

## Siobhan McNamara Kelly

PhD Candidate, Committee on the Study of Religion  
Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences  
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### EDUCATION

- 2017-Present Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)  
Graduate School of Arts Sciences  
PhD Candidate (expected graduation: May 2024)  
Area of Focus: Religion, Gender, & Culture  
Secondary Field: Studies of Women, Gender, & Sexuality  
Dissertation: *Public Parts: Psychoanalysis, the Study of Religion, and Trans Subjectivity* (approved October 2020)  
Advisor and Committee Chair: Amy Hollywood  
Committee Members: Benjamin H. Dunning (Harvard) and Talia Mae Bettcher (Cal State Los Angeles)
- 2015-2017 Harvard Divinity School (Cambridge, MA)  
Master of Theological Studies, 2017  
Concentration: Women, Gender, Sexuality & Religion  
Advisor: Mark D. Jordan
- 2011-2015 Tufts University (Medford, MA)  
Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, 2015, Religion  
Minors: Political Science, Sociology  
Awards: Senior Honors Thesis, Highest Honors; Summer Scholar;  
Presidential Award for Citizenship & Public Service; Pride on the Hill Award

### RESEARCH AREAS

Transgender Studies; Theories & Methods in the Study of Religion; Psychoanalysis; Feminist & Queer Theory; Religion, Gender, and Sexuality in the West; Deconstructive & Poststructuralist Critiques of Identity; Religion & Popular Culture

### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- “The Gender Matrix: On the Prohibitions Against Intersexuality and Transsexuality”  
*Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (Roundtable on “Gender Trouble’s Thirties,”  
co-edited with Amy Hollywood, response by Judith Butler). Forthcoming.
- “Messianic Language in Trans Public Speech.” *Theology & Sexuality* 24:2 (Spring 2018):  
110-127. doi: 10.1080/13558358.2018.1463639
- “Multiplicity and Contradiction: A Literature Review of Trans\* Studies in Religion.” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* 34:1 (Spring 2018 Special Issue: Transing and Queering Feminist Studies and Practices of Religion): 7-23. doi: 10.2979/jfemistudreli.34.1.03.

### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Gender(:) Absence, or (How to Do) Political Theology without Butler?” In *Political Theology Reimagined: Theories, Ruptures, Itineraries*, edited by Vincent Lloyd and Alex Dubilet. Duke University Press. Under review.

“Commentary on *Poor Queer Studies: Confronting Elitism in the University* by Matt Brim.” *Syndicate*. Forthcoming.

“Judith Butler.” *Political Theology Network: Critical Theory for Political Theology 2.0*. Aug 3, 2021.

“Bathroom Confessional.” *Political Theology Network*. March 12, 2018.

“Feminist Transphobia, Feminist Rhetoric: From Trans-Exclusive Radical Feminism to HB 2.” *Feminist Studies in Religion Blog*, Aug 30, 2016.

“Shaming and Violence in the Queer Community.” *Slut: A Play and Guide Book for Combating Sexism and Sexual Violence*. By Katie Cappiello and Meg McInerney. New York: Feminist Press, 2015.

“Written Testimony Presented to the United States Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, for the hearing “Sexual Assault on Campus: Working to Ensure Student Safety.” June 23, 2014.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Mom’s Penis: Rethinking the Phallic Mother’s Possibility.” Modern Language Association Annual Meeting. Queer Theory and Psychoanalysis: Psychology, Psychoanalysis, and Literature Committee. Philadelphia, PA: Jan 4-7, 2024.

“Transubstantiation Trouble: Gender, Race, and the Material.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting. Co-organized with Wendy Mallette (University of Oklahoma) and Kimi Bryson (Rutgers University). San Antonio, TX: Nov 18-21, 2023.

“Reimagining Resistance Through Trans Hermeneutics.” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference.” Baltimore, MD. Oct 26-29, 2023.

“God’s Not Trans.” Conference on Queer and Trans Studies in Religion. Panel with C. Libby (Penn State) and Hil Malatino (Penn State). University of California, Riverside. Feb 17-19, 2023.

“The Sodomite’s Sex Change.” For a panel “Celebrating and Challenging the Convulsions of, and Beyond, Queer and Trans Studies in Religion and Theology: Honoring the Work of Mark Jordan.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting. Denver, CO. Nov 19-22, 2022.

“The Limits of Transsexual Theory?” Panel with Ren Ellis Neyra (Wesleyan University), Alé Romero (Stanford University), and Adrián Emmanuel Hernández-Acosta (Yale Divinity School). Thinking Trans // Trans Thinking Conference: 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial

- Conference of the Trans Philosophy Project. Goucher College, Baltimore, MD. Oct 28-29, 2022.
- “Trans Antagonism.” Conference on Queer and Transgender Studies in Religion. University of California, Riverside. Feb 18-20, 2022.
- “Symptomatic Reading as Trans Method.” Modern Language Association Annual Meeting. Transdisciplinary Connections: Religion and Literature Committee. Washington, D.C. Jan 6-9, 2022.
- “*Gender Trouble’s* Thirties.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting. Co-organized with Adrián Emmanuel Hernández-Acosta, with panelists Biko Mandela Gray (Syracuse University), Amy Hollywood, Mayanthi Fernando (UC Santa Cruz), and Anthony Petro (Boston University). San Antonio, TX. Nov 20-23, 2021 (postponed from 2020 due to COVID-19).
- “Trans Loss, Trans Melancholia.” Negativity, Pessimisms, and Sad Affects in the Study of Religion Graduate Symposium. University of Toronto. Apr 19-20, 2019.
- “Psychoanalytic Anachronisms.” Conference on Queer and Transgender Studies in Religion. Panel co-organized with Amy Hollywood, Kris Trujillo (University of Chicago), and Eleanor Craig (Harvard University). University of California, Riverside. Feb 22-24, 2019.
- “Confession, Genitalia, Vulnerability.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. Nov 19, 2017.
- “Messianic Rhetoric in Transgender Celebrity.” Stendahl Symposium, Resisting Hegemonies: Understanding Multiplicity in a World of Difference. Harvard Divinity School. Respondent: Cornel West. Apr 4, 2017.
- “Monstrous Messianic Logic in Trans\* Publicity: Savior Rhetoric in Transgender Celebrity.” Sex on the Margins: Navigating Religious, Social, and Natural Scientific Models of Sex Difference. Boston University. Feb 25, 2017.
- “Monstrous Violators: Revenge Fantasy as Transfeminine Subject Formation.” Trans\*Studies: An International Transdisciplinary Conference on Gender, Embodiment, and Sexuality. University of Arizona. Sept 8, 2016.

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 2023      | Jens Aubrey Westengard Scholarship (\$800)<br>Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences   |
| 2022      | Gochman Dean’s Fund for Innovation and Development (\$955)<br>Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences<br>Professional Development Grant |
| 2021-2022 | Loeb Fellowship Full Calendar Year Award (\$32,000)  |

- Harvard University Committee on the Study of Religion
- 2021-2022 Holstein Dissertation Fellowship  
University of California, Riverside  
Mentor: Talia Mae Bettcher (California State University, LA)
- 2021 Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard College  
Given to instructors with 4.5/5 or above on course evaluations
- 2020 Special Commendation: Extraordinary Teaching in Extraordinary  
Times, Harvard College  
Given to the top 281 of over 2,500 instructors
- 2020 Loeb Fellowship Summer Project Award (\$6,000)  
Harvard University Committee on the Study of Religion
- 2019 Duke Feminist Theory Workshop Grant (\$750)  
Harvard University Committee on the Study of Women, Gender, &  
Sexuality
- 2019 Graduate Student Council Conference Grant (\$658)  
Harvard University
- 2018-2019 Science, Religion, & Culture Program Doctoral Fellow  
Harvard Divinity School
- 2018-2019 Weatherhead Center for International Affairs German Foreign  
Language Study Grant (\$6,100) & Graduate Student Affiliate  
Harvard University
- 2017 Commencement Class Marshal  
Harvard Divinity School
- 2017 Stendahl Symposium Honoree (\$250)  
Harvard Divinity School
- 2016 Open Gate Foundation Grant (\$500)  
Harvard University Gender & Sexuality Caucus
- 2015-2017 Dean's Fellowship (full tuition grant & \$8000 yearly stipend)  
Harvard Divinity School

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- Spring 2024 *Sex Wars: Religion and Gender in the Public Sphere*  
Department of Religious Studies  
Brown University  
Position: Visiting Instructor, course of my own design  
Course Level: Introductory Undergraduate

- Spring 2024 *Angels and Monsters: Queer and Trans Religion*  
 Department of Religious Studies  
 Brown University  
 Position: Visiting Instructor, course of my own design  
 Course Level: Advanced Undergraduate
- Fall 2023-  
 Spring 2024 *Sophomore Tutorial*  
 Committee on the Studies of Women, Gender, & Sexuality  
 Course Instructors: Linda Schlossberg & Caroline Light  
 Course Level: Undergraduate  
 Position: Teaching Fellow
- Fall 2024 *Theories & Methods in the Study of Religion*  
 Harvard Divinity School  
 Course Instructor: Annette Yoshiko-Reed  
 Course Level: Masters  
 Position: Teaching Fellow
- Fall 2024 *Black Religion & Sexuality*  
 Harvard Divinity School  
 Course Instructor: Ahmad Greene-Hayes  
 Course Level: Masters and Doctoral  
 Position: Teaching Fellow
- Fall 2023 *Junior Tutorial: Religion, Violence, and Reproduction*  
 Committee on the Study of Religion  
 Course Instructor: Professor Courtney Lamberth  
 Course Level: Undergraduate  
 Position: Teaching Fellow, one-on-one tutorial, course of my own design
- Spring 2021 *Leaning in, Hooking up: Visions of Feminism and Femininity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*  
 Committee on the Studies of Women, Gender, & Sexuality  
 Course Instructor: Professor Phyllis Thompson  
 Course Level: Undergraduate  
 Position: Teaching Fellow and Guest Lecturer on Trans Studies
- Fall 2020-  
 Spring 2021 *Senior Thesis*  
 Committee on the Studies of Women, Gender, & Sexuality and Art,  
 Film, & Visual Studies joint thesis  
 Course Instructor: Professor Linda Schlossberg  
 Course Level: Undergraduate  
 Position: Thesis Advisor for a project entitled “Return to  
 Rehabilitation: Care, Carcerality, & the Discourses of Repair”
- Fall 2020- *Religion, Gender, and Culture Colloquium*

- Spring 2021 Harvard Divinity School  
Course Instructor: Professor Amy Hollywood  
Course Level: Masters and Doctoral  
Position: Teaching Fellow
- Fall 2020 *A Poetics of Difficulty*  
Harvard Divinity School  
Course Instructor: Professor Amy Hollywood  
Course Level: Masters  
Position: Teaching Fellow
- Fall 2020 *Transgender Rights and the Law: Assumptions and Critiques*  
Committee on the Studies of Women, Gender, & Sexuality  
Course Instructor: Professor Kendra Albert  
Course Level: Undergraduate  
Position: Teaching Fellow and Research Assistant
- Spring 2020 *Sex, Gender, Sexuality II*  
Harvard Divinity School  
Course Instructor: Professor Amy Hollywood  
Course Level: Masters and Doctoral  
Position: Teaching Fellow
- Spring 2020 *Leaning in, Hooking up: Visions of Feminism and Femininity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*  
Harvard College  
Course Instructor: Professor Phyllis Thompson  
Course Level: Undergraduate  
Position: Teaching Fellow
- Fall 2019 *Sex, Gender, Sexuality I*  
Harvard Divinity School  
Course Instructor: Professor Amy Hollywood  
Course Level: Masters and Undergraduate  
Position: Teaching Fellow

## **RESEARCH AND EDITING EXPERIENCE**

- 2022 Summer Research Assistant to Amy Hollywood  
Harvard University
- 2020-present Anonymous peer reviewer, *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*  
Indiana University Press
- 2018-present Anonymous peer reviewer, *Transgender Studies Quarterly*  
Duke University Press
- 2016-2017 Research Assistant to Lynne Gerber, Visiting Scholar  
Women's Studies in Religion Program, Harvard Divinity School

2015-2016                    Managing Editor  
Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion

**UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

2024-2027                    American Academy of Religion  
Committee Member, Status of LGBTIQ Persons in the Professions

2022-2027                    American Academy of Religion  
Steering Committee Member, Lesbian-Feminisms & Religion Unit

2021                            Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School  
AP Human Geography, guest presenter on religion and gender

2019                            Harvard University Committee on the Study of Religion  
Colloquium: “Gender and Sexuality in the Study of Religion” Panelist

2018-2020                    Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Gender and Sexuality  
Workshop Coordinator, Harvard University

2016                            Richard Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Divinity  
Search Committee Member, Harvard Divinity School

2016                            “Pulling the Pieces Together for an Empowered Community”  
Keynote speaker and workshop facilitator  
Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence Annual  
Conference

2015                            “A Time to Act: Sexual Violence Intervention and Prevention in  
Higher Education” keynote speaker & workshop facilitator  
Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services

2014                            U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP)  
Committee Public Testimony  
“Sexual Assault on Campus: Working to Ensure Student Safety”

2014                            U.S. Senate Roundtable Participant  
“Campus Sexual Assault: The Role of Title IX”

2014                            U.S. Department of Education Negotiated Rulemaking Committee  
Member, Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization

**READING LANGUAGES**

French, German, and beginning Spanish

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion (AAR)  
National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)

Modern Language Association (MLA)