

STEVEN M. HARRIS

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Ph.D. (Candidate) in the Study of Religion, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences

Subfield: American Religious History

August 2017 – Present

Yale University, New Haven, CT

M.A. in Religion, Divinity School

Concentration: Black Religion in the African Diaspora

August 2013 – May 2015

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY

M.Div., School of Theology

Concentration: Pastoral Ministry

August 2008 – December 2011

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

B.S., College of Arts & Sciences

Majors: Religious Studies, Psychological Sciences

August 2003 – May 2007

CAMPAIGN, COALITION-BUILDING, AND PUBLIC POLICY EXPERIENCE

Joe Biden for President

Volunteer, Faith Engagement Workgroup

[Working directly with the campaign national faith engagement director and associated workgroups, helped develop faith outreach strategy to diverse faith communities, while also planning and participating in official virtual faith engagement campaign events. Events participated in include: “Young Believers for Biden w/ Mayor Pete Buttigieg” panel and “Evangelicals for Biden” panel]

July 2020 – November 2020

Faith 2020

Volunteer, Advisory Workgroup

[Working directly with the executive director and workgroup, helped develop faith outreach strategy in support of Biden-Harris ticket, and planned/participated in virtual events. Events participated in include: “Roundtable with Tom Steyer” and “Voting Matters with Cornel West”]

August 2020 – November 2020

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI) / ERLC

Lead, State-Level Criminal Justice Reform

[Helped procure CZI grant to expand faith-based engagement in criminal justice reform in Kentucky, North Carolina, and West Virginia]

February 2020 – August 2020

Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC), Dr. Russell Moore (President)

Policy Director, Washington, D.C.

[Helped expand the organization’s advocacy range by establishing a justice portfolio and building multi-faith coalitions on policy related to the following issues: criminal justice, immigration, payday lending, domestic and international religious freedom, and domestic and international human rights. Worked daily with House and Senate congressional members and staffers to advance legislative priorities]

July 2015 – August 2020

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS WORK

Producer, Documentary Film *Humanity Denied*

[In March of 2019, traveled to South Korea to meet and interview North Korean defectors, as well as scout locations for filming at the DMZ and throughout Seoul. After overseeing filming, translation work, and editing, the brief documentary film was premiered at a public event on Capitol Hill on July 18, 2019]

March 2019 – July 2019

Congressional Testimony, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs

(Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations)

Hearing: “Protecting Civil Society, Faith-Based Actors, and Political Speech in Sub-Saharan Africa”

[Gave testimony on the theo-philosophical presuppositions of religious freedom in a global context, and its relationship to civil society development and broader global security interests. The testimony particularly focused on the constricting religious and civil society spaces in Sudan, Rwanda, and the DRC]

May 9, 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Teaching Fellow, AFAM Studies: "Introduction to African American Studies" Spring 2020
Course Instructor: Dr. Cornel West
- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Teaching Fellow, HDS/Religion: "Women, Religion, and Historical Agency" Spring 2020
Course Instructor: Dr. Catherine Brekus
- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Teaching Fellow, HDS: Religious Literacy and the Professions: Gov't & Humanitarian Leadership Fall 2019
Course Instructor: Dr. Diane Moore
- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Teaching Fellow, HDS/Religion: "Evangelicalism in America" Fall 2019
Course Instructor: Dr. Catherine Brekus
- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Course Assistant & Researcher, Freshman Seminar: "Christianity and Slavery in America" Fall 2018
Course Instructor: Dr. Catherine Brekus

CONFERENCE PAPERS/PRESENTATIONS

- American Historical Association, Annual Meeting, Jan. 3-6, New York, NY
"Before Ontological Blackness: Race, Afro-Pessimism, and Black Calvinist Theo-Logics" January 2020
- Evangelical Theological Society, Annual Meeting, Nov. 20-22, San Diego, CA
The Democratization of American Christianity: A Thirty-Year Roundtable Retrospective (Paper and Panel) November 2019

BOOK CHAPTERS

- "The Segregated States of America," in *For God So Loved the World: A Blueprint for Kingdom Diversity*, edited by Dayton Hartman and Walter R. Strickland, II (Nashville: B&H Academic, 2020).
- "Religion and the Republic: An Eighteenth-Century Black Calvinist Perspective," in *The Oxford Handbook of Calvin and Calvinism*, edited by Bruce Gordon and Carl Trueman (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Academy of Religion
American Historical Association
American Society of Church History
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

REFERENCES

- Cornel R. West
Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy
Harvard Divinity School
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- Diane L. Moore
Faculty Director, Religion and Public Life
Lecturer in Religion, Conflict, and Peace
Harvard Divinity School
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- Catherine Brekus
Charles Warren Professor of the History of Religion in America
Chair of the Committee on the Study of Religion
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