

**Meaghan O'Keefe**

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**Current Position:** Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, UC Davis

### **Education**

Ph.D. in Rhetoric, Carnegie Mellon University, 2012

M.A. in English/Rhetoric, Carnegie Mellon University, 2005

B.A. in English with Honors, University of Maryland - College Park, 2002

### **Research**

My main area of concentration is moral discourse in contemporary American political debate, especially the complex interactions between and among law, healthcare policy, gender, and religious communities in the United States.

### **Teaching**

I am the instructor of record for classes focused on the interactions between religious communities and the health and life sciences, and have served as a consultant for faculty in the sciences on how to responsibly introduce controversial issues in scientific research. I am also currently developing an interdisciplinary undergraduate program in Medical Humanities at UC Davis.

### **Peer-reviewed Publications**

#### Single Author Publications

O'Keefe, M. (2015) "Borrowed Authority: The American Catholic Bishops' Argument by Citation." *Written Communication*. 32 (2), 150-173

O'Keefe, M. (2013) "Sainthood as Rebuke: The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Strategic Canonization of Dorothy Day." *Journal of Contemporary Rhetoric*. 3(1):1-16.

O'Keefe, M. (2008). "Rhetorical Figures in English Composition for Arabic Speakers." *ITL International Journal of Applied Linguistics*, (156), 237-238.

#### Co-Authored Publications

Perrault, Sarah and Meaghan O'Keefe. "Journeys as Shared Human Experiences." *The American Journal of Bioethics* 16.10 (2016): 13-15.

O'Keefe, Meaghan, Sarah Perrault, Jodi Halpern, Lisa Ikemoto, Mark Yarborough & UC North Bioethics Collaboratory for Life & Health Sciences. "'Editing' Genes: A Case Study About How Language Matters in Bioethics." *The American Journal of Bioethics* 15.12 (2015): 3-10.

### **Book Reviews**

"Gaymon Bennett, *Technicians of human dignity: bodies, souls, and the making of intrinsic worth*." Review. *American Journal of Bioethics*. (2016). 1.

Robert A. Yelle, *The semiotics of religion: Signs of the sacred in history*." Review. *Language in Society* 43.02 (2014): 245-248.

## Manuscript Reviewer

2017 *Genetics and Medicine*  
2016-7 *Journal of General Internal Medicine*  
2016 *Journal of Medical Humanities*  
2015 *Written Communication*

## Public Service and Outreach

2017 University of California Davis Hospital Ethics Committee. Advisory Member  
2017 The California End of Life Option Act Task Force. Steering Committee Member  
2015 “End of Life Option Act Response Conference.” Group facilitator. San Francisco, December 12th.

## Affiliations

Genomics/Bioethics/Policy Supergroup  
UC North Bioethics Collaboratory  
American Society for Bioethics and Humanities  
UC Davis Bioethics Academy  
Affiliated Faculty, UC Davis Jewish Studies Program  
Affiliated Faculty, UC Davis Graduate Group in the Study of Religion  
Affiliated Faculty, Women and Gender Studies

## **Research Support**

### Current Research Support

2016-7 Feminist Research Institute Seed Grant, \$5000 (shared with Ranal Jaleel, Lisa Ikemoto, and Sarah Perrault) “Developing and Democratizing Feminist Frameworks for the Ethics of Genome Modification through Digital Humanities.”

### Completed Research Support

2015-16 The University of California North Bioethics Collaboratory. Funded by a Multi-Campus Research Program grant from the University of California Office of the President. As a Collaboratory member, I was awarded **summer salary in 2015 and 2016.**

## **Selected Public Presentations**

“Genomic Technologies and American Evangelical Women.” International Meeting on Law and Society, Mexico City, Mexico, June 2017.

“CRISPR Dreams and Women's Bodies: Ethics, Theology, and Public Opinion About Human Germline Modification Through Assisted Reproduction.” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Conference, Washington, DC, October 2016.