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

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

2021-2024	**Reed College** **Office of the Dean of the Faculty** *Associate Dean of the Faculty*
2018-2021	**Reed College** **Center for Teaching and Learning** *Director*

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	*Phi Beta Kappa*, 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

"Introduction for Special Issue 1, Politics and Post-Kantian Thought: Honoring Peter J. Steinberger," with Ophelia Vedder, *The Review of Politics* (forthcoming, Fall 2027).
"Possessive Familialism and the Crisis of Democracy in the US," with Nancy J. Hirschmann, *Perspectives on Politics,* (2026) https://doi.org/10.1017/S1537592726106318
"Family and Marriage," *Oxford Handbook of Social Ontology*, (October 2026).
"Marriage," with Ophelia Vedder, *Oxford Handbook of the Philosophy of John Rawls,* (December 2025).
"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.

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, CRISSP, 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