

SHERIF GIRGIS  
1118 Eck Hall of Law, Notre Dame, IN 46556  
574.631.7834 | sgirgis2@nd.edu

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

---

**Notre Dame Law School**, Professor of Law, 2025–present

Associate Professor of Law, 2021–2025

*Courses Taught*: Constitutional Law II (rights), Jurisprudence, Criminal Law

**Harvard Law School**, William J. Friedman and Alicia Townsend Friedman Visiting Professor of Law, spring 2026

**American Academy of Sciences & Letters**, Elected Member, 2025–present

## EDUCATION

---

**Princeton University**, Ph.D. (philosophy), 2026

**Yale Law School**, J.D., 2016

*Yale Law Journal*, Editor

Felix S. Cohen Prize for best paper in legal philosophy, 2013

**University of Oxford**, B.Phil. (philosophy), 2010

Rhodes Scholarship

**Princeton University**, A.B. (philosophy), 2008

Phi Beta Kappa, *summa cum laude*

Class of 1869 and McCosh Prizes for best thesis in ethics and best thesis in philosophy

## CLERKSHIPS & LEGAL PRACTICE

---

**Jones Day**, Associate in Issues & Appeals Practice Group, Washington, D.C., 2020–21

**Supreme Court of the United States**, Law Clerk to Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr., 2018–19

**U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit**, Law Clerk to Judge Thomas B. Griffith, 2016–17

## LAW JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

---

*Preexisting Rights: “History and Tradition” and Levels of Generality*, 140 HARV. L. REV. (forthcoming 2027)

*The Inevitability and Peril of Constitutional Theory*, 114 CAL. L. REV. (forthcoming 2026) (Jorde Symposium)

*Unfinished Liberties, Inevitable Balancing*, 125 COLUM. L. REV. 531 (2025)

*Originalism’s Difference?*, 77 FLA. L. REV. 1945 (2025) (invited Distinguished Dunwoody Lecture in Law)

*Abuses of History in Constitutional Interpretation*, 173 U. PENN. L. REV. 1995 (2025) (Symposium on JACK BALKIN, MEMORY AND AUTHORITY: THE USES OF HISTORY IN CONSTITUTIONAL INTERPRETATION (2024))

*Originalism’s Age of Ironies*, 138 HARV. L. REV. F. 1 (2024)

*Living Traditionalism*, 98 N.Y.U. L. REV. 1477 (2023) (quoted and cited in *United States v. Rahimi*, 144 S. Ct. 1889, 1916 n.4, 1918 (2024) (Kavanaugh, J., concurring))

*Defining “Substantial Burdens” on Religion and Other Liberties*, 108 VA. L. REV. 1759 (2022)

*Fragility, Not Superiority? Assessing the Fairness of Special Religious Protections*, 171 U. PENN. L. REV. 147 (2022)

*Misreading and Transforming Case for Dobbs*, 20 GEO. J. L. & PUB. POL'Y 331 (2022)

*Update: Why the Equal-Protection Case for Abortion Rights Rises or Falls with Roe's Rationale*, 17 HARV. J.L. & PUB. POL'Y PER CURLIAM 1 (2022)

*Nervous Victors, Illiberal Measures: A Response to Douglas NeJaime and Reva Siegel*, 125 YALE L.J. F. 399 (2016)

*Windsor: Lochnerizing on Marriage?*, 64 CASE W. RES. L. REV. 971 (2014)

*The Mens Rea of Accomplice Liability: Supporting Intentions*, 123 YALE L.J. 460 (2013) (Note)

*How the Law School Can Succeed—An Invitation*, 37 HARV. J.L. & PUB. POL'Y 187 (2013)

*What Is Marriage?*, with R. P. George & R. T. Anderson, 34 HARV. J.L. & PUB. POL'Y 245 (2010) (revised and expanded into WHAT IS MARRIAGE? MAN AND WOMAN: A DEFENSE (2012), cited in dissent in *United States v. Windsor*, 570 U.S. 744 (2013))

## CASEBOOKS

---

CHOPER, DORF, FALLON, GIRGIS, & SCHAUER, CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: CASES, COMMENTS, AND QUESTIONS (15th ed. forthcoming 2027)

GIRGIS, SCHAUER, & CHOPER, THE FIRST AMENDMENT: CASES, COMMENTS, QUESTIONS (9th ed. forthcoming 2027)

## OTHER WRITINGS IN LAW & LEGAL THEORY

---

*Two Obstacles to (Merely) Chipping Away at Roe in Dobbs* (Aug. 19, 2021) (unpublished manuscript), <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3907787> (cited in partial dissent in *Memphis Center for Reproductive Health v. Slatery*, 14 F.4th 409 (2021))

*A Philosophy of Civil Rights and Liberties*, with Robert P. George, in CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO THE PHILOSOPHY OF LAW (John Tasioulas ed., Cambridge University Press, 2020)

*Dissenting Opinion*, with Robert P. George, in WHAT OBERGEFELL V. HODGES SHOULD HAVE SAID (Jack Balkin ed., Yale University Press, forthcoming 2020)

DEBATING RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND DISCRIMINATION, point/counterpoint with Ryan T. Anderson & John Corvino (Oxford University Press, 2017) (Reviewed in *Notre Dame Phil. Review* (Sept. 1, 2018); *Cleveland State Law Review* (67:141-172); *Faith & Philosophy* (35:491-497); *Journal of Law & Religion* (32:369-373))

*Review: American Constitutionalism, Marriage, and the Family*, 6 AM. POL. THOUGHT 681 (2017)

## PUBLICATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY

---

*Parity and Incomparability of Value*, 70 AM. J. JURIS. (forthcoming 2026)

*Religious Exemptions*, with Ryan T. Anderson, in ETHICS, LEFT AND RIGHT: THE MORAL ISSUES THAT DIVIDE US (Bob Fischer ed., Oxford University Press, 2020)

*The Wrongfulness of Any Intent to Kill*, 19 NAT'L CATH. BIOETH. Q. 221 (2019)

*Subjectivity Without Subjectivism: A Defense of Objectivity in Ethics*, in SUBJECTIVITY: ANCIENT AND MODERN (R.J. Snell and Steven McGuire eds., Rowman & Littlefield, 2016)

*Whose Justice? Which Diversity?* in JUSTICE THROUGH DIVERSITY?: A PHILOSOPHICAL AND THEOLOGICAL DEBATE (ed. Michael J. Sweeney, Rowman & Littlefield, 2016)

*Equality and Moral Worth in Natural-Law Ethics and Beyond*, 59 AM. J. JURIS. 143 (2014)

*Making Sense of Marriage*, in CONTEMPORARY DEBATES IN APPLIED ETHICS, 2ND ED. (eds. Andrew I. Cohen and Christopher Heath Wellman, Wiley-Blackwell, 2013)

## SELECT CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

---

2026 *Edwin Meese III Originalism Lecture* (invited), Edwin Meese III Institute of Law, Washington, D.C., March 2026

2026 *Jorde Symposium* (invited commentator), Brennan Center for Justice, NYU School of Law, February 2026

*Fixing History and Tradition* (presenter), Public Law Workshop, Harvard Law School, February 2026

*Fixing History and Tradition* (speaker), Notre Dame Law School Faculty Colloquium, December 2025

*Fixing History and Tradition* (speaker), Fordham Law School Faculty Colloquium, November 2025

*Levels of Generality in Constitutional Law* (presenter), Oxford-Notre Dame Public Law Theory Workshop, London, UK, October 2025

*History, Tradition, and Levels of Generality* (presenter), Law & Philosophy Workshop, Harvard Law School, October 2025

2025 *Dunwoody Lecture: Originalism's Difference?* (invited), *Florida Law Review*, University of Florida Levin College of Law, April 2025

*Balancing Constitutional Liberties (Workshop Speaker Selected from Pool of Submissions)*. Originalism Works-in-Progress Conference, Center for the Study of Constitutional Originalism, University of San Diego School of Law, February 2025

*Symposium on JACK BALKIN, MEMORY AND AUTHORITY: THE USES OF HISTORY IN CONSTITUTIONAL INTERPRETATION (2024)* (Speaker). *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, University of Pennsylvania, November 2024

*Parity and Incommensurability of Values (Speaker)*, Natural Law Theory and Analytic Thomism: Sources and Future Directions, Politics Department, Princeton University, November 2024

*Balancing Constitutional Liberties (Workshop Speaker)*. Legal Theory Workshop, University of Virginia School of Law, November 2024

*Models of Constraint (Symposium Speaker)*, Symposium on TIMOTHY ENDICOTT, ET AL. (eds.), PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATIONS OF PRECEDENT (2023), University of Notre Dame, October 2024

*Balancing Constitutional Liberties (Colloquium Speaker)*. BYU Law School, October 2024

*Balancing Constitutional Liberties (Workshop Speaker)*. Public Law Workshop, University of Chicago Law School, October 2024

*Artistic Expression and the First Amendment (Guest Lecturer)*. Seminar of Profs. Michael Dorf and Nelson Tebbe, Cornell Law School, September 2024

*The Doors Dobbs Opened (Panelist)*. Judicial Conference of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, July 2024

*Living Traditionalism (Colloquium Speaker)*. Center for the Study of Constitutional Originalism, University of San Diego School of Law, April 2024

*Balancing Constitutional Liberties (Colloquium Presentation)*. Nootbaar Fellows Workshop, Pepperdine Caruso School of Law (virtual), April 2024

*Constitutions, Elections, and Procedure: (How) Can We Change How We Separate Powers?* National Student Symposium, Federalist Society, Harvard Law School, March 2024

- Artistic Expression, Antidiscrimination, and the First Amendment (Guest Lecturer)*. Sexuality, Gender, and the Law Seminar of Prof. Bill Eskridge and Christopher Riano, Yale Law School, March 2024
- Recent Constitutional Cases in Family Law (Guest Lecturer)*. Advanced Family Law Seminar of Prof. Marc Spindelman, Moritz College of Law, Ohio State University, March 2024
- Select Issues in Jurisprudence: A Seven-Seminar Series (Lecturer)*. Scalia Law School, Fall 2023
- History, Tradition, and Analogical Reasoning: Notre Dame Law Review & Duke Center for Firearms Law Symposium (Moderator)*. Notre Dame Law School, November 2023
- A Conversation with Justice Elena Kagan (Interviewer)*. Notre Dame Law School, September 2023
- Living Traditionalism (Colloquium Speaker)*. Legal Theory Workshop, Yale Law School, September 2023
- The Supreme Court's Traditionalism Turn: Antonin Scalia Constitution Day Lecture*. James Madison Program, Princeton University, September 2023
- Salmon P. Chase Distinguished Colloquium (Participant)*. Georgetown Center for the Constitution, Georgetown University Law Center, September 2023
- Current Issues in Law, Faith, and Religion (Colloquium Speaker)*. Pepperdine Caruso School of Law, August 2023
- The Modern History of Originalism (Panelist)*. National Constitution Center (virtual), August 2023
- Freedom, Equality, Religion (Panelist)*. Nuffield College, University of Oxford, June 2023
- Text and (What Kind of) History? (Panelist)*. Constitutional Law Center, Stanford Law School, May 2023
- The Age of Roe: The Past, Present, and Future of Abortion in America (Panelist)*. Harvard Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, January 2023
- Dobbs, Roe, Casey, and the Rule of Law (Panelist)*. National Lawyers Convention, Federalist Society, November 2022
- American Culture on Appeal: 303 Creative v. Elenis (Panelist, with David Cole and Kristen Waggoner)*. Alliance Defending Freedom, National Archives Building, October 2022
- Constitutional Law After Dobbs: Constitution Day Lecture*. Calvin University, September 2022
- Natural Law and Original Meaning (Panelist)*. Catholic Law School Project on Constitutional Originalism and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, September 2022
- Fragility, Not Superiority? Assessing the Fairness of Special Religious Protections (Colloquium Presentation)*. Nootbaar Workshop, Pepperdine Caruso School of Law (virtual), August 2022
- Beyond Roe and Dobbs: Understanding the New Reproductive Rights Landscape (Panelist, with Prof. Melissa Murray)* and *Is the Weakest Branch Becoming the Most Dangerous (Panelist, with Prof. Melissa Murray and Neal Katyal)*. Aspen Institute Ideas Festival, June 2022
- Defining "Substantial Burdens" on Religion and Other Liberties (Workshop Presentation)*. Yale Law School Free Exercise Clinic Speaker Series, April 2022
- Justice and Redemption*. Conference on Wrongdoing and Redemption, Notre Dame Law School, September 2019
- Annual Conference on Themes in Neo-Classical Natural Law Theories (Presenter)*. Politics Department, Princeton University: Fall 2018; Fall 2017; Spring 2015; Spring 2012; Fall 2010
- The Nature and Scope of Human Rights*. Vita Institute, University of Notre Dame, June 2018
- Conference on Law, Religion, and Complicity (Panel Chair)*. University Center for Human Values, Princeton University, May 2018

- Symposium on Civil Liberties (Panelist)*. Center for the Study of Institutions and Innovation, University of Wisconsin-Stout, April 2018
- Symposium on Publication of DEBATING RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND DISCRIMINATION (Discussant)*. Politics Department, Princeton University, May 2018
- What Are Natural Rights? (Panelist)*. Tocqueville Forum, hosted at New York University, April 2017
- The Challenges of Public Accommodations (Panelist)*. Conference on Faith, Sexuality, and the Meaning of Freedom, Yale Law School, January 2017
- What Obergefell Should Have Said (Panelist)*. Yale Law School, April 2016
- Proportionality in Legal Analysis*. Legal Theory Seminar, Yale Law School, April 2016
- Symposium on Marriage in a Liberal Democracy (Keynote with Elizabeth Brake)*. Philosophy Department, California State University Sacramento, April 2016
- Workshop on Antidiscrimination Law (Discussant)*. Center for Values and Social Policy, Philosophy Department, University of Colorado Boulder, October 2015
- Religious Liberty and Free Speech*. Center for Values and Social Policy, Philosophy Department, University of Colorado Boulder, October 2015
- Subjectivity Without Subjectivism: A Defense of Objectivity in Ethics*. Conference on Subjectivity: Ancient and Modern, Eastern University, September 2014
- Equality in Neo-Aristotelian Thought*. Conference on the Scholarship of John Finnis, Politics Department, Princeton University, March 2014
- Rival Theories of Embodiment and Marriage (Keynote Address)*. Center for Ethics and Culture, University of Notre Dame, November 2013
- The Supreme Court's Treatment of Same-Sex Marriage in United States v. Windsor and Hollingsworth v. Perry: Analysis and Implications (Panelist)*. Case Western Reserve Law Review Symposium, Case Western Reserve Law School, October 2013
- Accomplice Liability*. YALE LAW JOURNAL Workshop Series, Yale Law School, April 2013
- Rawlsian Liberalism (Visiting Lecturer)*. Social and Political Philosophy (Prof. Nathan Schlueter), Hillsdale College, February 2013
- The Case for Religious Freedom*. Conference on Freedoms of Religion and Conscience, Witherspoon Institute, hosted at Princeton Theological Seminary, May 2011
- Human Equality: Its Meaning and Basis*. Symposium: Equality, Freedom of Conscience, and the Common Good, London, U.K., March 2011
- The Case for Inclusive Legal Positivism*. Oxford Jurisprudence Discussion Group, University of Oxford, January 2010

## **ACADEMIC CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED AND OTHER SERVICE**

---

- Appointments Subcommittee*, Notre Dame Law School, 2025–present
- Chair-Elect*, American Association of Law Schools – Law & Religion Section, 2025–26
- Program Committee Chair*, American Association of Law Schools – Law & Religion Section, 2024–25
- Faculty Advisor*, Middle Eastern Law Students Association, Notre Dame Law School, 2023–present
- Member*, Notre Dame Law School Human Rights Program Admissions Committee, 2023–24
- Coordinator*, Notre Dame Academy (Faculty Roundtable), Notre Dame Law School, 2023–present

*Organizer*, Retirement Conference on the Work of Professor Gerard V. Bradley, Notre Dame Law School, August 2024 (proceedings to be published in AM. J. JURIS.)

*Member*, Clerkship Committee, Notre Dame Law School, 2021–23

*Conference on the Jurisprudence of Justice Samuel Alito (Co-organizer)*. Princeton University James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions & American Enterprise Institute, March 2022 (proceedings published in HARV. J.L. & PUB. POL'Y)

*Co-organizer*, 2022 Notre Dame Religious Liberty Summit, Fall 2021

*Co-organizer*, Law, Politics, Revelation in the Work of John Finnis, Notre Dame Law School, Fall 2021

*Referee*, JOURNAL OF LAW AND RELIGION; AMERICAN JOURNAL OF LAW AND MEDICINE; AMERICAN CATHOLIC PHILOSOPHICAL QUARTERLY; AMERICAN JOURNAL OF JURISPRUDENCE

*Coordinator*, Monthly Princeton Workshops in Normative Philosophy. Philosophy Department, Princeton University, 2014–15

*Organizer*, Annual Conference on Themes in Neo-Classical Natural Law Theories. Politics Department, Princeton University: Fall 2018; Fall 2017; Fall 2015; Spring 2012; Spring 2010

*Co-organizer*, Social Ontology Conference. Philosophy Department, Princeton University, April 2015

*Blind Reviewer*, Princeton-Michigan Metaethics Workshop. Princeton University, August 2014

## **BAR MEMBERSHIP**

---

District of Columbia