2015 **Lewis and Clark Gender Studies Symposium**
Paper: “‘Inclusive Capitalism’: Just How? A Feminist Analysis”
- March 2013 **European Conference on Politics and Gender**
Paper: “Demands of Care and the Dilemmas of Freedom”

September 2011 **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**

Paper: "Holding Up Half the Sky on a Second Shift?"

May 2011 **Philosophy Talk, National Public Radio**

Invited guest, <http://www.philosophytalk.org/pastShows/ShouldMarriageBeAbolished.html>

TEACHING

Liberalism and its Critics

Neoliberalism and its Critics

Sex, Gender and Political Theory

Illuminations: Politics in Dark Times

Introduction to (western) Political Thought

Ancient Mediterranean Humanities

What is Political Freedom?

American Constitutional Democracy

Marriage in Western Political and Legal Thought

COLLEGE SERVICE (selected)

Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on AI, 2026-

Chair, Political Science Department, 2019-2021, 2025-

Chair, Academic Success Committee, 2022-2024

Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Distribution Requirements, 2022-2024

Chair, Sex, Gender, and Sexuality Committee, 2018-2021

Member-Leader, (informal iteration) Sex, Gender, and Sexuality Consortium, 2010-2018

Member, Committee on Advancement and Tenure, 2016-2018

Chair, Humanities 110, 2015-2016

Member, Committee on Academic Policy and Planning, 2013-2014

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editor, *Contemporary Political Theory* (2025-)

Member, *APSA Council*, APSA (2020-2023)

Treasurer, *Foundations of Political Theory*, APSA, (2017-2020).

Member, *Distinguished Teaching Award Committee*, APSA (2017-2018)

Board member, *Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession*, APSA (2012-2014)

Chair, *Women's Caucus*, Western Political Science Association (2011-2012)

Host, 2010 Annual Meeting, *Association for Political Theory* (2009-2010)

External examiner for senior honors exams, *Swarthmore College* (2009, 2010, 2012, 2016)

Member, Chair and Discussant Committee, *Association for Political Theory* (2008-2009)

Co-Chair, *Feminist Theory Workshop*, Western Political Science Association (2007-2008)

Member, *Standing Committee for Women, Gender and Sexuality*, Harvard University (2004-2006)

Reviewer: National Endowment for the Humanities, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Blackwell Press, Harvard University Press, *Political Theory*, *Constellations*, *Hypatia*, *Ethics*, *American Political Science Review*, *Contemporary Political Theory*, *Polity*, *CRISP*, *Journal of Political Philosophy*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Studies*, *Social Theory and Practice*, *Res Publica*, *PS*, *American Political Thought*.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Political Science Association

Western Political Science Association

Association for Political Theory

The American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy