
AYLON COHEN

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Department of Political Science, University of Chicago
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Democratic Theory, Intellectual History, Early Modern History & Political Thought
Queer-Feminist Theory, British Studies, Historical Sociology, Affect Theory

EDUCATION

PhD, Political Science, University of Chicago, 2023

Dissertation: "Sodomy, Equality, Fraternity: Bodily Practice and the Rise of Democracy"
Committee: Linda Zerilli (chair), Lisa Wedeen, Adom Getachew, Steven Pincus
Fields: Political Theory, Comparative Politics

University of Chicago

MA, Political Science, 2017

University of Oxford

MPhil, Politics and International Relations, 2014, *distinction*

University of British Columbia

BA (Honours), Political Science, 2011, *summa cum laude*

Visiting Scholar, 2022–2023

Centre for British Studies, Humboldt-Universität - Berlin

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS & AFFILIATIONS

Lecturer, 2022

Otto Suhr Institute, Department of Political Science, Freie Universität - Berlin

Lecturer, 2019–2021

'The College', Core Curriculum, University of Chicago

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"The Inter-est Between Us: Ontology, Epistemology, and the Failure of Political Representation," *Contemporary Political Theory*, 22, 1 (2022): 46-69.

"Sovereign Chaos and Riotous Affects. Or, How to Find Joy Behind the Barricades," *Capacious: Journal for Emerging Affect Inquiry*, 2, 1-2 (2020): 152-172.

BOOK CHAPTERS

"Communist Guilt, Public Happiness, and the Feelings of Collective Attachment" in *The Double Binds of Neoliberalism: Theory and Culture After 1968*, eds. Guillaume Collett, Krista Giappone, Iain MacKenzie, (Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2022), 201-224.

"From Mute Objects to Militant Subjects: The Politics of Rebellious Animals" in *Subjectivation in Political Theory and Contemporary Practices*, eds. Andrei Siclodi and Andreas Oberprantacher (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016), pp. 237-263.
— Translated into Russian

"'We Support Circus Animals Who Kill Their Captors': Nonhuman Resistance, Animal Subjectivity, and the Politics of Democracy" in *Tiere - Texte - Transformationen: Kritische Perspektiven der Human-Animal Studies*, ed. Andreas Oberprantacher (Bielefeld: Transcript, 2015), pp. 277-294.
— Translated into Greek

BOOK REVIEWS

Tom Head, *It's Your World So Change it* (Indianapolis, IN: QUE Publishing, 2010), *St Antony's International Review* 8, 2 (2013): 175–177.

UNDER REVIEW

“From the Body of the King to the Body of the Nation: Sovereignty, Sodomy, and the Problem of Political Attachment” (Revise & Resubmit at *Modern Intellectual History*).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Brotherly Love, Cannibal Sodomites, and the Political Subject of Contract in John Locke’s *Two Treatises of Government*”

“Constructing Equality, Cruising Fraternity: Bodily Practice, Freemasons, and the Bourgeois Public Sphere”

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

2022 — Provost Dissertation Completion Fellowship
University of Chicago, \$33,000

2021 — Thomas Keymer Award
British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, £100

2020 — Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF)
Social Science Research Council, \$27,100

2020 — Pozen Research Grant, Pozen Family Center for Human Rights
University of Chicago, \$4884

2020 — Nicholson Center for British Studies Graduate Research Fellowship
University of Chicago, \$7000

2019 — Human Rights Doctoral Fellowship, Pozen Family Center for Human Rights
University of Chicago, \$1000

2015 — Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Doctoral Fellowship (SSHRC), \$20,000 (x4 years)

2015 — Social Sciences Graduate Fellowship
University of Chicago, \$23,000 (x5 years)

2012 — Departmental Fellowship
Oxford University, £18,000 (x2 years)

2011 — Political Science Gold Medal
Awarded to most outstanding graduating student
University of British Columbia

2010 — Hector Gordon Munro Scholarship in Political Science
University of British Columbia \$1000

INVITED TALKS

“**Becoming Attached: Affect, the Body, and the Emergence of Equality in Early Modern England**”

— Centre for British Studies, University of Humboldt, Berlin, November 2022

— Transition to Modernity, CISSR-EHESS International Workshop, Paris, June 2022

PRESENTATIONS

“The Traffic in Men: Fraternity, Freemasonry, and the Homo-Social Contract”

– Department of Political Science, Purchase College, New York, March 2021

“Nonhuman Resistance, Animal Subjectivity, and the Politics of Democracy”

– The Human-Animal Studies Conference, University of Innsbruck, Austria, Feb 2014”

Gender Trouble, Trans Panic, and the Formation of Fraternal Democracy

– International Congress on Political Theory, University of Bremen, September 2023

– Sex Panics International Conference, Dublin City University, October 2023

“Body Politics After the Fall of the King: Radical Democracy, Feminism, and the Possibilities of Queer Critique”

– “Futures Past: Feminism and the Radical Democratic Imaginary,” University of Vienna, July 2023

“Discourse, the Body, and the Historiographies of Radical Democracy”

– Discourse Theory: Ways Forward, Palace of the Academies, Brussels, March 2023

“What is Intellectual in Intellectual History? On Discourse and the Body in the study of Democracy”

– European Consortium for Political Research Annual Conference, August 2022

– Affective Societies Colloquium, Freie-Universität, Berlin, July 2022

“Brotherly Love, Cannibal Sodomites, and John Locke’s Subject of Contract”

– Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 2022

“Traffic in Men: Masonic Contracts, Fraternal Contact & The Bourgeois Public Sphere”

– European Conference on Politics and Gender, ECPR, July 2022

– Association for Political Theory Annual Conference, November 2021

– American Political Science Association Annual Conference, September 2021

– Venice World Multidisciplinary Conference on Republicanism (online), June 2021

– Western Political Science Association, (online) March 2021

– Western Political Science Association (cancelled due to covid), April 2020

“From the Body of the King to the Body of the Nation”

– British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference, (online) January 2021

– Early Modern Workshop, University of Chicago, January 2020

– Stanford Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Stanford University, January 2020

– Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Writing Collective, University of Rochester, October 2019

“The Sovereign Sodomite: Sodomy and the English Nation”

– Western Political Science Association, April 2019

– Sovereignty and Strangeness Conference, University of Northwestern, October 2018

“Brotherly Touch, Fraternal Love, and the Republican Body”

– Midwest Political Science Association, April 2019

“Feeling Fraternal: Equality, Touch, and The Politics of Men’s Bodies”

– Braga Colloquium in the History of Moral and Political Philosophy, University of Minho, January 2019

“Chaos and the Riot: Auto-Theory on the 50th Anniversary of May ’68”

– Double Binds of ’68 Conference, University of Kent, September 2018

PRESENTATIONS, CONT.

“Cruel Citizenship and the Failure of Representative Democracy”

- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2018
- Political Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, November 2017

“The Insurrection of Feelings and the Feelings for Insurrection”

- Fifth Annual Radical Democracy Conference, The New School, April 2015
- Enlightened Anarchism Conference, Lapland University, September 2014

“George Rousseau in Conversation with Aylon Cohen”

- Queer Pride/Queer Rage, St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford, Sept. 2013

“Radical Animals, Rupturing Speech: Maintaining Fidelity to Animal Rebellions”

- Third Annual Radical Democracy Conference, The New School, March 2013

“The Trauma of Sovereignty: Political Realism’s Real Emotions”

- Graduate Conference for the Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto, March 2013
- Graduate Conference in Political and Legal Theory, University of Warwick, Feb. 2013

“Anarch@-Feminism and Animal Liberation”

- Oxford Radical Forum, Oxford University, February 2013

TEACHING

INSTRUCTOR

- 2022 Summer Political Anatomies of the Body Politic: Gender, Sexuality, and Embodiment in Western Political Thought, Freie Universität - Berlin
- 2021 Winter Advanced Theories of Gender and Sexuality (w/ Linda Zerilli), University of Chicago
- 2019 Autumn Power, Identity, and Resistance I, University of Chicago
- 2019 Winter Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations (w/ Linda Zerilli), University of Chicago

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- 2018 Winter Power, Identity, and Resistance II, University of Chicago
- 2018 Winter Introduction to Political Theory, University of Chicago
- 2017 Autumn Power, Identity, and Resistance I, University of Chicago

**PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES**

SERVICE

Panel Organizer, “Contemporary Queer Contributions to the Study of Politics,” European Consortium for Political Research Annual Meeting, August 2022

Panel Organizer, “Pluralizing Political Theory: Contemporary Queer Contributions,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, October 2021

Conference Organizer, “The Politics of the Ordinary”, University of Chicago, Political Theory Graduate Conference, October 2020

Discussant, University of Chicago Political Theory Workshop
University of Chicago, 2017-2020

Conference Organizer, “Queer Pride / Queer Rage” Conference
Oxford University, St. Antony’s College, November 2013

Anti-Sexual Violence Campaign Co-Founder, “It Happens Here”
Oxford University, 2013-2014

**PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES, CONT.**

Series Organizer, “Bringing the Collective Together:
Nonhuman Animals, Humans and Practice at the University”
University of British Columbia, March–October, 2011.

MEMBERSHIP

American Political Science Association
Britain and Ireland Association for Political Thought
Midwestern Political Science Association
Western Political Science Association
Association for Political Theory
British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
International Political Science Association

English, fluent

Hebrew, fluent

German, Intermediate (B2)

French, basic reading knowledge (A2)

REFERENCES

Dr. Linda M. G. Zerilli

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Dr. Lisa Wedeen

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