

# John Thrasher

Department of Philosophy &  
Smith Institute for Political Economy and Philosophy  
Chapman University  
One University Drive,  
Orange, CA 92866

Phone: 714-516-4562  
Mobile: 714-307-9736  
Email: [Johnthrasher23@gmail.com](mailto:Johnthrasher23@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.johnjthrasher.com](http://www.johnjthrasher.com)

## PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy & Smith Institute for Political Economy and  
Philosophy, Chapman University, 2018-  
Research Associate, Department of Philosophy, Monash University, 2018-  
Lecturer (Assistant Professor), Department of Philosophy, Monash University, 2014-2018

## EDUCATION

PhD	Philosophy	2014	University of Arizona
MA	Philosophy	2011	University of Arizona
BA	Philosophy	2004	University of Colorado, Boulder

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

Halliday, Daniel and John Thrasher. Forthcoming (2020). *The Ethics of Capitalism*. Oxford University Press.

### Edited Volumes

Schmidtz, David and John Thrasher. 2013. *Creating Wealth: Ethical and Economic Perspectives 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*. Cognella.

### Journal Articles

- Thrasher, John. Forthcoming. "Agreeing to Disagree: Diversity, Political Contractualism, and the Open Society." *The Journal of Politics*
- Thrasher, John. Forthcoming. "Self-Ownership as Personal Sovereignty." *Social Philosophy & Policy*.
- Handfield, Toby and John Thrasher. 2019. "Two of a Kind: Are Norms of Honor a Species of Morality?" *Biology & Philosophy* 34(3).
- Thrasher, John. 2019. "Constructivism, Representation, and Stability: Path-Dependence in Public Reason Theories of Justice." *Synthese* 196(1): 429-450.
- Thrasher, John and Toby Handfield. 2018. "Honor and Violence: An Account of Feuds, Duels, and Honor Killings." *Human Nature* 29(4):371-389.
- Handfield, T., John Thrasher, and Julian Garcia. 2018. "Greenbeards and Signaling: Why Morality isn't Indispensable." *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*. 41(e103).
- Thrasher, John. 2018. "Evaluating Bad Norms." *Social Philosophy & Policy*. 35(1).
- Thrasher John, and Kevin Vallier. 2018. "Political Stability in the Open Society." *American Journal of Political Science*. 62(2):398-409.
- Abbink, Klaus, Lata Gangadharan, Toby Handfield, and John Thrasher. 2017. "Peer Punishment Promotes Enforcement of Bad Social Norms." *Nature Communications* 8 (2017).
- Thrasher, John. 2016. "The Ethics of Legislative Vote Trading." *Political Studies* 64(3): 614-629.
- Thrasher, John and Kevin Vallier. 2015. "The Fragility of Consensus: Public Reason, Diversity and Stability." *The European Journal of Philosophy* 23(4): 933-954.
- Thrasher, John. 2015. "Adam Smith and the Social Contract." *The Adam Smith Review*. 8: 195-216.
- Thrasher, John and Keith Hankins. 2015. "When Justice Demands Inequality." *The Journal of Moral Philosophy*. 12(2): 172-194

- Thrasher, John. 2014. "Uniqueness and Symmetry in Bargaining Theories of Justice." *Philosophical Studies*. 167(3): 683-699.
- Thrasher, John. 2014. "Ordering Anarchy." *Rationality, Markets and Morals*. 5(1): 30-46.
- Thrasher, John. 2013. "Reconciling Justice and Pleasure in Epicurean Contractarianism." *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*. 16(2): 423-436.

### Chapters in Edited Volumes

- Freiman, Chris and John Thrasher. 2019. "The Right to Own the Means of Production." In Jahel Queralt and Bas Van Der Vossen (eds.) *Economic Liberties as Human Rights*. Routledge
- Thrasher, John. 2018. "When Equality Matters." In David Boonin (ed.) *The Palgrave Handbook of Philosophy and Public Policy*. Palgrave.
- Thrasher, John and Gerald Gaus. 2017. "On The Calculus of Consent." In Jacob Levy (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of Classics in Contemporary Political Theory*. Oxford University Press.
- Thrasher, John. 2017. "Social Contractarianism" In Brennan, Jason, Bas van der Vossen, and David Schmidtz (eds.) *The Routledge Handbook of Libertarianism*. Routledge.
- Gaus, Gerald and John Thrasher. 2015. "Rational Choice and the Original Position: The (Many) Models of Rawls and Harsanyi." In Timothy Honton (ed.) *The Original Position*. Cambridge University Press.
- Thrasher, John and David Schmidtz. 2015. "Bankers, Vampires, and Organ Sellers: Who Can You Trust?" In Garnett, Robert, Paul Lewis, and Lenore Ealy (eds.) *Commerce and Community: Ecologies of Social Cooperation*. Routledge.
- Schmidtz, David and John Thrasher. 2014. "The Virtues of Justice." In Timpe, Kevin and Craig A. Boyd (eds.) *Virtues and their Vices*. Oxford University Press.
- Gaus, Gerald and John Thrasher. 2013. "Social Evolution." In Gaus, Gerald and Fred D'Agostino *The Routledge Companion to Social and Political Philosophy*. Routledge.

### Reference Works

- D'Agostino, Fred, Gerald Gaus, and John Thrasher. 2017. "Contemporary Approaches to the Social Contract." *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*

### Book Reviews

- Thrasher, John. 2018. "The Price of Sociality: Review of Jonathan Birch," *The Philosophy of Social Evolution. Metascience*.
- Thrasher, John. 2014. Review of "John Tomasi, *Free Market Fairness*." *Public Choice* 159(1-2): 309-311.
- Schmidtz, David and John Thrasher. 2013. Review of "Charles Tilly, *Credit and Blame*." *The European Legacy: Toward New Paradigms*. 18(7): 967.
- Thrasher, John. 2011. Review of "Herbert Gintis, *The Bounds of Reason: Game Theory and the Unification of the Behavioral Sciences*." *The Journal of Value Inquiry* 45(1): 85-90.

### SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- "Capitalism Without Tears: Towards a Vision of Ethical Capitalism" *Political Philosophy and the Future of Capitalism*, Waseda University, Tokyo Japan, 2019.
- "Blockchain and Trust," *Business Ethics in a Digital Age*, Harvard Business School, 2019.
- "Rationality and Cooperation," *PPE Society Meeting*, New Orleans, 2019.
- "The Invisible Contract: Agreement and Spontaneous Order in Social Life" Texas Tech University, 2019.
- "Moral Points of View," Monash University, Melbourne Australia, 2018.
- "Democracy Against Populism" (with Michael Munger), *PPE Society Meeting*, New Orleans, 2018.
- "Adam Smith, Contractarian," *Deviant Thinking: Early Modern Philosophy and the Enlightenment*, Australasian Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, University of Sydney, Australia, 2017.
- "Bargaining and the Social Contract: A Reorientation," *PPE Society Meeting*, New Orleans, 2017.

- “The Justice of Strategy,” *American Philosophical Association, Pacific*, Seattle, 2017.
- “Honor and Violence,” *Southern Economics Association*, Washington, D.C., 2016.
- “Evaluating Bad Norms,” Social Philosophy and Policy Conference, Tucson, Arizona, 2016.
- “Constructivism, Representation, and Stability,” *Conference on Contemporary Philosophy in East Asia* (CCPEA), Seoul, Republic of Korea, 2016.
- “Paths to Justice: Inconsistent Choice in the Original Position,” *Australasian Association of Philosophy*, 2016.
- “Agreeing to Disagree: The Promise of Contractual Liberalism,” *American Philosophical Association Pacific*, San Francisco, 2016.
- “Norms of Honor,” The University of Arizona, 2016.
- “Representation and Democracy,” University of Melbourne, Australia, 2015.
- “Self-Ownership and Personal Sovereignty,” *Australasian Association of Philosophy*, Macquarie University, Sydney Australia, 2015.
- “Self-Ownership: Not Just for Libertarians,” Center for Moral, Political and Social Theory (CMPST), Australian National University, Canberra Australia, 2015.
- “Rationality, Uniqueness and the Social Contract,” Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, 2015.
- “Impartiality, Rationality, and the Social Contract,” *American Philosophical Association, Pacific*, Vancouver Canada, 2015.
- “Stability and the Price of Compliance,” *New Zealand Association for Philosophy*, University of Canterbury, Christchurch New Zealand, 2014.
- “Backing into Self-Ownership,” *American Philosophical Association, Pacific*, San Diego, 2014.
- “Equality and Justice,” University of New Orleans, 2012.
- “Markets and Fairness,” *Southern Economics Association*, New Orleans, 2012
- “Rule-Following: Constraints and Objectives,” *Southern Economics Association*, Washington D.C., 2011.
- “Moral Theory for Adults,” *Rational Choice Contractarianism: 25 Years After *Morals By Agreement**, York University, Toronto Canada, 2011.

## TEACHING

Philosophy in Literature	Chapman University	Spring 2019
Games and Decisions	Chapman University	Inter-term 2019
Global Justice	Chapman University	Fall 2018
The Tragedy in Morality (w/Brennan McDavid)	Chapman University	Fall 2018
Presidential Seminar (w/ Jan Osborn)	Chapman University	Fall 2018
Political Philosophy	Monash University	2014-2017
Democratic Theory	Monash University	2015-2017
Human Rights Theory 1 (w/ Linda Barclay)	Monash University	2017
Human Rights Theory 1 (w/ Robbie Arrell)	Monash University	2015,2016
The Social Contract	University of Arizona	2013
The Ethics & Economics of Wealth Creation	University of Arizona	2009
Hobbes and Spinoza (Honors Seminar)	Monash University	2017
Conventions and Norms (Honors Seminar)	Monash University	2015,2016
Moral Psychology (Honors Seminar)	Monash University	2015
Rationality and Morality (Honors Seminar)	Monash University	2014

## RESEARCH SUPERVISION

### Masters

Matthew Ringenbergs (w/ Toby Handfield)	Monash University	2018-2019
Lucy Mayne (Primary) HD1	Monash University	2016-2018
James McGuire (Primary) HD1	Monash University	2016-2018

## Honors

Jade Popper (Completed)	Monash University	2017
Andrew Belyea-Tate (Completed)	Monash University	2016
Lucy Mayne (Completed)	Monash University	2015

## SELECTED GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

2017-2019, Discovery Project DP170102834, “Informal Sanctions and Bad Social Norms,” with Klaus Abbink, Lata Gangadharan, Toby Handfield, and David Skarbek, \$231, 500,  
2016, Monash Focus Program Grant, \$50,000  
2015, New Appointee Research Grant, \$5,000  
2014-2016, SoPHIS Research Grants  
2015-2018, Dean’s Commendation for Early Career Researcher  
2013, Fink Prize for the Most Outstanding Graduate Student  
2013, University of Arizona Excellence Dissertation Fellowship  
2012, Bernard Marcus Fellowship  
2011, H.B. Earhart Fellowship  
2010, Bernard Marcus Fellowship  
2009, Thomas W. Smith Fellowship

## SERVICE

2019, Search Committee, Research Associate, Smith Institute for Political Economy and Philosophy  
2017, Council for the Humanities of the Netherlands  
2016, Organization for Scientific Research External Reviewer  
2015, Organizing Committee AAP Conference  
2015, External Reviewer for the American Academy in Berlin  
2015-2018, SoPHIS Honors Coordinator, *Monash University*  
2014-2018, Honors Coordinator, *Monash University*  
2014, 2017, Project Editor, *Social Philosophy and Policy*  
2012-2014, Assistant Editor, *Social Philosophy and Policy*

## REFeree

*Adam Smith Review, American Philosophical Quarterly, American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, British Journal of Political Science, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Cambridge University Press, Ethical Theory and Moral Practice, Ethical Perspectives, Erkenntnis, Hobbes Studies, Japanese Journal of Political Science, Journal of Applied Philosophy, Journal of Philosophical Research, Journal of Political Philosophy, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Papers, Philosophical Perspectives, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, Philosophy of Science, Philosophical Studies, Philosophical Quarterly, Polish Journal of Philosophy, Polity, Public Affairs Quarterly, Ratio, Res Publica, Routledge, Social Theory and Practice. Social Philosophy & Policy, Synthese*