

# Joan Eleanor O'Bryan

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## EDUCATION

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**Stanford University** Exp. June 2024  
Ph.D., Political Science  
Dissertation Topic: *On Patriarchy: Political Origin Stories in Contemporary Feminist Thought*  
Committee: Prof. Alison McQueen, Prof. Emilee Chapman, & Prof. Josh Ober  
Spring 2023: Visiting student, Harvard University Department of Government

**University of Cambridge** June 2018  
M.Phil., Public Policy

**Swarthmore College** July 2013  
B.A., Political Science & German Studies (High Honors)

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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**Deep Springs College**  
Fall 2022: Visiting Faculty Member, Political Theory

**Stanford University**  
2019 - 2022: Graduate Teaching Assistant

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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“The only thing I want is for people to stop seeing me naked”: Consent, Contracts, & Sexual Media (forthcoming, *Hypatia*). Draft available [online](#).

## REVIEWS & OTHER WRITING

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**Reading across the Atlantic: Simone de Beauvoir in France and America.** Review of *Sex, Love, and Letters* by Judy G. Coffin in *Tocqueville 21* ([link](#)).

On “[Democracy](#)” and “[Gender](#)” for the Stanford Basic Income Lab’s *UBI Visualization Project*.

Review of *Feminist Trouble: Intersectional Politics in Postsecular Times* by Éléonore Lépinard in the *American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Feminism and Philosophy* ([link](#)).

**Analysing Data: CIPFA Statistics and the Future of England’s Libraries** report for the United Kingdom’s Department for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport ([link](#)).

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

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### *On Sex and Law*

#### **All I Want is for People to Stop Seeing Me Naked: Consent, Contracts, and Media**

October 2020: Stanford Workshop in Political Theory

April 2021: Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Meeting

#### **A Case for Sex Exceptionalism: Pornography & Contract Law**

April 2023: Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Meeting (upcoming)

### *On Patriarchy & Origin Stories*

#### **Beauvoir's Ontology of Patriarchy**

November 2021: [Contexts Graduate Conference](#) in Political Theory at Sciences Po

March 2022: [Arizona Feminist Philosophy Graduate Conference](#) at the University of Arizona

June 2022: 27th Conference of the [International Simone de Beauvoir Society](#)

#### **Patriarchy as Class Division: Varieties of Materialism in Second Wave Feminist Thought**

June 2022: [London Graduate Conference](#) in the History of Political Thought

#### **Origin Stories as Methodology in History of Feminist Thought**

September 2022: American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting

#### **The Evolution of Patriarchy in the Thought of Catharine MacKinnon**

February 2023: [Institute of Historical Research](#)'s Early Career Seminar in the History of Political Ideas

### *Miscellaneous*

#### **Female Equality in Plato and Aristotle**

December 2019: Critical Perspectives in Philosophy hosted by [Stanford Minorities and Philosophy](#)

#### **Commentary on Queer Utopias**

March 2022: Stanford QTheory Night

#### **Lecture on "The Gender Wars"**

November 2022: Faculty lecture given on topic of expertise to entire Deep Springs College community

## TEACHING

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#### **Ethics for Activists, *teaching assistant***

For Prof. Emilee Chapman

**Stanford University:** Winter 2019, Winter 2021

#### **Justice, *teaching assistant***

For Dr. Brian Coyne

**Stanford University:** Fall 2020, Fall 2021

#### **Citizenship, *teaching assistant***

For Dr. Brian Coyne

**Stanford University:** Summer 2021

#### **Ethics on the Edge, *teaching assistant***

For Dr. Susan Liautaud

**Stanford University:** Spring 2022

#### **Feminism Today, *primary instructor***

Designed and co-led class for women in recovery

**Hope House**, Addiction Treatment Center  
Summer 2021

#### **The Ethics of Sex, Gender, & Reproduction, *instructor of record***

Seminar at **Deep Springs College:** Fall 2022

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

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### **Stanford Graduate Conference in Political Theory, co-founder**

With Joseph Cloward and Avshalom Schwartz, began an annual conference in political theory in which we invite nine students, domestic and international, to present their work to the Stanford Department of Political Science. Past keynote speakers include Wendy Brown, Daniela Cammack, and Desmond Jagmohan.

- 2022 Discussant for Jacob Hoerger (Harvard University)  
*"Lived Experience" and Its Critics*
- 2021 Discussant for Ophelia Vedder (Princeton University)  
*Political Liberalism and Feminist Public Policies*
- 2020 Discussant for Christy Brandly (University of Chicago)  
*Rethinking the Political and Familial in Ivan Turgenev's Shakespearean Works*

### **Stanford Workshop in Political Theory**

- 2022 Discussant for Valerie Soon (Stanford University)  
*An Ecological Conception of Freedom of Association*
- 2021 Discussant for Robin Dembroff (Yale University)  
*Beneath the Binary*
- 2019 Discussant for Kate Vredenburg (London School of Economics)  
*The Right to an Explanation*

### **Stanford Basic Income Lab, Graduate Research Fellow**

2019 - 2021. Researched the impact of contemporary empirical work on UBI for gender equality and democratization.

### **Politeia (formerly Society for the Dirty Leviathan), chair**

2019 - Present. *Generously funded by the McCoy Center for Ethics.* Politeia organizes political theory retreats for Stanford graduate students and postdocs, hosts the annual Stanford Graduate Conference in Political Theory, and runs the graduate student workshop.

## SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

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### **Crisis Counselor at the YWCA**

Certified in California via the 75-Hour Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Human Trafficking Counselor Training. Fall 2021 - Present.

### **Guest Lecturer for the Women's Empowerment Ambassadors Club**

Invited to speak at Homestead High School, Cupertino CA. April 2022.

### **Head Community Associate, Rains Residence Complex, Stanford University.**

Organize weekly events for resident mental health and well-being. Fall 2019 - Spring 2022.

## RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Graduate Student Researcher** with the Stanford Basic Income Lab (2019 - Present)

**Work Placement** with the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport *Libraries Taskforce* (2019)

**Consultant** at the Institute for the Study of War (2017-2018)

**Teaching Fellow, 5th grade Mathematics** at Match Education (2014-2016)

## FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, & GRANTS

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**Centennial Teaching Assistant (CTA) Award (2022) - Stanford University**

Awarded to outstanding graduate student teachers for their dedication to teaching and excellence in the classroom.

**Marilyn Yalom Prize (2022) - The Clayman Institute for Gender Research at Stanford University**

Awarded in support of original research in the humanities on issues concerning women and gender.

**Ethics Center Small Grant (2021) - McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society**

Awarded to organize a reading group in Queer Theory.

**Graduate Student Fellowship (2020) - McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society**

Competitive fellowship awarded to ten graduate students a year to examine ethical questions specific to their research and that more broadly relate to their roles as scholars and as citizens.

**Student Projects for Intellectual Community Enhancement Grant (2019-22) - Stanford University**

Funds awarded in support of graduate student initiatives that develop activities to expand the intellectual community. Co-received with Joseph Cloward and Avshalom Schwartz

**Maroulis Family Graduate Student Support Fund (2018-22) - Stanford University**

Graduate award for PhD study at Stanford University.

**YouGov Bursary (2017) - University of Cambridge**

Award by the Department of Politics and International Studies for graduate study.

**Hannah A. Leedom Fellowship (2017) - Swarthmore College**

For the pursuit of advanced study, awarded on the recommendation of the Swarthmore Committee on Fellowships and Prizes.

**STEM Education Grant (2017) - Boston Girls Leadership & Organized Women (GLOW)**

Awarded for encouraging girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

**Fulbright Grant (2013)**

Fully funded residence in Germany to promote mutual understanding among nations through educational engagement.

## REFERENCES

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### **Professor Emilee Chapman**

Assistant Professor of Political Science Stanford University

### **Professor Alison McQueen**

Associate Professor of Political Science Stanford University

Contact information provided on request.