

THE MCDONALD CENTRE
for Theology, Ethics, and Public Life

Report 2020-21

MA = Dr Matthew Anderson, Associate Research Fellow

EB = Dr Edward Brooks, Associate Research Fellow

JB = Dr Jonathan Brant, Associate Research Fellow

NJB = Prof. Nigel Biggar, Director

DD = Dr Dafydd Daniel, McDonald Lecturer in Christian Ethics

ED = Dr Edward David, Associate Research Fellow

GD = Ginny Dunn, Administrative Officer

ML = Dr Marc LiVecche, Visiting Scholar

AM = Dr Ashley Moyse, McDonald Post-Doctoral Fellow in Christian Ethics and Public Life

MW = Dr Matthew Wilkinson = Associate Research Fellow

JM = Dr James Mumford, Visiting Fellow

NW = Dr Nicholas Wood, director of the 2021 McDonald Centre conference

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A. Strategic aims

The mission of the McDonald Centre is to bring a Christian intelligence to bear on ethical issues of public concern, with a view to

- developing Christian ethics' grasp of contemporary issues
- commending a Christian vision of moral life in society at large
- raising the quality of public deliberation about ethical issues; and

- encouraging Christian ethicists in the art of honest engagement with fellow members of a 'secular' (i.e., plural) public.

B. Highlights

- NJB is to be appointed Commander of the British Empire (CBE) "for services to higher education", according to the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2021
- ML was appointed Resident Fellow at the Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership, the US Naval Academy, Annapolis, USA, from August 2020.
- DD came third in the Bridport Prize 2020 and was shortlisted for the Society of Authors' ALCS Tom-Gallon Trust Award 2021
- The McDonald Graduate Studentship was awarded to its second holder, Anna Bartsch, who will hold it from October 2020 for up to 4 years.
- NJB's *What's Wrong with Rights?* was published by Oxford University Press in September/October 2020. Launched by the influential London think-tank, Policy Exchange, and has attracted reviews in the *Times* (Jonathan Sumption: "courageous ... rich and challenging"), the *Telegraph* (Simon Heffer: "brilliant, provocative and intelligent"), the *Literary Review* (Michael Ignatieff: "powerfully reasoned"), the *New Statesman* (John Gray: "rigorously reasoned ... succeeds brilliantly ... a profound study"); *Prospect* (Baroness Hale); and *The Critic* (Jonathan Clark: "this important book"). In his review, John Gray described NJB as "one of the leading living Western ethicists".
- ED's *A Christian Approach to Corporate Religious Liberty* was published by Palgrave in September 2020.
- DD's *Ethical Rationalism and Secularisation in the British Enlightenment: Conscience and the Age of Reason*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan in October 2020.
- ML's co-edited book (with Eric Patterson), *Responsibility & Restraint: James Turner Johnson & the Just War Tradition*, was published by Stone Tower Books in October 2020.
- AM's *The Art of Living for the Technological Age: Toward a humanizing performance*, was published by Fortress Press in February 2021.
- Most of the papers presented at the 2018 conference, "Is Religious Liberty under Threat? A Trans-Atlantic Dialogue", were published in a special issue of *Studies in Christian Ethics*, 33/2 (May 2020) which was edited by MA.
- The two Legatum-McDonald briefing papers, which were discussed with the Minister for Universities in June and September 2020, have helped to inform the Government's Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill 2021, which is currently making its way through Parliament.
- The May 2021 annual conference, "Christianity, Commerce and Civilisation? Missions and Empire in the Modern World", attracted 233 registrants from 41 countries.

C. Summary of activities and achievements

Professor Nigel Biggar, Director

From July to December, NJB focused on writing *Colonialism: A Moral Reckoning*, which he was under contract to produce for Bloomsbury Publishing by 31 December 2020. On that day he submitted the completed manuscript of 134,000 words. After reading it, his commissioning editor wrote: "I consider this to be a book of major importance, certainly one of the most important on my list for some time.... Your research is exhaustive. I am speechless. Your argument is conveyed with care and precision. I say again this is such an important book". In March 2021, however, Bloomsbury wrote to say that they were postponing publication indefinitely because "public feeling" was "unfavourable", and in April they unilaterally cancelled the contract. Happily, in May William Collins decided to pick up where Bloomsbury had left off. They will publish the book in the Spring of 2022.

On 15 December NJB's *What's Wrong with Rights?* was launched by the influential London think-tank, Policy Exchange, with a panel discussion chaired by David Goodhart. In addition to NJB, the panelists comprised Lord Jonathan Sumption, Baroness Onora O'Neill, and John Larkin, QC.

Stemming from the 2019 McDonald Centre conference, "Academic Freedom under Threat: What's to be Done?", NJB led a series of discussions under the auspices of the Legatum Institute, London, about developing practical remedies. These resulted in the composition of two Legatum-McDonald briefing papers, which were discussed with the Minister for Universities in June and September 2020. These papers have helped to inform the Government's Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill 2021, which is currently making its way through Parliament.

Dr Dafydd Daniel, McDonald Lecturer in Christian Ethics

In October 2020 DD's *Ethical Rationalism and Secularisation in the British Enlightenment: Conscience and the Age of Reason* was published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Also, in October DD appeared on *BBC Radio 3 Free Thinking* to discuss themes from his new book, related to conscience and care, with journalist, Madeleine Bunting, on the programme *Individualism and Community*, which also featured the philosopher, Robert D. Putnam.

In December 2020 the editorial board for the journal *History of European Ideas* accepted DD's proposal to guest edit a special issue: 'The Church and the British Moralists'. DD has brought together 11 leading international scholars from across the UK and USA for this special issue, forthcoming in 2022, which will use its novel focus on 'church' in Enlightenment thought to redefine the category of 'the British moralists' within contemporary theological and philosophical ethics and within current Enlightenment historiography.

In January 2021 DD was delighted to accept an invitation from AM and his fellow editors to contribute an article on theological anthropology in the Enlightenment era to their forthcoming *Oxford Handbook of Theological Anthropology*.

In May 2021, DD was announced as one of six authors shortlisted for a Society of Authors' fiction prize: the ALCS Tom-Gallon Trust Award 2021. He was shortlisted for his

short story, "What the Deal Is," which, in 2020, also came 3rd on the international Bridport Prize.

In February 2021 DD appeared on *BBC Radio 3 Free Thinking* on the programme, *Saint John Henry Newman*, where he discussed Newman's part in the Oxford Movement, opposition to Enlightenment rationalism, theory of conscience, and place within wider 19th century religious controversies and debates. DD appeared on the programme with Catherine Pepinster, former editor of the *Tablet*; Tim Stanley, *Daily Telegraph* journalist; Kate Kennedy, Oxford Centre for Life-Writing Associate Director; and Rana Mitter, history professor at Oxford.

In October and November 2020, DD, together with a colleague in the Faculty of Philosophy, Dr Joseph Cunningham, ran events at both the *Being Human Festival* and the *IF: Science and Ideas Festival*. The latter event conducted an audience survey, and so we know that that event was attended by 42 people, from across the UK, Ireland, and the USA, and received an audience average event rating of 9.2, and an average amount learned rating of 8.2.

November 2020, DD published an article he originally presented at the Ecclesiastical History Society 2019, in *Religions*: "Benjamin Hoadly, Samuel Clarke, and the Ethics of the Bangorian Controversy: Church, State, and the Moral Law."

DD continues to guest edit a special issue of the journal *Religions*. The original publication date was August 2020, but that has been postponed (again) until the end of 2021 to accommodate difficulties for authors (and the editor) resulting from the pandemic. Entitled, *The Provinces of Moral Theology and Religious Ethics*, the issue brings together pieces by, among others, Ilia Delio, Hille Haker, Robin Lovin, Anthony Reddie, and Matthew Wilkinson. Many of the articles have been published online first, and are available to read now, to compensate for the delay in the final publication.

DD remains an Ashmolean Public Engagement Research Associate on the Ashmolean Museum and Mellon Foundation project, *Talking Emotions*; his podcast as part of this project (*Passion and Painting, Beauty and Virtue*), has been recorded, and will be released this summer.

Autumn 2021, DD's appearance on National Geographic's *The Story of God with Morgan Freeman* (Series 3, Episode 4: 'Deadly Sins') was released on *Disney+*.

June 2020 (just missing last year's report), DD was interviewed by *La Croix* about the May 2020 *Tear Fund* survey showing a rise in prayer amongst the nonreligious during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr Marc LiVecche, McDonald Visiting Scholar

In the second and final year of ML's two-year sojourn in Oxford, his co-edited book (with Eric Patterson), *Responsibility & Restraint: James Turner Johnson & the Just War Tradition*, was published by Stone Tower Books in October 2020. He finished preparing *The Good Kill: Just War & Moral Injury*, which was published by Oxford University Press (New York) in June 2021. And he began to work on the manuscript of a book on the bombing of Hiroshima, *Moral Horror: A Just War Defense of the Bombing of Hiroshima*, which OUP (New York) will consider for publication.

In August 2020 ML left Oxford to take up a one-year position, with the possibility of renewal, at the US Naval Academy, Annapolis. Among his tasks will be to write and edit a new textbook and instructor's guide for the Academy's core ethics program, to teach, and to participate in a research program and subsequent conference.

Dr Ashley Moyse, McDonald Postdoctoral Fellow in Christian Ethics and Public Life

AM published a manuscript for his second authored book, *The art of living for the technological age: toward a humanizing performance*. Prof Brent Waters, Jerre and Mary Joy Stead Professor of Christian Social Ethics at Garratt Evangelical Theological Seminary, prepared an afterword. While the volume was scheduled for publication in Oct 2020, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a hold was placed on the volume and was published Feb 2021. The book is included in the series *Dispatches: Turning points in theology and global crises*, which AM edits with Scott A Kirkland (Trinity College, Melbourne). A forthcoming book by Anna Mercedes, *Interrupting a Gendered, Violent Church* will be published early 2022. A book, whose title has yet to be decided, by Joerg Rieger will be published late 2022, bringing the series to a total of seven volumes to date (including books by John de Gruchy, Cyril Hovorun, John C McDowell, and Marcus Pound).

AM has co-edited, with Vancouver School of Theology colleagues, Richard Topping and Harry Maier, a forthcoming book titled *Before theological study: A thoughtful, engaged, and generous approach* (Wipf & Stock, in production). This project includes a special introduction by Joas Adiprasetya and an Afterword by Janet Soskice. AM has also contributed an essay to the volume, "There might not be such a thing as Christian ethics, but we do have neighbors: On listening for human life and becoming shaped by Jesus Christ."

He was invited to contribute a paper for a special issue of *Christian Bioethics*, which examines the role of religion in clinical ethics consultation (responding to Janet Malek's claims in her paper "The appropriate role of ... religious worldviews in consultative work" *HEC Forum* 2019). The special issue is guest edited by Jeffrey Bishop and Jordan Mason; AM's revised contribution, pending final decision, is "Malek's Programmatic Secularism: A Dissent." A version of this essay was delivered to the Christian Ethics postgraduate research seminar during Michaelmas 2020.

AM finalised a proposal and signed a contract to edit the *Oxford Handbook of Theological Anthropology* (with co-editors Jens Zimmermann and Michael Burdette)—due to go to press in 2023. This project has attracted 42 contributors, including Joas Adiprasetya, John Behr, Kathryn Tanner, Ellen Davis, Angela Franks, Douglas Hedley, Tracey Rowland, Anna Vind, Nimi Wariboko, Reggie Williams, Rowan Williams, and many other established and emerging scholars.

AM was also invited to contribute a chapter to a forthcoming book: "El significado actual del dolor y el sufrimiento en la era tecnológica [The meaning of pain and suffering in the technological age]," for *Sociedad Tecnológica y Futuro Humano, vol.2: El ser humano en la era tecnológica* [Technological Society and Human Future, vol.2: Human Being into the Technological Age], edited by Héctor Velázquez (Tirant Le Banch, Chile, projected 2021). DPhil Candidate Maria Beer Vuco collaborated with AM to translate the essay.

AM presented a paper "Oh, That We Might See Everything Differently: Interrogating a

Baconian Spirit, Confessing (In)humanity” for the *Human Flourishing in a Technological World* symposium—the third of three annual symposiums on the subject. The paper is under review for inclusion in the forthcoming anthology edited by Jens Zimmermann and Michael Burdett, *Human Flourishing in a Technological World* (OUP, forthcoming).

AM organised and facilitated the 2020 McDonald Centre Conference, which was delivered virtually in September 2020 under the title, “Ageing and Despair: Towards patience and hope for health and care”. Following the September conference, AM was invited by the Institute of Population Ageing to participate in a November 2020 virtual seminar ‘debate’ exploring old age with view from philosophy/theology and social science. AM represented the views from phil/theo while Kenneth Howse, senior research fellow and deputy director at the institute, presented views from the social sciences. AM’s presentation was titled “On old age and the stories where sorrows are born(e)”.

Finally, AM was issued a contract for his third monograph, titled *Resourcing Hope for Ageing and Dying in the Late Modern World: Wayfaring through Despair*. The project draws upon AM’s research related to the themes of despair and hope focused around the experiences and deprivations of frail elderly and terminally ill persons. The book is contracted with Anthem Press and will be peer reviewed in late 2021 for publication in 2022.

Supporting the 2021 McDonald Centre Annual Conference team, AM developed the promotional website and registration application for the conference—the second year such a site was used: <https://www.mcdonaldcentreconference.info>.

Dr James Mumford, Visiting Fellow

As a visiting fellow at the McDonald Centre in 2021-22 JM has moved forward with his book-project, provisionally entitled *The Trouble with Psychology*. The study targets the subjectivism dominant in certain strands of contemporary psychology. Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), for instance, insists that optimal mental functioning hinges upon patients’ adoption of *values*. But these values are presented as thoroughly subjective, as pure preferences ‘in us’ rather than approximations of actual goods ‘out there’. Having thus eschewed the possibility of moral knowledge, psychology offers deeply disconcerting and deflationary accounts of guilt, transformation, friendship and happiness. Psychology estranges us from the resources needed to justify our most basic intuitions about good and evil.

D. McDonald Centre conference 2020

AM organised and facilitated the 2020 McDonald Centre Conference, which was delivered virtually in September 2020, after the original May 2020 conference had been postponed due to Covid-19 related restrictions. “Ageing and Despair: Towards patience and hope for health and care” gathered an international and interdisciplinary cast of scholars. Three plenary papers were delivered: Theologian Frederik (Frits) de Lange (Protestant Theological University/Stellenbosch University) presented ‘The existential gravity of ageing’; ‘The dark side of ageing: lessons from older people who have a sense that their life is no longer worth living’ was delivered by health care ethicist Elizabeth (Els) van Wijngaarden (University of

Humanistic Studies); and ‘Medicine and the art of dying well’ was delivered by the palliative care physician and medical humanities scholar Farr Curlin (Duke University). Featured speakers included Joanna Collicutt (Oxford), Lydia Dugdale (Columbia), Katherine Frogatt and Caroline Nicholson, Chris Gilleard (Bath/UCL), Christine Lai (MBIT/Hong Kong Holy Spirit Seminary), Michael Mawson (Charles Sturt), Seamus O’Mahony (KCL), Autumn Alcott Ridenour (Merrimack), Tyler VanderWeele (Harvard), Christopher Wareham (Witswatersrand). The event also included a version of a paper AM delivered for the Hilary Term seminar (‘Constructions of Ageing’), this time titled “Bearing the burdens we bare: An indictment of a modern anthropology that burdens ageing persons”—a subsequent and expanded version of this paper is now under review for a special issue (Illuminating the dark side of ageing) of the *Journal of Population Ageing*, which AM and Joshua Hordern are guest editing (forthcoming autumn 2021). All conference presentations were pre-recorded and premiered online via the McDonald Centre YouTube channel. Video presentations were viewed up to 150 times the first day of screening. Videos remained available for public viewing through the end of 2020. AM is grateful to all the contributors and to those who helped make the event a success, including Luke Harrison (ImagoVideo) who prepared the video presentations submitted by speakers for public viewing.

E. McDonald Centre Conference 2021

The 2021 conference on “Christianity, Commerce and Civilisation? Missions and Empire in the Modern World”, arose out of conversations between Dr Nicholas Wood (NW), formerly Director of the Centre for Christianity and Culture at Regent’s Park College, Oxford, and NJB in relation to the Centre’s “Ethics and Empire” project. NW proposed that the question of Christianity, especially Christian missions, and its relationship with colonial and imperial authorities remained a topic of interest and relevance. We were fortunate to secure the interest early on of a leading historian of missions, Professor Brian Stanley (Edinburgh) who has published extensively in the field, and he and NW worked together to identify potential contributors and possible topics. The theme became even more relevant during the planning process with the emergence of the ‘Black Lives Matter’ movement in May-June 2020 and renewed interest in colonialism and its legacy. The Covid-19 pandemic complicated matters and in the end the event was again held on-line, which posed some logistical issues with contributors from 3 continents, but with the bonus of over 233 registrations from some 41 plus countries. Detailed planning was undertaken by NW, NB, AM and GD, and technical expertise was bought in to ensure smooth delivery. Prof Stanley gave a keynote address opening up the ambiguities involved and this was followed by 4 sessions, each with two contributors, on the topics of ‘History’ (Profs Alec Ryrie, Durham & Hilary Carey, Bristol); ‘Justice’ (Prof Kirsteen Kim, Fuller, California, & Drs Cathy Ross & James Butler, Oxford & Roehampton) ‘Languages, Translation and Printing’ (Profs Bob Woodberry, Baylor, Texas & Ashish Alexander, SHUATS, Allahabad) and ‘Missions and the Military’ (Prof Michael Snape, Durham & Dr Nicholas Wood, Oxford). Each session gave opportunity for interaction with and between the speakers, whose disciplinary backgrounds included History, Theology/ Missiology, Literature and Social Science. In the closing 6th session Dr Kang-San Tan, General Director of BMS World Mission, offered an overview and response to the discussions and

further questions and considerations were taken from the participants from around the world. Despite the vexed and sometimes contentious topics under review, the discussions were carried out in a positive spirit of open enquiry. The organisers are grateful to all the contributors, to the participants and to the McDonald Agape Foundation which sponsored the event. Video recordings of the presentations will be available for a limited period on the McDonald Centre website and conversations about possible publication of papers from the conference are on-going.

F. Projects

Ethics and Empire (NJB)

The third conference, on empires in the early modern period, already postponed from July 2020 because of the covid-19 epidemic, was postponed again from June to September 2021.

The Oxford Character Project (EB and JB)

The Oxford Character Project (OCP), directed by McDonald Centre Associate Fellows, Dr Edward Brooks and Dr Jonathan Brant, conducts interdisciplinary research on character and leadership and delivers practical programmes that seek to help students develop the character qualities needed for life and leadership that furthers the good of society. The major focus of our present work is a large research project on character, culture and leadership development in the sectors of business, finance, law, and technology. Funded by the John Templeton Foundation, and under the leadership of NB as Principal Investigator and EB as Project Director, this “Virtues and Vocations” project seeks to understand the most important virtues of character for employees and leaders in our focal sectors. We are particularly seeking to understand the development of character in relation to organisational cultures understood as “moral and intellectual ecosystems.”

In the past year we have recruited a team of five post-doctoral fellows to work on this project, along with a project officer and programme manager. We are working closely with industry partners in our focal sectors, particularly the Forward Institute, who have invested heavily in our work in order to further its industry impact in coming years. Our research, now underway, involves: a “prototype analysis” survey of how leadership is understood within organisations and across sectors; an analysis of the values of 250 UK firms, identifying central values and how companies seek to embed them in practice; 160 interviews with leaders and employees at different levels in organisations; a quantitative survey of character and leadership; a longitudinal study of students as they participate in our programmes and on into industry. We hope to release our first industry report towards the end of this year with a steady stream of reports and publications thereafter in order to share the results of our work. Our aim is that organisations and industry bodies would actively recognise the importance of character virtues alongside values and purpose, and that they would integrate character development into leadership programmes and organisational design.

The OCP’s educational programmes have also grown this last year, albeit delivered

virtually rather than in person due to COVID-19. We joined with the St Gallen Symposium to run the Global Leadership Challenge in December 2020, have seen our online course on Leading and Flourishing, produced in partnership with the Human Flourishing Program at Harvard University, taken up by over 1,500 participants worldwide, and we have expanded our Oxford Global Leadership Initiative to 45 participants from 15 in previous years.

Outputs over the last 12 months have included a conference on “Character in the Professions”, hosted jointly with the Program for Leadership and Character at Wake Forest University, a framework on Character Education in Universities, published together with the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues at the University of Birmingham, and a large number of conference presentations and talks. Articles and books in press or under review include: Lamb, Brant and Brooks (In press) “How is virtue cultivated? Seven strategies for postgraduate character development.” *Journal of Character Education*; Brooks (In press) “A new generation of wise thinkers and good leaders: What can character contribute?” *Journal of Character and Leadership Development*; Brooks, Coates, and Gulliford (Under review) “The use of biographical narratives in exemplarist moral education.” *Journal of Moral Education*; Brooks, Cohen de Lara, Sanchez-Ostiz, and Torralba (eds) (In press) *Literature and Character Education in Universities* (Routledge); Brant, Brooks, and Lamb (eds) (In press) *Cultivating Virtue in the University* (Oxford University Press); Brooks and Lamb (eds) (Under review) *The Arts of Leading* (Oxford University Press).

As one indicator of our impact over the last year, it has been gratifying to see our work feature in *The New Scientist*, *The Evening Standard*, and *Psychology Today*, as well as in Mark Carney’s recent book *Value(s)*.

Understanding Conversion to Islam in Prison (MW)

Understanding Conversion to Islam in Prison (UCIP) is a large-scale, mixed-methods, independently funded study, undertaken to understand the nature of the practice of Islam in prison and how this practice affects prison life and rehabilitation. From March 2020 to May 2021, UCIP made productive use of lockdown to prepare the following eight outputs for publication based on our empirical fieldwork conducted in 5 English prisons, 4 Swiss prisons and 1 French prison of a variety of geographies and covering all prison categories. These UCIP publications are:

Islam in Prison: conversion, extremism and rehabilitation, written for publication by Bristol University Press, Short Series

Prison as a site of intense religious change: the example of conversion to Islam, published in the Q1 journal, *Religions*

Living Islam in Prison: how gender affects the religious experiences of female and male offenders, published in the Q1 journal, *Religions*

The Ontology of the Male Muslim Offender: a critical realist framework, published in the *Journal of Critical Realism*

Doing ‘Judgemental Rationality’ in empirical research: the importance of depth-reflexivity when researching in prison, submitted for publication in the *Journal of Critical Realism*

Building on the shoulders of Bhaskar and Matthews: a Critical Realist Criminology,

submitted for publication in the *Journal of Critical Realism*
The Primacy of Ontology: a philosophical basis for research on religion in prison,
 submitted for publication in the *Journal of Critical Realism*
A Liminal Space for Affirming Religious Identity: an analysis of religious trajectories of
Muslims in prison, submitted for publication in French in the QI journal,
Criminologie

In one sentence, UCIP have found that conversion to and intensification in Islam in prison present significant rehabilitative opportunities for prisoners to discover piety and purpose and to re-engage in work and education, as well as some criminogenic risk of their being drawn towards Us vs. Them Islamist worldviews.

Based on the findings of UCIP, PRIMO, funded for five years by the Dawes Trust, will begin on 21 June 2021 and design, pilot and test a basic prisoner course in Islam, a course of training in basic penology for Muslim prison chaplains and training in Islam in prison for Prison Officers intended for use in England, France and the United States.

G. NJB: lectures and publications

Invited lectures and talks

“What does the Scottish election mean for the future of the United Kingdom and its global role?”, Council for Geostrategy, 25 May 2021:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhfyWpdmOV0>

“Rights, Free Speech, and Colonialism”, Radley College, 6 May 2021:

www.vimeo.com/546394526

“‘Grey Zone’ Operations, National Self-confidence, and Military Intervention”, in “Preparing ourselves against ambitious opponents”, Cityforum ‘webclave’, 22 October 2020

“Balancing Individual Freedom, Privacy, and Social Responsibility in Times of Crisis”, Ditchley Park Zoom discussion, 13 May 2020

Book published

What’s Wrong with Rights? (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020)

Book in production

Colonialism: A Moral Reckoning, under contract for publication by William Collins in the Spring of 2022

Chapters in books (published)

“Why the Right to Academic Freedom is Not Enough”, in Jakob Lothe, ed., *Research and Human Rights*, Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters (Oslo: Novus Press, 2020)

“Fostering Reconciliation as a Goal of Military Endeavour”, *Jus Post Bellum: Restraint, Stabilization, and Peace*, ed. Patrick Mileham (Leiden & Boston: Brill Nijhoff, 2020)

Articles in journals (published & forthcoming)

“Legal Critiques of *What’s Wrong with Rights?* A Reply to Napel and Hill”, in *Canopy Forum*:

Interaction of Law and Religion, April 2021:

<https://canopyforum.org/2021/04/16/legal-critiques-of-wwwr-a-reply-to-napel-and-hill-qc/>

“Ethical Critiques of *What’s Wrong with Rights?* A Reply to Milbank and Harrison”, in *Canopy Forum: Interaction of Law and Religion*, April 2021:

<https://canopyforum.org/2021/04/15/ethical-critiques-of-wwwr-a-reply-to-milbank-and-harrison/>

“Theological Critiques of *What’s Wrong with Rights?* A Reply to Little and Herdt”, in *Canopy Forum: Interaction of Law and Religion*, April 2021:

<https://canopyforum.org/2021/04/13/theological-critiques-of-wwwr-a-reply-to-little-and-herdt/>

“*What’s Wrong with Rights?* A Reply to Three Critics”, *Anglican Theological Review* (2021)

“Academia and Free Speech”, *The Round Table: The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs*, 109/5 (September 2020)

“The Witness of German Resistance to Hitler”, a sermon given in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, 2019, *Crucible* (July 2020)

“Anglican Establishment: How is it Liberal?”, *Studies in Christian Ethics*, 33/2 (May 2020)

Other publications (bulletins, pamphlets, newspaper articles and letters, interviews, blogs)

“Cecil Rhodes had a life and a story worth celebrating”, *The Times*, 21 May 2021

“How racist was the British Empire? A debate over war graves threatens to mislead the public about the past”, *Unherd*, 20 May 2021

“The Free Speech Bill will help”, letter, *The Times*, 20 May 2021

“‘Decolonising’ is pillaging the past for politics”, *Sunday Telegraph*, 2 May 2021

“Unintended Consequences: freedom of expression and its limits”, *The Tablet*, 10 April 2021

“Are Museums Racist?”, *CapX*, 6 April 2021

“Whites and Wrongs: Dan Hicks, *The Brutish Museums: The Benin Bronzes, Cultural Violence, and Cultural Restitution*”, *The Critic*, April 2021

“President’s view of British Empire is too one-sided”, *Irish Times*, 9 March 2021

“My plan for defeating Sturgeon’s devious SNP”, *Sunday Telegraph*, 28 February 2021

“Universities are not systematically racist”, *Spiked*, 22 February 2021

“The government will offer a lifeboat to sinking free speech on campuses”, *The Times*, 16 February 2021

“Politics: How to save Britain from Scottish independence”, *Standpoint*, December 2020/January 2021)

“Freedom of Speech at Cambridge and Eton”, letter, *The Times*, 4 December 2020

“Britain’s slave trade and the problem with ‘decolonisation’”, *The Spectator*, 29 November 2020

“Why Rhodes should stay put”, *TheArticle*, 30 October 2020

“Judges are making an ass of human rights law”, *The Times*, 11 October 2020

“Museum exhibits moral confusion”, *Sunday Times*, 27 September 2020

“The threat to academic freedom is no myth”, feature article, *Sunday Telegraph*, 8 August 2020

- “Academic freedom and self-censorship”, leading letter, *The Times*, 4 August 2020
 “Why shouldn’t the curriculum be ‘eurocentric’?”, *Unherd*, 9 July 2020
 “Slave trader statue and anti-racist protests”, leading letter, *The Times*, 9 June 2020
 “Dispute at Oxford over college dean”, leading letter, *The Times*, 25 May 2020

Radio interviews, podcasts etc.

- “Heresies, 4: Britain’s Silent Cultural Revolution”, an interview with Emma Webb, June 2021:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swQFkzoirDE>
 “The Ethics of the British Empire and Reparations”, an interview with Lipton Matthews, 7
 May 2021: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5EFwiKCU0hM>
 “What is the Common Good?”, The Common Good Project, Faculty of Law and Blackfriars
 Hall, University of Oxford, 4 May 2021:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7aMKHfxpqfc&t=486s>
 “Politics at the Cross-roads: Nigel Biggar”, interview, *The Saeculum*, 26 February 2021:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ec1gjWHR8R4>
 “Statue removal”, interview, Voice of Islam Radio, 23 February 2021
 “What’s Wrong with Rights?”, book launch, sponsored by Policy Exchange, 15 December
 2021: <https://policyexchange.org.uk/pxevents/whats-wrong-with-rights/>
 “What’s Wrong with Rights?”, Reading Our Times, an interview with Nick Spencer of Theos,
 17 November 2020:
<https://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/comment/2020/11/17/nigel-biggar>
 “The Positive Case for the British Empire (and Cecil Rhodes): a balanced approach to imperial
 history”, interview, New Culture Forum, 16 October 2020:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9JfdG_oFqSU
 “Is Academic Freedom at Risk?”, chair, panel discussion, sponsored by Policy Exchange at
 the Conservative Party Conference, 4 October 2020:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vU1LGdGO874>
 Conservative Home: “Interview: Nigel Biggar says human rights are not enough and the
 British Empire was good as well as bad”, 16 September 2020
 “Should We be Ashamed of our History?”, Triggernometry, 30 August 2020 (51k
 views 7 May 2021):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRUD4uqFUvw>

H. DD: lectures and publications

Invited talks and appearances

- St John Henry Newman*. Pre-recorded live, broadcast on *BBC Radio 3 Free Thinking*, 23
 February 2021 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000shrq>
*Are Humans Responsible for Natural Disasters? An 18th Century Earthquake and COVID-
 19*. Live online event at the *Being Human Festival*, 17 November 2020
 “Conscience and the Age Reason,” Christian Ethics Research Seminar (online), University of
 Oxford, November 2020 (invited speaker)

- “Conscience and the Age of Reason,” PGDip Research Seminar (online), University of Oxford, November 2020 (invited speaker)
- Individualism and Community*. Pre-recorded live, broadcast on *BBC Radio 3 Free Thinking*, 28 October 2020 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000nvzm>
- Are Humans Responsible for Natural Disasters?* Live online event at the *IF: Science and Ideas Festival*, 15 October 2020 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wV6g5vyhnbI>
- The Story of God with Morgan Freeman*, Series 3, Episode 4 (“Deadly Sins”), National Geographic Channel, Autumn 2021 released on *Disney+* <https://www.disneyplus.com/en-gb/series/the-story-of-god-with-morgan-freeman/4tVTBhYRgaML>
- BBC Radio 3 Free Thinking: Nature Writing*. Pre-recorded live, broadcast on *BBC Radio 3*, 15 July 2020 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000ktf4>
- Also released as part of the BBC and AHRC *New Thinking* podcast <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p08kc1r6>
- DD’s part in the programme was highlighted as ‘Choice’ in the *Radio Times* by critic, Jane Anderson (“Radio: Today’s Choices”, Wednesday 15th July 2020)

Book

Ethical Rationalism and Secularisation in the British Enlightenment: Conscience and the Age of Reason (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020)

Chapter in book

“The Enlightenment(s) and ‘the Proper Study of Mankind,’” in *The Oxford Handbook of Theological Anthropology*, eds Michael Burdett, Ashley John Moyes, and Jens Timmerman (Oxford, Oxford University Press: forthcoming)

Articles

- “Modern Infidels, Conscientious Fools, and the *Douglas* Affair: The Orthodox Rhetoric of Conscience in the Scottish Enlightenment”, *The Journal of Religion*, 100/3 (July 2020), pp.327-360 <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/708939>
- “Benjamin Hoadly, Samuel Clarke, and the Ethics of the Bangorian Controversy: Church, State, and the Moral Law,” *Religions*, 11:11 (2020) <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel11110599>
- (Guest editor), ‘The Provinces of Moral Theology and Religious Ethics’, *Religions* Special Issue https://www.mdpi.com/journal/religions/special_issues/Moral_Theology (forthcoming 2021)
- “Edmund Burke, Richard Price, and ‘Revolution Principles’: Patriotism, Private Conscience, and Public Religion”, *E-REA* (Journal of the Laboratory for Studies and Research on the English-speaking World (LERMA)), Special Issue/Conference Proceedings: *Laïcité(s): religion et espace public/Religion and State in the Public Sphere* (forthcoming 2022)
- (Guest editor), ‘The Church and the British Moralists’, *History of European Ideas* Special Issue (forthcoming 2022)

Other publications

“What the Deal Is,” in *The Bridport Prize Anthology 2020* (Bristol: Redcliffe Press, 2020)

<https://bridportprize.org.uk/shop/>

“The Lisbon Earthquake and the Problem of Evil,” *IF: Oxford Science + Ideas Festival*, event pre-read October 2020 <https://if-oxford.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Pre-Read-Are-Humans-Responsible-For-Natural-Disasters.pdf>

“Are Humans Responsible for Natural Disasters”, *OX Magazine*, September 2020, pp.26-27 (also available online: <https://library.myebook.com/FYNE/ox-magazine-september-2020/2765/>)

An interview with DD by Anne-Laure Juif for *La Croix*: “Au Royaume-Uni et aux États-Unis, le confinement renforce la foi et la prière,” June 2020 <https://www.la-croix.com/Religion/Au-Royaume-Uni-Etats-Unis-confinement-renforce-foi-priere-2020-05-06-1201092904>

I. AM: publications**Invited lectures and talks**

“Oh, That We Might See Everything Differently: Interrogating a Baconian Spirit, Confessing (In)humanity,” for the Christian Flourishing in a Technological World lecture series, Regent College, Vancouver, BC (via Zoom), March 2021

“On old age and the stories where sorrows are born(e),” Institute of Population Ageing Seminar, University of Oxford, November 2020

“Bearing the burdens we bare: An indictment of a modern anthropology that burdens ageing persons” for the McDonald Centre Virtual Interdisciplinary Conference, University of Oxford, September 2020

Books

The art of living for the technological age: toward a humanizing performance (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, February 2021)

(In progress) *Resourcing Hope for Ageing and Dying in the Late Modern World: Wayfaring through Despair*, under contract with Anthem Press for 2022 publication.

Book chapters

(Forthcoming) “El significado actual del dolor y el sufrimiento en la era tecnológica,” for *Sociedad Tecnológica y Futuro Humano, vol.2: El ser humano en la era tecnológica*, edited by Héctor Velázquez (Tirant Le Banch, Chile, projected 2021). Essay translated into Spanish by Maria Beer Vuco.

(Forthcoming) “Oh, That We Might See Everything Differently: Interrogating a Baconian Spirit, Confessing (In)humanity,” in Jens Zimmermann and Michael Burdett, eds., *Human Flourishing in a Technological World* (Oxford: OUP, projected 2022)

Articles

(Forthcoming) “Janet Malek’s Programmatic Secularism: A Dissent,” for a special issue of *Christian Bioethics*, “Religion in hospital ethics committees”, guest edited by Jeffrey Bishop and Jordan Mason

(Under review) “*Bearing the burdens we (don’t tend to) bare: independence as ‘one more opportunity for me to fail’*,” for a special issue of *Journal of Population Ageing*, “Illuminating the darker sides of ageing,” guest edited by Joshua Hordern and Ashley Moyses

Editing

(Under Contract) *The Oxford Handbook of Theological Anthropology*, coedited with Jens Zimmermann and Michael Burdett (projected for 2023).

(In production) *Interrupting a gendered, violent church* by Anna Mercedes; for the Dispatches book series I advise and edit with Scott Kirkland (Fortress Press)

Acknowledgements

Warm thanks are owed, as always, to the Centre’s Administrative Officer, Ginny Dunn.

*Nigel Biggar, Director
Christ Church, Oxford
10 June 2021*

APPENDIX:
The dispute with Christ Church's Censors

In October 2020 NJB submitted a paper to the Governing Body (GB) of Christ Church, which laid out his view that the Censors had implicated GB in an act of unlawful and reckless harassment by instructing their lawyer to write to the Steering Committee of the Centre in May, demanding the removal of any claims to association with Christ Church from the Centre's website. (See the McDonald Centre's annual report for 2020, Appendix.) At the meeting, as the minutes record, NJB explicitly invited colleagues to offer reasons showing that his view was in error. He also explicitly urged colleagues to cease their legal action. NJB was excluded from subsequent discussion. Since then no colleague has offered any corrective comment and the Censors have communicated nothing to him.