



**THE MCDONALD CENTRE
for Theology, Ethics, and Public Life**

Report 2011-12

The Persistence of the Nation-State: Blessing or Curse? (conference with the Mackinder Programme, London School of Economics, February 2012)

After Libya: The Ethics of Military Intervention for Humanitarian Purposes Revisited (colloquium with Chatham House/RIIA, February 2012)

Patriotism: Loyalty, Identity, and Cohesion in a Religiously Plural Nation (conference with the Lincoln Theological Institute, Manchester, May 2012)

Christianity and the Flourishing of Universities (May 2012)

Plans for 2012-13

What's the Union Good for? The Rights and Wrongs of Scottish Nationalism (colloquium, October or November 2012)

How Much is Enough? The Love of Money and the Case for the Good Life (book colloquium with Robert and Edward Skidelsky, October or November 2012)

Cyberian Ethics: the Rights and Wrongs of Cyber-warfare (colloquium with Chatham House, February 2013)

Does Morality Need Religion? (conference with the Department of Philosophy, University of Exeter, May 2013)

Recovering the Theological Kant (lecture series by Christopher Insole, May 2013)

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2008-12

Strategic aims and achievements

- the development of collaboration with secular, public bodies (Reuters Institute, Chatham House)
- the director's establishment of a presence in the secular press
- the agreement between the McDonald Agape Foundation and the University of Oxford to endow the McDonald Centre in perpetuity

Summary of projects

I. Colloquia on Ethics in International Affairs (with the Royal Institute for International Affairs, London)

Getting our Way: Ethics and the National Interest (February 2010)

How May We Keep Ourselves Safe? The Ethics of Intelligence Gathering (February 2011)

After Libya: The Ethics of Military Intervention for Humanitarian Purposes Revisited (February 2012)

II. Public conferences

Justice: Rights and Wrongs (May 2009, with the Kirby Laing Institute for Christian Ethics, Cambridge)

Is Christian Forgiveness Immoral? Christianity and Forgiveness after Civil Conflict (May 2010)

Reason, Theology, and the Genome: The Ethics of Enhancement (October 2010, with the Egenis Centre at the University of Exeter)

Christian Ethics Engages Peter Singer (May 2011, with the support of the British Academy)

Big Society—Bigger Nature? (October 2011, with the Lincoln Theological Institute, Manchester)

Patriotism: Loyalty, Identity, and Cohesion in a Religiously Plural Nation (May 2012, with the Lincoln Theological Institute, Manchester)

Christianity and the Flourishing of Universities (May 2012)

III. McDonald Lecture Series

2009: *Behaving in Public: Christian Ethics outside of the Church* (Nigel Biggar, Oxford)

2011: *Ethics, Society, and the Place of Faith* (John Haldane, St Andrews)

2012: *Peter Singer & Christian Ethics: Beyond Polarisation* (Charles Camosy, Fordham)

IV. Occasional colloquia

Physician-Assisted Suicide: Taking Stock of the Debate (April 2009)

A Case for the Establishment of Religion? (March 2010)

The Persistence of the Nation-State: Blessing or Curse? (February 2012, with the Mackinder Programme, London School of Economics)

V. Seminar series

Journalism and Public Responsibility (January-March 2010, with the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, Oxford)

VI. Occasional events

Does the New Testament Enjoin Pacifism? (October 2008, debate with Richard Hays, Duke)

Imitating Jesus: An Inclusive Approach to New Testament Ethics (January 2010, seminar with Richard Burridge, King's College London)

Florence Nightingale: Religious Motivation and Social Reform (October 2011, lecture by Lynn McDonald, Guelph)

Gods Behaving Badly: Religion & Celebrity Culture (January 2011, lecture by Pete Ward, King's College London)

VII. Publications

Nigel Biggar and Linda Hogan, eds, *Religious Voices in Public Places* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009)

Justice: Rights and Wrongs. Critical and Interdisciplinary Engagements with Nicholas Wolterstorff, *Studies in Christian Ethics*, 23/2 (May 2010)

Nigel Biggar, *Behaving in Public: How to Do Christian Ethics*, the 2009 McDonald Lectures (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011)

Is Forgiveness Immoral? Christianity and Forgiveness after Civil Conflict, *Studies in Christian Ethics*, 24/2 (May 2011)

John Perry, ed., *Christian Ethics Engages Peter Singer* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming)