**Matthew Lee Anderson**

Institute for Studies of Religion

Baylor University

One Bear Place #97236

Waco, TX 76798

480.776.4114

matthew\_l\_anderson@baylor.edu

**Employment**

Baylor University, Honors Program 2023 - present

Assistant Professor

Baylor University, Institute for the Study of Religion 2019 - 2023

Assistant Research Professor in Theology and Ethics

Baylor University, Baylor in Washington 2019 - present

Assistant Director

Baylor University, Institute for the Study of Religion 2018 - 2019

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Biola University, Torrey Honors College 2014 - 2017

Academic Marketing Consultant

**Education**

2018 D.Phil., Oxford University

Dissertation title: *In Defence of Children: Pro- and Anti-Natalist Arguments in Moral Philosophy and Karl Barth*

2014 M.Phil. with Distinction, Oxford University

Christian Ethics, *Distinction*

Thesis title: *An Overlooked Path to the Basic Good of Marriage? John Finnis, Fides, and Marriage’s Rationality*

2004 B.A., Biola University

Humanities/Philosophy, *summa cum laude*

Torrey Honors College, Perpetual Member

**Publications**

“‘Moral Thinking’: Response to Chapter Two,” *Scottish Bulletin of Evangelical Theology,* 33-1, Spring 2015, 74-78.

“Is Religious Liberty Under Threat? An Introduction to the Symposium,” *Studies in Christian Ethics*, 33-2, May 2020, 141-146.

“What the State Owes ‘Bastards’: A Modest Criticism of Modest One-Child Policies,” *Journal of Applied Philosophy,* 37-3, July 2020, 393-407.

“The Effect of Religion on Mental Health among Prisoners in South Africa: Explanations and Gender Differences,” with Sung Joon Jang, Byron Johnson, and Karen Booyens, *Justice Quarterly* 38:6, 2021, 1154-1181.

“Stability, Natural Rights, and the Limits of Prudence,” *The Anglican Theological Review* 103:4, November 2021, 402-408.

“Indexing Burdens and Benefits of Treatment to Age: Revisiting Paul Ramsey’s ‘Medical Indications Policy,’” *Christian Bioethics,* 27-2, August 2021, 183-202.

“The *Imago Dei* and the Infinite Value of Human Life,” in *Bioethics in Real Life: Lessons We’re Learning from Covid-19,* Matthew Eppinette et al., eds., (Bannockburn: Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, 2022).

“(When) Is There a Christian Responsibility to Gossip?,” *Journal for the Society of Christian Ethics* 42:1, Spring/Summer 2022, 135-152.

*“*Religion and Responsibility-Taking among Offenders in Colombia and South Africa: A Qualitative Assessment of a Faith Based Program in Prison,” primary author with Jason Burtt, Karen Booyens, Sung Joon Jang, Byron Johnson and Michael Joseph, *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology* 67:1, January 2023, 66-88.

“Giving Thanks for the Gift of Life: Karl Barth on Gratitude to God for One’s Own Life,” *Religions* 13:10, 2022, 959.

“Bringing Body and Soul (Back) Together Again: Robert P. George, Oliver O’Donovan, and the Place of Resurrection in Body Ethics,” in *Social Conservatism for the Common Good: A Protestant Engagement with Robert P. George*, Andrew T. Walker, ed., (Wheaton: Crossway Press, 2022).

“Introduction to the Second Edition,” *Begotten or Made? 2nd Edition,* Oliver O’Donovan (The Davenant Press, 2022).

“Ectogestation and Humanity’s Whence? An Exploration with Saint Augustine and Karl Barth,” forthcoming at *Christian Bioethics*

“Anti-Abortionist Action Theory and the Asymmetry between Spontaneous and Induced Abortions,” forthcoming in *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy*,

“Gratitude for (One’s Own) Life,” forthcoming at *American Philosophical Quarterly.*

“Parenthood, *Patient as Person*, and Research with Children,” forthcoming in *Paul Ramsey: The Man, His Thought, and a Groundbreaking Approach to Bioethics,* Routledge.

*Confidence in Life: A Barthian Defense of Procreating,* forthcoming from T&T Clark

**Works in Progress**

“Secondary Stigmas and the Works of Mercy: Thomas Aquinas on the Families of Criminal Offenders,” under review at *Religious Studies*

“The Presumption of Innocence vs. Believing the Victim: Is Suspicion still a Vice?” manuscript in progress

**Grants Awarded**

$15,000 – Murdoch Foundation, *100 Days of Dante*

$15,000 – Gratitude to God, Biola University and the John Templeton Foundation

**Conference Organizing**

Is Religious Freedom Under Threat? Trans-Atlantic Perspectives – Conference Co-organizer, 2018 McDonald Centre for Public Life Annual Conference

Texas Consortium on Christian Ethics – Co-Founder and 2021 convener

Faithful to the Call: Renewing Theological Ethics from the Ground Up – Conference Co-organizer, 2022 McDonald Center for Public Life Annual Conference

**Academic Presentations**

“The Presumption of Innocence vs. Believing the Victim: Is Suspicion still a Vice?,” Society for Christian Ethics, January 2022.

“Response to Prof. Nigel Biggar’s *What’s Wrong with Rights,”* Society for Christian Ethics, January 2021.

“(When) Is There a Christian Responsibility to Gossip?,” Society for Christian Ethics, January 2021.

“The *Imago Dei* and the Infinite Value of Human Life,” Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, July 2020.

“Secondary Stigmas and the Work of Mercy,” American Academy of Religion, November, 2019.

# “The Stability and Source of the Imperative to Procreate,” *El principio de responsabilidad. Hans Jonas: 40 años después,* Pontifica Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago, Chile, October, 2019.

# “How is Withdrawing Life-Sustaining Hydration and Nutrition Honoring to God? Reflections on Alfie Evans and Charlie Gard,” Evangelical Theological Society, November 2018.

“Toward a Theology of Procreativity, Beginning with Faith,” Tyndale Fellowship Annual Conference, Cambridge, United Kingdom, July, 2016.

“Metaphysics and the Doctrine of Equal Respect,” Loyola Institute Interdisciplinary Conference, Dublin, Ireland, June, 2016.

“Reinvigorating the Erotic: The Authority of Beauty and the Etiology of (Sexual) Desire,” Evangelical Theological Society, Atlanta, November 2015.

“A Spectacularly Transgressive Permanence: Augustinian Reflections on Ed Hardy’s California Tattooing Ethos,” the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November 2014.

“What do we know when our performances fail? Anscombe on our Knowledge in Intentional Actions,” Anscombe Bioethics Centre, Oxford, September 2013.

“The Quality of Mercy: Aquinas and Nussbaum on the Structure of Compassion,” Affections and Ethics network, Oxford University, November 2013.

**Book Reviews**

Review essay on *Humility, Pride and Christian Virtue Theory* by Kent Dunnington and *Humility and Human Flourishing: A Study in Analytic Moral Theology* by Michael Austin, in *Political Theology,* 21:1-2, 165-168.

*Un/Familiar Theology: Reconceiving Sex, Reproduction and Generativity,* Susannah Cornwall, *Studies in Christian Ethics,* 31-3, 2018, 322-325.

*Ethics at the Edges of Law,* Kathleen Kaveny, *Journal of Church and State,* 62-1, Summer 2018, 552-554.

*Religious Freedom, LGBT Rights, and the Prospects for Common Ground,* William N. Eskridge, Jr. and Robin Fretewell Wilson, editors, *Journal of Church and State,* 62-1, Winter 2020, 178-180.

**Honors and Awards**

Torrey Honors College, Biola University

Member, Oxford Honors Program

Member, Epsilon Kappa Epsilon, Biola University Honors Society

Member, Order of Peter and Paul, Torrey Honors College

EO James Fellowship, All Souls College, 2013

Henley Henson Fellowship, Theology Faculty, Oxford, 2014-15

Western Civilization Fellowship, Intercollegiate Studies Institute, 2015

Resident Fellow, Institute for the Study of Religion, Baylor University, 2017

Associate Fellow, McDonald Centre, Oxford University

Paul Ramsey Fellow, Paul Ramsey Institute, 2019 - 2020

Paul Ramsey Junior Scholar, 2020 - 2023

Paul Ramsey Scholar, 2023 - present

**Teaching**

Fall 2023: (Big) Reputation, Baylor University

Fall 2021: The Philosophy and Theology of the *Divine Comedy*, Baylor University

Fall 2020: Medieval Intellectual Traditions, Baylor University

Fall 2018: Intellectual Traditions of the Ancient World, Baylor University

Fall 2017: Intellectual Traditions of the Ancient World, Baylor University

Fall 2017: Theistic Ethics and Moral Apologetics, Houston Baptist University

Fall 2015: Adjunct Professor, Torrey Honors College

**Additional Work**

Assistant Director, *Baylor in Washington* (ongoing)

* Supervise 15-20 student research papers (25 pages) on law, public policy, ethics, etc. every semester
* Select presenters and readings for sub-section of a course on public policy
* Assist in coordinating public events by selecting topics, presenters, coordinating logistics, etc.
* Assist with messaging and public communication
* Assist in program strategy and management, recruiting, and development
* Helped in developing a successful grant proposal for a summer conference on the pro-social effects of religion. Amount awarded: $1,450,000.

Program Director, *100 Days of Dante* (2020-2022)

* Developed concept for world’s ‘largest Dante reading group’ to mark the 700th anniversary of Dante’s death
* Selected and worked with a marketing agency to develop brand, website, promo video, and collateral marketing materials
* Supervised he development and production of 100 ‘canto videos’ offering instruction about how to read the text
* Oversaw a team of four employees who assisted in production, marketing, organizations, and all facets of the project
* Built collaborative relationships with five additional universities and a number of other organizations

Academic Marketing Consultant, *Torrey Honors College* (2014-2017)

* Consulted on a full rebrand of the College, including developing a new seal, marketing campaign, event marketing strategy, communications strategy, etc.
* Assisted faculty in engaging non-academic audiences, by helping them develop and place public essays
* Developed and implemented a content strategy for the College, including blogging and video efforts
* Oversaw event marketing, including developing and promoting public dialogues that reached from 200 to 20,000 people.

**Selected Non-Academic Publications (others available upon request)**

*Called into Questions: Cultivating the Love of Learning Within the Life of Faith,* forthcoming from Moody Press (July 2023)

“How We Got to the Equality Act,” *Christianity Today,* May/June 2021

“The Image of God at the Beginning of Life,” *First Things,* March 2021

“White Evangelicals Have a Complicated Relationship with Christian Nationalism,” *Christianity Today,* July/August 2020

“Here Come the Radicals.” *Christianity Today,* March 2013.

*The End of our Exploring: A Book about Questioning and the Confidence of Faith.* Chicago: Moody Press, 2013.

*Earthen Vessels: Why our Bodies Matter to our Faith.* Minneapolis: Bethany House, 2011.

**Professional Associations**

American Academy of Religion

Society of Christian Ethics

Evangelical Theological Society

Paul Ramsey Fellow, Paul Ramsey Institute

**References**

Dr. David Corey Prof. Nigel Biggar Dr. Byron Johnson

Director Regius Professor of Moral Theology Director

Baylor in Washington Christ Church College Institute for Studies of Religion

Baylor University Oxford University Baylor University

david\_d\_corey@baylor.edu nigel.biggar@chch.ox.ac.uk byron.johnson@baylor.edu