

March 2018

# ND Philosophy

## Philosopher in Print

This month's "Philosopher in Print" is grad student, Will Smith. His piece titled "Legitimacy in bioethics: challenging the orthodoxy" is available in the February issue of the *Journal of Medical Ethics*.



### Abstract:

Several prominent writers including Norman Daniels, James Sabin, Amy Gutmann, Dennis Thompson and Leonard Fleck advance a view of legitimacy according to which, roughly, policies are legitimate if and only if they result from democratic deliberation, which employs only public reasons that are publicised to stakeholders. Yet, the process described by this view contrasts with the actual processes involved in creating the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and in attempting to pass the Health Securities Act (HSA). Since the ACA seems to be legitimate, as the HSA would have been had it passed, they seem to be counterexamples to this view. In this essay, I clarify the concept of legitimacy as employed in bioethics discourse. Finally, I use that clarification to develop these examples into a criticism of the orthodox view—that it implies that legitimacy requires counterintuitively large sacrifices of justice in cases where important advancement of healthcare rights depends on violations of publicity. I then reply to three responses to this challenge: (1) that some revision to the orthodox view salvages its core commitments, (2) that its views of publicity and substantive considerations do not have the implications that I claim and (3) that arguments for it are strong enough to support even counterintuitive results. My arguments suggest a greater role for substantive considerations than the orthodox view allows.

[Link to paper found here](#)

## Get to know our Philosophers!

[Curtis Franks]

1. What's your favorite movie? *Exact tie between "Midnight Cowboy" and "Urgh: A Music War." Take this with a grain of salt, though, because the most recent thing I saw was, like, "The Eyes of Tammy Faye," and Herzog has made a dozen films since then.*
2. What was your first ever job? *My first legal job, with a W4 and all that, was as an usher and projectionist (non union) at the Capri 4 Cimenas in Florence, Alabama.*
3. What are you currently reading for fun? *Dhalgren, but I might give up (again)*
4. Where is your happy place? *Kasho beis midrash in Monsey, New York*
5. What's one thing that's on your bucket list? *I outsource my bucket list. You too can contribute!*

## Inside this Issue

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## March

- 01 Metaphysics Reading Group Guest**  
Paul Henne (Duke)  
"Denorming Omissive Causation"  
10-12 pm  
131 Decio Hall
- 02 Lunchtime Talk: Paul Henne (Duke)**  
"An Explanation of the Omission Effect"  
12-1 pm  
220 Malloy Hall
- Shut Up and Write**  
1:45-2:15 pm  
220 Malloy Hall
- Pre-Reception**  
2:15-3 pm  
119 Malloy Hall (Philo Lounge)
- Colloquium: Luvell Anderson (Memphis)**  
"Understanding Racial Realities."  
3-5 pm  
138 DeBartolo Hall
- Reception**  
5-6 pm  
Philosophy Library/Lounge
- 21 MAP Event**  
Michael Waddell  
"The Metaphysics of Autistic Identity"  
6:30-7:30 pm  
215 Malloy Hall
- 23 Non-Academic Placement Meeting**  
12-1 pm  
119 O'Shaughnessy
- Lunchtime Talk: Fr. Raphael Mary**  
Title TBA  
12-1 pm  
220 Malloy Hall
- Shut Up and Write**  
1:45-2:15 pm  
220 Malloy Hall
- Pre-Reception**  
2:15-3 pm  
119 Malloy Hall (Philo Lounge)
- Colloquium: Clan Dorr**  
Title TBA  
3-5 pm  
138 DeBartolo Hall
- Reception**  
5-6 pm  
119 Malloy Hall (Philo Lounge)
- 26 Aaron Wells Dissertation Defense**  
2-4 pm  
107 Malloy Hall
- 28 APA Pacific Meetings**  
March 28-31

## Around Campus March

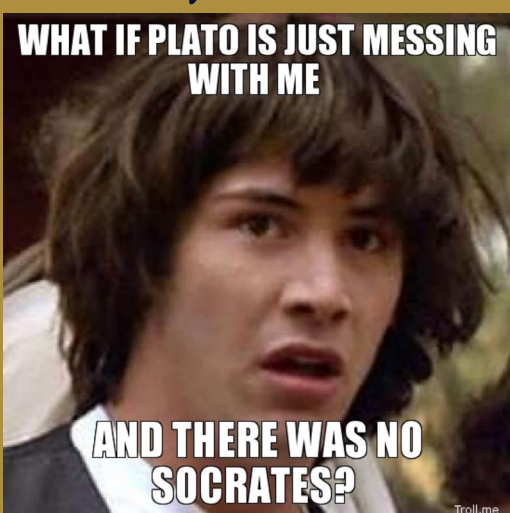
# News and Announcements

- 01** **GSU Blood Drive**  
10 am-5 pm  
Hesburgh Library Circle Drive  
[givebloodnow.com](http://givebloodnow.com)
- 05** **Conference: Cultures of Formation: Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment**  
March 5-7  
McKenna Hall  
[Register Here](#)
- 10** **Mid-Term Break**  
March 10-18  
Offices Open
- 20** **Graduation Fair**  
9 am-7 pm  
Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore  
[More Info Here](#)
- 24** **Run Forrest Run 5/10K**  
9:30 am-12 pm  
campus-wide  
[Register Here](#)
- 30** **Easter Break**  
**March 30-April 2**  
Office closed on March 30th  
Office open on April 2nd

[events.nd.edu](http://events.nd.edu) for full list

- Three Minute Thesis (3MT)  
Attend the 3MT® Kickoff Information Session on Thursday, February 22 from 5 to 7 PM in the Reading Room in Jordan Hall of Science. Meet other Ph.D. candidates and talk with those who participated in last years event. The Kickoff will also walk you through the competition process, rules and requirements. If you plan to attend the Kickoff we ask that you please RSVP [here](#).
- There's a new website that the Division of Student Affairs has launched for the University's off-campus housing. Check out [offcampus.nd.edu](http://offcampus.nd.edu) for great resources on housing, roommates, etc.
- We now have "Team Drives" in Google Drive. It is located right under "My Drive" in the Drive, but that folder is property of Notre Dame. This is where we will now be sharing CPF's and outside events. **There will no longer be forwarded emails for these.** Christine will still post the CPF's in the Newsletter. If you have any questions, email one of the office staff. (Sorry I said "Drive" so many times.)
- CPR News  
We are excited to announce the launch of our new video series and website celebrating Alvin Plantinga's most influential ideas and arguments. To watch videos in the series, please visit: [www.plantingavideos.com](http://www.plantingavideos.com).
- CPR News  
Registration is now open for the Logos 2018 Workshop: "Race, Gender, Ability, and Class: Expanding Conversations in Analytic Theology" to be held at Notre Dame on May 24-26. Registration details and the workshop schedule are available on the workshop [webpage](#).
- Grad Student Recruitment Week  
This years recruitment "week" will be held March 19-21. If you would like to volunteer to help, please email Christine.
- Do you have any suggestions for our newsletter? Fill out [this questionnaire](#) to tell us what!

## Meme of the Month



[GRAD CFP'S](#)

[SUMMER](#)

[CONFERENCE](#)

