

STEPHEN KERSHAR

Department of Philosophy, Fenton Hall, State University of New York College at Fredonia,
Fredonia, NY 14063, (716) 673-3839 (o), (203) 530-6604 (h), stephen.kershna@fredonia.edu

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2006-Present **Professor, Department of Philosophy, SUNY College at Fredonia**
Seminars: Abortion, Autonomy, Distributive Justice, Property Rights, and The Good.
Classes: Metaphysics, Philosophy of Law, Philosophy of Criminal Law, Philosophy of Civil Law, Political Philosophy, Libertarianism, Ethics, Current Moral Issues, Philosophy of Language, Life and Death, and Introduction to Philosophy,
- 1999-2005 **Assistant /Associate Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, SUNY at Fredonia**
- 1997-1998 **Senior Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI**
Lecturer, Creighton University School of Medicine and College of Arts and Sciences, Omaha, NE
- 1992-1994 **Lawyer Affiliated with Bruckner Law Firm and Rembolt, Ludtke, Parker, and Berger, Lincoln, NE.**
Performed legal research and wrote motions and memorandum on corporate and personal-injury cases.
- 1990 **Summer Associate, Weil, Gotshal, and Manges, New York, NY.**
Performed legal research and wrote motions and memorandum on various corporate, litigation, and securities matters. Received employment offer.

EDUCATION

- 1991-1995 **University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Department of Philosophy, Lincoln, NE.**
Ph.D. Completed: Aug. 1995; M.A. Completed, Dec. 1992.
Dissertation Title: The Justification of Deserved Punishment.
Supervisor: Robert Audi
- 1988-1991 **University of Pennsylvania School of Law, Philadelphia, PA.**
J.D. cum laude, Completed: May 1991.
- 1984-1988 **Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.**
B.A. Psychology, Completed: May 1988.
Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi.
- 1986-1987 **Oxford University, Oxford, England.**
Studied Philosophy and Psychology.

AWARDS

- Robert W. Kasling Award** (an award given each year to a single faculty member for excellence in research) 2008
- William T. Hagan Award** (an award given each year to a single faculty member below the Professor level for excellence in research) 2003
- Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching** (an award given each year to a single faculty member for excellence in teaching) 2001-2002

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Desert and Virtue: A Theory of Intrinsic Value (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2010)

Sex, Discrimination, and Violence (Lanham, MD: University Press, 2009)

Justice for the Past (Albany, NY: SUNY-Press, 2004).

Desert, Retribution, and Torture (Lanham, MD: University Press, 2001).

Articles

“The Forfeiture Theory of Punishment: Surviving Boonin’s Objections,” *Public Affairs Quarterly*, forthcoming

“The Complex Experiential Theory of Pleasure,” *Journal of Value Inquiry*, forthcoming

“Libertarian Arguments for Anarchism,” *Reason Papers*, forthcoming

“Some Difficult Intuitions for the Principle of Universality,” *Utilitas* 21 (2009): 478-488

“The Time of Intrinsic Value,” *Journal of Value Inquiry* 42 (2008): 317-329

“Desert Tracks Character Alone,” *The International Journal of Applied Philosophy* 22 (2008): 71-81

“Rape Fantasies and Virtue,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 22 (2008): 253-268

“Solving the MVP Problem,” *Journal of Social Philosophy* 39 (2008): 141-159

“A Unified Theory of Intrinsic Value,” *Reason Papers* 29 (2007): 19-40

“For Discrimination Against Women,” *Law and Philosophy* 26 (2007): 589-625

“Race as a Factor in University Admissions,” *Law and Philosophy* 5 (2007): 437-463

“Hurka’s Theory of Virtue,” *Philosophia* 34 (2006): 159-168

“The Trilemma of Desert,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 20 (2006): 219-233

“For Interrogational Torture,” *International Journal of Applied Philosophy* 19 (2005): 223-241

“The Injustice of Hell,” *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 58 (2005): 103-123

“Assassination and the Immunity Theory,” *Philosophia* 33 (2005): 129-147

“The Moral Status of Sexual Fantasies,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 19 (2005): 301-315

“Moral Responsibility in a Maximally Great Being,” *Philo* 7 (2004): 97-113

“Explaining the Geometry of Desert,” (co-authored with Neil Feit) *Public Affairs Quarterly* 18 (2004): 337-362

“Giving Capitalists Their Due,” *Economics and Philosophy* 21 (2005): 65-87

STEPHEN KERSHNAR

3

- “The Moral Argument for a Policy of Assassination,” *Reason Papers* 27 (2004): 45-67
- “Why Equal Opportunity is Not a Valuable Goal,” *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 21 (2004): 159-172
- “Is Violation Pornography Bad for Your Soul?” *Journal of Social Philosophy* 35 (2004): 349-366
- “Respect for Persons and the Harsh Punishment of Criminals,” *International Journal of Applied Philosophy* 18 (2004): 103-121
- “A Liberal Case for Slavery,” *Journal of Social Philosophy* 34 (2003): 510-536
- “Reparations for Slavery and Justice,” *University of Memphis Law Review* 33 (2003): 278-306
- “The Duty to Hire the Most Qualified Applicant,” *Journal of Social Philosophy* 34 (2003): 267-284
- “Experiential Diversity and Grutter,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 17 (2003): 159-170
- “Private Property Rights and Autonomy,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 16 (2002): 231-258
- “The Structure of Rights Forfeiture in the Context of Culpable Wrongdoing,” *Philosophia*, 29 (2002): 57-88
- “The Inheritance-Based Claim to Reparations,” *Legal Theory* 8 (2002): 243-267
- “Immigrants and Welfare,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 16 (2002): 39-61
- “The Case Against Reparations,” *Philosophy in the Contemporary World* vol. 8 no. 1 (2001); reprinted in Ronald Salzberger and Mark Turck, *Reparations for Slavery: A Reader* (Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2004), 151-161
- “The Most Valuable Player,” (co-authored with Neil Feit) *The Journal of the Philosophy of Sport* 28 (2001): 196-210
- “The Moral Status of Adult-Child Sex,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 15 (2001): 111-132
- “Mercy, Retributivism, and Harsh Punishment,” *International Journal of Applied Philosophy* 14 (2000): 209-224
- “Reflexive Retributive Duties,” *Jahrbuch fur Recht und Ethik* 8 (2000): 1-14
- “Mercy and Harsh Punishment,” *Aristoi* 2 (2000): 25-28
- “Intrinsic Moral Value and Racial Differences,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 14 (2000): 205-224
- “A Defense of Retributivism,” *International Journal of Applied Philosophy* 14 (2000): 97-117
- “There is No Right to Immigrate to the United States,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 14 (2000): 141-158
- “Objections to the Systematic Imposition of Punitive Torture,” *The International Journal of Applied Philosophy*, 13 (1999): 47-56
- “Uncertain Damages to Racial Minorities and Strong Affirmative Action,” *Public Affairs Quarterly* 13 (1999): 83-98
- “Strong Affirmative Action Programs and Disproportionate Burdens,” *The Journal of Value Inquiry* 33 (1999): 201-209
- “Are the Descendants of Slaves Owed Compensation for Slavery?,” *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, 16

STEPHEN KERSHNAR

4

(1999): 95-101

"An Argument for Punitive Torture," *Hamline Journal of Law and Public Policy* 19 (1998): 497-528

"Strong Affirmative Action Programs at State Educational Institutions Cannot Be Justified Via Compensatory Justice," *Public Affairs Quarterly* 11 (1997): 345-364

"The Basis of Deserved Punishment is a Culpable Wrongdoing," *Jahrbuch fur Recht und Ethik* 5 (1997): 1-20

"George Sher's Theory of Deserved Punishment and the Victimized Wrongdoer," *Social Theory and Practice* 23 (1997): 75-91

"The Justification of Deserved Punishment via General Moral Principles," *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* 33 (1995): 461-484

"Kant on Freedom and the Appropriate Punishment," *Jahrbuch fur Recht und Ethik* 3 (1995): 309-326

Book Chapters

"Paedophilia," in Ruth Chadwick, ed., *Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics* (2010), *forthcoming*

"Punishment and Torture," in Jesper Ryberg, ed., *New Perspectives on the Ethics of Punishment* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), *forthcoming*

"Exploitation: It doesn't exist and wouldn't be wrong if it did," in Paul Omoyefa, ed., *Basic Applied Ethics: A Multidisciplinary Approach* (2009), *forthcoming*

"The Olympics and Steroids," in Michael Austin, ed., *The Olympics and Philosophy* (University of Kentucky Press, 2009), *forthcoming*

"The Right to Assassination," in Robert McGee, ed., *When is Assassination Justified?* *Forthcoming*

"Hell and Punishment," in Joel Buenting, ed., *The Problem of Hell: A Philosophical Anthology* (Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2010), 115-132

"Valuing Football Players," in Michael Austin, ed., *Football and Philosophy: Going Deep* (University of Kentucky Press, 2008), 141-153

"Batman and Hatred," in Mark White, ed., *Batman and Philosophy* (New York: Blackwell, 2008), 28-37

"Clinton Impeachment" Roger Chapman, ed., *Encyclopedia of the Culture Wars* (M.E. Sharpe, 2008)

"Pornography, Health, and Virtue," in Raja Halwani, ed., *Sex and Ethics* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2007), 202-214

"Fantasy," in Alan Soble, ed., *Philosophy of Sex* Vol. 1 (Westport: Greenwood Press, 2006), 304-308

Book Reviews

David Boonin, *The Problem of Punishment*, *Law and Philosophy* (2009), *forthcoming*

Alan Wertheimer, *Consent to Sexual Relations* (2003) in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, <http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=1381>

Carl Cohen and James Sterba, *Affirmative Action and Racial Preference* (2003) in *Notre Dame*

Philosophical Reviews, <http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=1456>

PRESENTATIONS

“The Nature of Torture,” 37th Conference on Value Inquiry, Carbondale, Illinois, *scheduled for* April 16, 2010.

“Torture and Side-Constraints,” International Society for Military Ethics, San Diego, California, January 28, 2010.

“Private Property and the Foundation of Libertarianism,” Campaign for Liberty, Rochester, New York, June 3, 2009.

“A Tale of Two Theories: Restitution and Forfeiture,” The Problem of Punishment Forum, Boulder, Colorado, April 4, 2009

“Fair Prices and Exploitation,” The American Association for the Philosophical Study of Society at the Eastern Division American Philosophical Association, Philadelphia, December 28, 2008

“Statistical Discrimination,” State University of New York at Geneseo, October 17, 2008

“Counterintuitive Morality,” Thirty-Fourth Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecture, September 18, 2008

“Kantianism and Torture,” Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania Regional Meeting, American Catholic Philosophical Association, April 19, 2008

“Can Christians be Pro-Life?” Eastern Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, April 18, 2008

“Valuing People: How to Value Centerfielders and Surgeons,” 35th Conference on Value Inquiry, Ewing, New Jersey, April 5, 2008

“Virtue and Sexual Fantasies,” 34th Conference on Value Inquiry, Adrian, Michigan, Saturday, April 14, 2007

“Do Profits Measure a Firm’s Contribution to Making the World a Better Place?” 33rd Conference on Value Inquiry, Rockville Centre, NY, April 7, 2006

“The Experiential-Diversity Argument for Race-Sensitive Admissions,” Maxwell School of Syracuse University, March 7, 2006

“The Moral Status of Interrogational Torture,” Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, Jacksonville, Florida, March 3, 2006

“The Nature of a Threat,” Joint [Military] Services Conference on Professional Ethics, Springfield, Virginia, January 27, 2006

“Libertarianism and Ultimate Responsibility,” Western New York-Western Pennsylvania Regional Meeting, American Catholic Association, Buffalo, New York, April 16, 2005

“Abortion and Trespass,” Public Debate (with Dale Tuggy) sponsored by the SUNY-Fredonia Students for Life, March 17, 2005

“Can Persons Deserve Hell?” Western New York-Western Pennsylvania Regional Meeting, American Catholic Association, Buffalo, New York, April 13, 2004

“For Evil,” Public Debate (with Dale Tuggy) sponsored by the First United Methodist Church, April 4,

STEPHEN KERSHNAR

6

2004

“Divine Moral Responsibility,” Society of Christian Philosophers, Asbury, Kentucky, December 5, 2003

“Experiential Diversity and Truth,” American Society for Value Inquiry meeting at the Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 24, 2003

“The Moral Case for a Policy of Assassination,” Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 24, 2003

“Is God Morally Responsible?” Western New York-Western Pennsylvania Regional Meeting, American Catholic Association, Buffalo, New York, April 12, 2003

“Is Judaism Valuable?” The Jewish Student Union, Fredonia, New York, April 15, 2003

“Is It Okay to Enjoy Violation Pornography?” Women and Pornography Discussion Panel sponsored by the Fredonia Women’s Studies Department, March 10, 2003

“The Greatest Possible Being and the Case for Atheism,” Public Debate (with Dale Tuggy) sponsored by the SUNY-Fredonia Student Philosophy Society, October 16, 2002

“Just War Theory and Assassination,” West Point Philosophy Society, September 10, 2002

“The Moral Status of the Death Penalty,” Amnesty International, Fredonia, New York, April 4, 2002

“The Inheritance-Based Claim to Reparations,” Conference on Reparations for Slavery, Memphis, Tennessee, March 15-16, 2002

“Intrinsic Moral Value and the Criminal Justice System,” Thinking About Prisons: Theory and Practice conference, Cortland, New York, October 26, 2001

“The Case Against Reparations,” Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 2001

“The Liberal Case for Slavery” 29th Conference on Value Inquiry, Tulsa, Oklahoma, April 25, 2001

“War and the Immunity Thesis” West Point Philosophy Society, November 28, 2000

“Objections to the Systematic Imposition of Punitive Torture,” Tri-State Philosophical Association Fall 1999 Meeting

“Are the Descendants of Slaves Owed Compensation for Slavery?” Tri-State Philosophical Association, Pennsylvania, Spring 1999 Meeting

"Torture and Punishment," Presentation to the Wayne State University Faculty, February 1998

"An Appraisal of the Argument for Punitive Torture," Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 1998

"George Sher's Justification of Strong Affirmative Action Programs, State Educational Institutions, and the Claims of the White Male," Presentation to the Wayne State University Faculty, February 27, 1997

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association, New York and Nebraska State Bar Associations,
American Bar Association