

**BRENDAN DE KENESSEY**  
(Formerly Brendan Dill)

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**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Ethics, Moral Psychology

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE**

Meta-Ethics, Political Philosophy, Cognitive Science

**EMPLOYMENT**

Assistant Professor, University of Toronto, Department of Philosophy	2018 - present
Postdoctoral Fellow-in-Residence, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University	2017-2018

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in Philosophy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Dissertation: <i>Joint Practical Deliberation</i> Committee: Kieran Setiya (chair), Stephen Darwall, Sally Haslanger, Julia Markovits, Bradford Skow	2011-2017
B.A. in Cognitive Science, <i>summa cum laude</i> , Yale University	2006-2011

**PUBLISHED ARTICLES**

“Promises as Proposals in Joint Practical Deliberation” <i>Noûs</i> , 54(1): pp. 204-232.	2020
“Moral Psychology as Accountability” (with Stephen Darwall) In <i>Moral Psychology and Human Agency: Philosophical Essays on the Science of Ethics</i> , edited by Justin D’Arms and Daniel Jacobson, pp. 40-83. Oxford: Oxford University Press.	2014
“The Addict in Us All” (with Richard Holton) <i>Frontiers in Psychiatry</i> , 5(139): pp. 1-20.	2014

“No Sign of Quitting: Incidental Exposure to ‘No Smoking’ Signs Ironically Boosts Cigarette-Approach Tendencies in Smokers” (with Brian Earp, Jennifer Harris, Joshua Ackerman, & John Bargh) 2013  
*Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 43(10): pp. 2158-2162.

**BOOK REVIEWS**

Review of *Moral Thinking, Fast and Slow*, by Hanno Sauer 2019  
*Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, May 2019.  
 Review of *Reasoning: A Social Picture*, by Anthony Simon Laden 2016  
*Philosophical Review*, 125(3): pp. 435-439.

**WRITING FOR A PUBLIC AUDIENCE**

“People are dying because we misunderstand how those with addiction think” 2018  
*Vox.com*  
 One of 5 winners of the 2019 APA Public Philosophy Op-Ed Contest  
 “Can I make the world a better place?” 2017  
*Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics Blog, ‘For the Record’*

**AWARDS AND GRANTS**

APA Public Philosophy Op-Ed Prize (for “People are dying because we misunderstand how those with addiction think”) 2019  
 Connaught New Researcher Award, University of Toronto 2018-2019  
 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship 2016-2017  
 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (declined) 2016  
 Arthur Twining Hadley Prize, Yale University 2011  
 Yale Philosophy Review Essay Prize, 1<sup>st</sup> Place 2010  
 Hart Lyman Prize, Yale University 2009  
 Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology, Yale University Chapter 2009  
 Phi Beta Kappa, Yale University Chapter 2008

**PRESENTATIONS**

Comments on Benjamin Eidelson, “Colorblindness, Respect, and Treating People as Individuals” 2019  
 Symposium on Discrimination and Subordination, University of Toronto  
 “What Makes Reasons Moral?” 2019  
 Queen’s University Colloquium

“What Makes Reasons Moral?” Oxford University, Moral Philosophy Seminar	2019
“Distinguishing Directed Obligation” Toronto-Oxford-UCLA Colloquium on Legal, Moral, and Political Philosophy	2019
Comments on Pamela Hieronymi, “Fairness, Sanctions, and Condemnation” Toronto-Oxford-UCLA Colloquium on Legal, Moral, and Political Philosophy	2019
Comments on Michael Bukoski, “Two Arguments from Akrasia to Internalism about Practical Deliberation” APA Eastern Division Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland	2017
“Assertion as a Proposal in Joint Doxastic Deliberation” Penn-Rutgers-Princeton Social Epistemology Workshop, Rutgers University	2016
“Homunculi Without the Fallacy” Me, the Self, and I Graduate Conference, University of Milan, Italy	2016
“Demystifying Uncaused Causes” Agency, Causality, and Free Will Conference, Institute of Philosophy, Zagreb, Croatia	2016
“Standing to Demand” Northern Illinois University Graduate Philosophy Conference	2015
“Self-Regulation: A Recipe Book” (with and presented by Tamar Szabó Gendler) Society for Philosophy and Psychology Conference, Duke University	2015
“Inquiring Together” Bled Social Epistemology Conference, Bled, Slovenia	2013
Comments on Rae Langton, “Moral Realism and the Plasticity of Mind” MITing of the Minds, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2013

## TEACHING

### *University of Toronto*

PHL 407, Seminar: Ethics in Personal Relationships	Spring 2020
PHL 375, Doing Good: Consequentialism in Ethics	Spring 2020
PHL 244, Human Nature	Fall 2019
PHL 2132, Graduate Seminar: Morality and Accountability	Fall 2019
PHL 407, Seminar: Lying	Spring 2019
PHL 376, Doing Good: Consequentialism in Ethics	Spring 2019
PHL 244, Human Nature	Fall 2018

PHL 1111, PhD Proseminar (with Thomas Hurka) Fall 2018

*MIT*

Ethics in Your Life (with Sally Haslanger and Patricia Weinmann) Spring 2015  
Problems in Philosophy (TA) Fall 2014  
Moral Psychology (TA) Spring 2014  
Justice (TA) Spring 2013  
Logic I (TA) Fall 2012

**SERVICE**

Referee for *Erkenntnis*, *Ergo*, European Journal of Philosophy, Journal of the APA, *Noûs*,  
Philosophical Studies, Philosophical Quarterly, and Theoria  
Placement Committee, University of Toronto Philosophy 2019-2020  
Graduate Executive Committee, University of Toronto Philosophy 2019-2020  
Graduate Admissions Committee, University of Toronto Philosophy 2018-2019  
University of Toronto Cognitive Science Program Advisory Committee 2018-2019  
New England Public Philosophers Workshop on Writing Public Philosophy, 2017  
Co-organizer (with Lawrence Blum)  
MIT Ethics Reading Group, Co-organizer 2013-2015  
MATTI Graduate Student Workshop, Organizer 2013-2014  
MIT Philosophy Colloquia, Co-organizer 2012-2013  
Harvard-MIT Graduate Philosophy Conference, Co-organizer 2012

**PUBLIC OUTREACH**

“The Goodness and Badness of Human Beings” 2019  
Interview on podcast “The nth Dimension”  
“Addiction and Philosophy” 2019  
Café Bioethics, University of Toronto  
“Addiction and Philosophy” 2018  
SMART Recovery Facilitator Forum, Boston, MA