

Joseph S. Pettit

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Education

Ph.D.	University of Chicago	1998 (Religious Ethics)
M.A.	University of Chicago	1992 (Divinity)
B.A.	Georgetown University	1989 (Theology)

Professional Academic Positions

- Associate Professor, Morgan State University, 2009 to present
- Acting Department Chair, August 2010 to June 2011
- Assistant Professor, Morgan State University, 2004 -- 2009
- Adjunct Assistant Professor, Dominican University, Summer 2004
- Visiting Assistant Professor, DePaul University, 2002 – 2004 (full-time)
- Adjunct Instructor, DePaul University, Autumn 1999
- Adjunct Instructor, Illinois Wesleyan University, Spring 1999
- Adjunct Instructor, Indiana University Northwest, Autumn 1998
- Adjunct Instructor, DePaul University, Winter and Spring, 1997

Additional Professional Experience

- **Director of Education and Outreach**, Protestants for the Common Good (October, 1999 – June, 2002)
Protestants for the Common Good is a faith-based advocacy and education non-profit organization located in Chicago, IL. During my three years at PCG, I led more than 150 presentations at congregations, including adult education and preaching, organized and led retreats with ministers, and **wrote grant proposals that raised more than \$500,000**. I also led the creation of *Interfaith Open Communities*, which brought Protestants, Catholics, Jews, and Muslims together to promote affordable housing advocacy and education in metropolitan Chicago.
- Conference Organizer and Speaker: “Challenges Facing Young African American Men, Their Families and Their Communities: The Role of Policy, Culture, and Faith” November 17, 2006, co-sponsored by the Religion, Public Policy, and Political Change Consultation, The Urban Institute, and the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.
- Co-Chair, Religion Public Policy and Political Change Consultation of the American Academy of Religion (2005-2008).

Publications

Papers in refereed journals

- “A Defense of Unbounded (But Not Unlimited) Economic Growth: The Ethics of Creating Wealth and Reducing Poverty,” *The Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, 30.1 (2010): 183-204.
- “The Spoil of the Poor is in Your Houses: Profits and Prophets in a Disrupted Society,” *The Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, 27.1 (2007): 33-55.
- “Five Rules for Teaching Social Justice,” *Political Theology*, 7.4 (2006): 475-489.
- “The Persistence of Injustice: Challenging Some Dominant Explanations,” *The Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, 25.1 (2005): 197-218.
- “Religious Freedom and Islamic Identity: A View from Three Books,” *Journal of Islamic Law and Culture*, 8.1 (2003): 199-211.
- “Toward a Reformed Pragmatism,” *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy*, 17.2 (1996): 167-183.

Non-academic publications

- “The External Causes of Inequality,” *Baltimore Sun* Op-Ed, September 1, 2016.
- “Racial Justice: Easy to Understand, But Very Difficult to Achieve,” *Political Theology Today*, July 12, 2016
- “11 Easy Mistakes to Make when Thinking about Racial Inequality in the U.S.” *Sojourners* (sojo.net), November 12, 2015.
- “Achievement Gap: It’s Still About Race” *Baltimore Sun* Op-Ed, Feb. 22, 2012
- “The N-Word Isn’t The Issue,” *Baltimore Sun* Op-Ed, March 8, 2010
- “Why We Still Need Black Colleges,” *Baltimore Sun* Op-Ed, January 21, 2008
- “Bonobo Business,” *Commonweal*, December 23, 2007, pp. 23-25
- “Free At Last?” *Commonweal*, November 23, 2007, pp. 8-9
- “Why Do Americans Work?” *Baltimore Sun* Op-Ed, Sept. 3, 2007, p.7A
- “Can We Talk About Race? A Few Rules of Engagement,” *Baltimore Sun* Op-Ed, August 1, 2006, p.11A
- “Government Should Assign Equal Value To All Human Life,” *Baltimore Sun* Op-Ed, December 25, 2005, p.30A
- “Personal Problems, Political Solutions,” *Baltimore Sun* Op-Ed, September 22, 2005, p.19A

Book Reviews

- James W. Skillen, *In Pursuit of Justice: Christian – Democratic Explorations*, reviewed in *The Journal of Religion*, 87.1 (2007): 131-133
- Jeffrey Stout, *Democracy and Tradition*, reviewed in *The Journal of Religion*, 86.1 (2006): 135-136
- John B. Cobb, Jr., *Postmodernism and Public Policy: Reframing Religion, Culture, Education, Sexuality, Class, Race, Politics, and the Economy*, reviewed in *The Journal of Religion*, 84.2: 299-300
- Robert S. Corrington, *Nature’s Religion*, reviewed in *The Journal of Religion*, 80.1 (2000): 149-151

- Roger Trigg, *Rationality and Religion: Does Faith Need Reason?* reviewed in *The Journal of Religion*, 79.4 (1999): 684-685
- Douglas Ottati, *Reforming Protestantism: Christian Commitment in Today's World*, reviewed in *The Journal of Religion*, 78.2 (1998): 277-279

Papers and Presentations

- “Racial Stigma and the Creation of a Democracy that Never Was: A Pragmatic Critique of Eddie Glaude’s *Democracy in Black*,” presented at the 2016 annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion.
- “The Right Not to be Stigmatized: A New Kind of Right,” *HBCUs & Philosophy III: Imagining Social Justice in Urban Environments*, Morgan State University, April 2, 2016.
- “Confronting the Persistence of White Supremacy in U.S. Law and Policy and Transforming a Democracy that Never Was,” presented at the 2015 annual meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics.
- “Divine Action in an N-Dimensional Multiverse,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, Nov. 19, 2012.
- “God and Reason: Why Theism is More Rational than Atheism or Agnosticism,” presented at Morgan State University Philosophy Colloquium, Nov. 29, 2011.
- “A Just Economic Order: Evolutionary Economics and Biblical History as Guides for a Way Out of Current Economic Disruptions,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Francisco, Nov. 22, 2011.
- “A Better Economy: The Ethics of Creating Wealth and Reducing Poverty,” presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics
- “The Rise of Human Capital: Three Lessons for Ethics,” presented at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Christian Ethics, Oxford University.
- “Interfaith Open Communities: Faith-Based Affordable Housing Advocacy in Metropolitan Chicago,” presented at the November 2006 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion.
- “The Costs of Neighborhood Exclusion,” panel presentation at “Challenges Facing Young African American Men, Their Families, and Their Communities,” Washington, D.C., November 17, 2006.
- “The Evolution of Global Capitalism: An Interdisciplinary Study of the Common Good,” presented at the joint conference of Societas Ethica – the European Society for Research in Ethics, and the British Society of Christian Ethics, Oxford University, August, 2006.
- “The Spoil of the Poor is in Your Houses: Profits and Prophets in a Disrupted Society,” presented at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics.
- “The Dignity of Politics: Religion, Philosophy, and the Consent of the Governed,” presented at the November 2005 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion.
- “Five Rules for Teaching Social Justice,” presented at the November 2004 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion.
- “Inevitable Injustice: Challenging Some Dominant Explanations,” presented at the January 2004 Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics.

- “Religion, Inequality, and the Common Good: Why Democracy Needs Religion,” presented at the November 2003 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion.
- “Housing and Hospitality: An Intersection of Theology and Social Crisis,” was scheduled to be presented at the 2001 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion but was canceled due to illness.
- “Pragmatism, Democracy, and the Divine Good,” American Academy of Religion, Nov., 1999.
- “Transcendental Ethics and the Pragmatism of Franklin Gamwell,” Society of Christian Ethics, January, 1999.
- “Pragmatism and Theism: A Question of Ethics,” American Academy of Religion, Nov., 1995.
- “Metaphysics and Subjectivity: A Critique of the Dominant Consensus in Ethical Theory,” American Academy of Religion, November, 1992.