

SUSAN ABRAHAM

Pacific School of Religion

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EDUCATION

- 2003 Th.D. Theology, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA
- 1995 M.A. Theology, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL
- 1986 M.A. English, Sophia College for Women, University of Mumbai, India
- 1984 B. A. English, Sophia College for Women, University of Mumbai, India

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2017- Professor of Theology and Postcolonial Cultures, VP of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty, Pacific School of Religion
- 2016-2017 Associate Professor of Theological Studies, Loyola Marymount University, CA
- 2013-2016 Assistant Professor of Theological Studies, Loyola Marymount University, CA
- 2012-2013 Assistant Professor of Ministry Studies, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA
- 2010-2012 Assistant Professor of Ministry Studies and Associate Director, Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA
- 2007-2010 Assistant Professor of Ministry Studies, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA
- 2007-2007 Associate Professor of Theology, St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY
- 2002-2007 Assistant Professor of Theology, St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY

BOOKS

"Blessed are those who mourn": Depression, Anxiety and Pain on the path of an Incarnational Spirituality, Marymount Press, 2020

Shoulder to Shoulder: Frontiers in Catholic Feminist Theology, co-edited anthology of contemporary Catholic Feminist theology with Elena Procario-Foley, Fortress Press, October 2009; Portuguese-language license to *Editoria Santuario*, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2010

Identity, Ethics and Nonviolence in Postcolonial Theory: A Rahnerian Theological Assessment, Palgrave MacMillan, May 2007

CONCILIUM, CO-EDITED VOLUMES

June, 2023, *Animals in/and Theology: The End of the Human*, ed. Susan Abraham, Geraldo de Mori and Stefanie Knauss

June, 2022, *Incarnation in a Post/human Age*, ed. Susan Abraham, Bernardeth Caero and Po Ho Huang

April, 2020, *Masculinities*, ed. Susan Abraham, Geraldo de Mori and Stefanie Knauss

April, 2019, *Populism*, ed. Thierry Marie Courau OP, Susan Abraham and Mile Babić

SELECTED ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

Spring, 2021, "Technofutures in Religious and Popular Art in the United States," *Concilium*, 2021/3

Spring, 2020, "Formation and the Postmodern Seminary" [Journal of Teaching Religion and Theology](#)

April, 2019, "Masculinist Populism and Toxic Christianity in the United States" [Concilium](#), 2019/2

Spring, 2019, "Provincializing Western Christianity for a Genuine Catholicity of Culture" ISIT 3.1–2 [Interreligious Studies and Intercultural Theology](#)

Fall, 2018, "Decolonizing Racial Justice: Eucharistic Solidarity as Praxis of Discipleship" in Michele Saracino and Robert Rivera (ed.) *Enfleshing Theology: Embodiment, Discipleship, and Politics in the Work of M. Shawn Copeland*, Fortress Press

Fall, 2016, "Mentoring in (in)hospitable places: Collegiality in Catholic Academic Contexts" invited response to Maryann Hinsdale, "Vatican II and Women," [Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion](#)

Spring, 2016, "Religion's Challenge to Gender Discrimination" in *Just Religion*, ed. Anthony Pinn, Cengage Learning

Spring, 2016, "Postcolonial Hermeneutics and a Catholic (post) modernity" in *Theological Hermeneutics and Critical Theories: Catholic Trajectories since Vatican II*, eds. Bradford E. Hinze and Anthony J. Godzieba, Liturgical Press

Spring, 2016, "Belonging and the Violent Nation," invited chapter for Shelly Rambo and Stephanie Arel (ed.) *Ways through Pain: Theological Responses to Suffering in a "Not so Secular" Age*, Palgrave

October, 2015, "Postcolonial Theology" in Craig Hovey and Elizabeth Phillips (eds.) *The Cambridge Companion to Political Theology*, Cambridge University Press

March, 2015, "Asian Feminist Theory and Theology," invited roundtable response, [Journal of Feminist](#)

Studies in Religion

June, 2015, "Postcolonial Theologies" in James Fodor and Michael Highton ed. *Routledge Companion to the Practice of Christian Theology*

October, 2014, "Praying the Trinity: Transforming Feminist Trinitarian Theologies" Modern Theology 30:4

April, 2014, "Decolonizing Christianity" for *Compelling Issues in Contemporary Theology*, (ed.) Anselm Min, Orbis Press

Fall, 2013, Review of *Women Writing Theology: Transforming a Tradition of Exclusion*, edited by Emily Holmes and Wendy Farley (Baylor University Press, 2011) Journal of the American Academy of Religion

Spring, 2013, "Purifying Memory and Dispossessing the Self: Spiritual Strategies in the Postcolonial Classroom," Spiritus: Journal of Contemporary Spirituality

July, 2011, "Introduction to Postcolonial Theory" in *Postcolonial Paul*, ed. Christopher Stanley, Fortress Press

Fall 2010, "The Pterodactyl in the Margins: Detranscendentalizing Postcolonial Theology" for *Planetary Loves*, ed. Mayra Rivera and Stephen Moore

Summer 2010, Review of Susan Holman's *God Knows There is Need: Christian Responses to Poverty: "God knows there is Need because God took on Need"* Harvard Divinity Bulletin

Spring, 2009, "Mother's Day, Father's Day, Valentine's Day: Heterosexism and Nationalism in the US and India" invited contribution to Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion

October, 2009, "Justice as the Mark of Feminist Ecclesiology" in *Shoulder to Shoulder: New Frontiers in Catholic Feminist Theology*, ed. Susan Abraham and Elena Procaro-Foley, Fortress Press

April, 2009, "Practical Theology in Global Christian Contexts" invited contribution to anthology in *Prophetic Witness: Catholic Women's Strategies for the Church*, ed. Colleen Griffith

November, 2008, "Queer Theologies and Spiritualities," invited contribution for encyclopedia *LGBTQ America Today*, ed. Jack Hawley (Westport, CT, London: Greenwood Press)

June 2008; November 2011, "What does Mumbai have to do with Rome? Postcolonial perspectives in Globalization and Theology" in *Globalization and its Impact on Theology*, Special Issue of Theological Studies, ed. Robert Schreiter and Vincent Miller; reprinted in Soma: An International Journal of Theological Discourses and Counter-Discourses

SELECTED RESEARCH AND PRESENTATIONS

March, 2020, Invited Speaker, Mary Milligan Lecture in Spirituality, *"Blessed are those who mourn": Depression, Anxiety and Pain on the path of an Incarnational Spirituality*, Loyola Marymount University

SBL, 2019, Invited Panelist, Minoritized Criticism and Biblical Interpretation program unit on 40th anniversary of Edward Said's *Orientalism*

March, 2018, Invited Speaker, Historical and Doctrinal Studies Lecture, *Pedagogies of Religion and Nation Formation and the Postmodern Seminary*, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago

AAR, 2016, Louisville Grawemeyer Award panel on Susan Holman's *Beholden: Religion, Global Health and Human Rights*

December, 2015, University of Madras, "Gender and Religion Inequality: A Global and Local Perspective," Keynote speaker, International Interreligious Conference on Gender and Religion, Chennai, India

November, 2015, Catholic-Jewish Women's Conference, Featured Speaker, "From Estrangement to Sisterhood—Moving Forward Together," Los Angeles, CA

CTSA 2015, Invited panelist, Cardinal Newman group: "The Cultural Reception of Newman's *Sensus Fidelium*: Communion and Hierarchical Institution in Opposition"

December 2014, University of Madras, "Just Religion? Intersectionality and Feminist Analyses in Theology and the Study of Religion," Invited Paper for International Conference on *Religion and Gender: Interpreting the Interface*, Chennai, India

April, 2015, Sisters of St. Louis, "Women in Religion and Theology: Academic explorations in the 21st century University," Woodlands, CA

November 2015, Monmouth University, Featured Speaker, "Pope Francis and Global Catholicism," West Long Branch, NJ

September 2014, Casassa Lecture, Loyola Marymount University, response to Gerald Arbuckle's "The Francis Factor: Anthropological Reflections on the Contemporary Church," Los Angeles, CA

AAR, 2014, Invited Presentation, Status of Women in the Profession session on Work/Life balance

AAR, 2014, Invited Respondent, panel on Islam and Gender

CTSA, 2014, Invited paper on Critical theory and Hermeneutics, "Postcolonial Hermeneutics and a Catholic (post)Modernity"

CTSA, 2014, Invited Paper for session on Catholicity and Mission, "Role of Catholic Higher Education and Nation Building in India"

March, 2014, Sisters of St. Louis, "The Feminization of Global Poverty," Woodlands, CA

AAR, 2013, "Gendered Bodies at the Border: Culture, Religion and History in the Partition of India"

AAR, 2013, "Why Theology?" Invited paper by Postmodernity and Bible Group

AAR, 2013, Panelist on Leila Ahmed's Grawemeyer Award-winning book, *A Quiet Revolution: The Veil's Resurgence, from the Middle East to America*.

March, 2013, Dominican University, Invited speaker, "Vatican II: Vision for a Globalized World and Interfaith Harmony," Chicago, IL

October, 2012, St. Mary's University, Fort Leavenworth, Invited speaker, Annual Theology Lecture: "Globalization and Catholic Theology," KS

October, 2012, St. Mary's College, Invited speaker, Conference on Contemporary Mysticism, Center of Spirituality, Notre Dame, IN

August 2012, Kerala Syrian Christian immigrant youth retreat, Boston, "Christian Unity in the Diaspora," Boston, MA

July, 2012, St. Bonaventure University, Summer Honors Course on Interreligious Dialogue at Chautauqua Institution, NY

CTSA, 2012, Invited respondent to plenary speaker Teresa Berger on Women and the Global Church

April, 2012, Claremont Graduate University, Invited participant, "Issues and trends in Contemporary Theology," Claremont, CA

September, 2011, Boston College Symposium on Interreligious Dialogue and Culture, 2011, Invited respondent to Peter Phan, see [<http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/theology/interreligiousdialogue/>], Boston, MA

AAR, October 2011, Panelist on Trin T. Minh-ha's *When the Moon Waxes Red: Representation, Gender and Cultural Politics and Woman, Native, Other: Writing Postcoloniality and Feminism*

April, 2011, LeMoyne College, Featured Speaker, "Nation, Gender, Sexuality," Syracuse, NY

December, 2010, Harvard University, Panelist, "Dead Man Walking: An Encounter with Sr. Helen Prejean and Capital Punishment in America," Boston, MA

November 2010, Boston Theological Institute, Featured speaker, Closing General Assembly for 2010,

“The Changing Contours of World Christianity,” Boston, MA

October, 2010, Harvard Divinity School, Response to Frank Clooney’s Inaugural Address, Director, Center for the Study of World Religions, [<http://www.hds.harvard.edu/multimedia/video/studying-our-religions-in-the-particular-and-meaning-something-by-it>]

October, 2010, Boston Theological Institute, Invited Response to Joseph Hough, Interim President, Claremont Graduate University, “The Divinity School as a Professional School in a University/Secular Environment,” Boston, MA

March, 2010, Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, Keynote Speaker, Asian American Ministries, “Critical Postcolonial Theologies: Asian and Feminist Interventions in Constructive Theology,” Chicago, IL

March, 2010, Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, Panelist, Women Working at the Intersection of Race, Class, Gender, Queer and Postcolonial Theory, Chicago, IL

March, 2010, Tufts University, International Law Society, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Roundtable Discussant: “From a Culture of Violence to a Culture of Peace,” Boston, MA

AAR, 2009, “Exhausting Difference: *Aporias* in Postcolonial and Religious Identity” [See <http://marianronan.wordpress.com/2009/11/11/beyond-identity-politics/>]

October, 2009, Boston University, Symposium on Feminist Practical Theology, [See <http://www.bu.edu/phpbin/buniverse/videos/view/?id=400>], MA

October, 2009, Harvard University, Kennedy School, Carr Center, Invited discussant for session for Study Group on Human Rights and Social movements, “Opiate of the Masses or Tool of Liberation: What’s God got to do with it?” Boston, MA

March, 2009, Catholic Theological Union, Featured speaker, “Global Christianities between Colonialism and Postcolonialism,” Chicago, IL

CTSA, 2009, Invited response to Robert Schreiter on Catholicity and Mission, “Negotiating Impasse and Political Theology”

December, 2008, St. Anselm’s College, Invited speaker, “Postcolonial perspectives on Globalization and Theology,” Manchester, NH

November, 2008, St. Bonaventure University, Featured speaker, Inaugural Honors Program Public Lecture, “Intellectual Charity: Pedagogies of Hope and Transformation,” Olean, NY

October, 2008, Harvard Divinity School, Featured faculty speaker at the Second Annual Diversity and Explorations conference, “Global Heart, Mother Tongue, Horizon: Spirituality and Leadership in the

Third Millennium," Cambridge, MA

February, 2008, Iona College, Featured Speaker on *The Catholic Intellectual Tradition*, "Liberating Wisdom: The Catholic Intellectual Tradition and Education for Transformation," New Rochelle, NY

CTSA, 2008, for selected panel on Theological Anthropology and Motherhood in Catholic Theology, "Theological Anthropology and contemporary critiques of Maternity"

AAR, 2007, Invited Paper, "Theology and the Future of Hindu Religious Studies in the US"

November, 2007, Drew University, Madison, Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium, invited response to Gayatri C. Spivak, "Planetarity, Postcoloniality and the future of Feminist Theology," Madison, NJ

AAR, 2006, Invited Paper for the Foucault Consultation, "Postcolonial Theory and Religious Studies"

March, 2006, Boston Theological Institute, Keynote Speaker, "Mission and Conversion in India"

CTSA, 2006, Invited Paper, "Against Race? Theology in Dialogue with Postcolonial Theory"

CTSA, 2005, Invited Response Paper on Foucault and Practical Theology, "Spiritual Theology as Work on Oneself: A Postcolonial Assessment"

AAR, 2003, Annual Meeting Presentation, "When Karl Rahner meets Ashis Nandy: Christian and Postcolonial Resources for Nonviolent Resistance in India"

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Ann O'Hara Graff Memorial Award, CTSA, 2020/2021
- Lilly Grant for Youth Theology Institute with THST colleagues (\$600,000), 2016-2019
- Luce Foundation Grant for Term Position on Women and Ministry Studies at Harvard Divinity School, 2007-2013
- Boston University Center for Practical Theology grant for symposium on Feminist Practical Theology, in consultation with Shelly Rambo and Dean Mary Elizabeth Moore (2009)
- Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School, faculty grant on Race, Gender, Class, Sexuality and Practical Theology Consultation, 2009
- Junior Faculty Professional Excellence Award, St. Bonaventure University (2006)
- International Women's Scholarship for Roman Catholic Studies in Ministry, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago (1991-1992)

SELECTED RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020/2021, Invited Respondent, Asian/Asian American Theology Consultation, CTSA
- 2020/2021, Co-Convener, Mental Health Interest Group, CTSA
- 2020-, Convener, GTU (Graduate Theological Union) Council of Deans
- 2019, Convener, Theological Reflections on Grassroots alternatives, CTSA
- 2019-, Elected member of Board of Directors, Concilium
- 2019-, Vice-Chair, ATS Asian Descent Presidents and Deans
- 2018-2020, Wabash Workgroup on Race Critical Consciousness in Theological Education
- 2016-2018, Wabash New Deans Workgroup
- 2017-, ATS CORE (Committee on Race and Ethnicity) leadership
- 2016-2018, Elected member, Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA), Board of Directors
- 2016-, Elected member, Concilium, Editorial Board
- 2016-2017, Member, AAR Standing Committee on Status of Women in the Profession
- 2016- Editorial Board, Asian Christian Studies: International Journal of Religion and Social Transformation
- 2014-2015, Steering Committee on Catholicity and Mission, CTSA
- 2013-2015, Co-Chair, Steering Committee on Women and Religion, AAR
- 2011-2013 Co-Chair and Steering committee Transformative Scholarship and Pedagogy, AAR
- 2011-2012 Steering Committee on Roman Catholic Theology, AAR
- 2011-2012 Convener, Committee on Practical Theology, CTSA
- 2009-2011, Steering Committee on Transformative Scholarship and Pedagogy, AAR
- 2009 Steering Committee on Practical Theology, CTSA
- 2007-2009, 2012-2014 Admissions committee member, CTSA
- 2008-2011 Co-Chair, Theology and Religious Reflection, AAR
- 2005-2008 Steering Committee, Theology and Religious Reflection, AAR
- 2006-2015 Member by invitation, National work group on Constructive Theology
- 2001-present Editorial Board, Indian Journal of Christian Studies

REFERENCES

- David Vásquez-Levy, President, Pacific School of Religion, psrpresident@psr.edu
- Robert Schreiter, Vatican II Professor of Catholic Theology, Catholic Theological Union, rschreit@ctu.edu
- Francis Schüssler Fiorenza, Stillman Professor of Catholic Theology, Harvard Divinity School, ffiorenza@hds.harvard.edu