

GUY KAHANE

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Last updated: 8 April 2011

PRESENT ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Deputy Director and Research Fellow, Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics

Faculty of Philosophy, University of Oxford, 2006 – present

Deputy Director and Research Fellow, Oxford Centre for Neuroethics

Faculty of Philosophy, University of Oxford, 2009 – present

Research Associate, Institute for Science and Ethics

Faculty of Philosophy & Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford, 2006 – present

Research Associate, Future of Humanity Institute

Faculty of Philosophy & Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford, 2006 – present

Junior Research Fellow, Pembroke College, Oxford

(From October 2014: **University Lecturer in Practical Ethics, Faculty of Philosophy and Pembroke College, University of Oxford**)

PAST ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Fulford Junior Research Fellow, Somerville College, Oxford, 2007 – 2010

Research Member, Exeter College, Oxford, 2007 – 2008

Research Associate, Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, Oxford, 2005 – 2007

Research Assistant, Psychology Department, Tel Aviv University, 1996 – 1997

EDUCATION

University of Oxford, D.Phil. in Philosophy, 1999 – 2004

Supervisors: Derek Parfit and John Broome

University of Oxford, B.Phil. in Philosophy, 1997 – 1999

Thesis supervisor: David Wiggins

Specialization topics: philosophy of mind, philosophy of logic & language, Wittgenstein

Tel Aviv University, B.A., Philosophy & Psychology, 1993 – 1996

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Kahane, G., Kanterian, E. and Kuusela, O., eds., *Wittgenstein and His Interpreters*, Oxford: Blackwells Publishers, 2007 [252 pages].

Savulescu, J., ter Meulen, R. and Kahane, G., eds., *Enhancing Human Capacities*, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011 [576 pages].

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Kahane, G. and Shackel, N. 'Do Abnormal Responses Show Utilitarian Bias?' *Nature*, 452, 7185, 2008 [communication arising].
- Wilkinson, D., Kahane, G., and Savulescu, J. "'Neglected Personhood" and Neglected Questions,' *The American Journal of Bioethics: Neuroscience*, 8, 9: 31-33, 2008 [peer commentary].
- Wiech, K., Farias, M., Kahane, G., Shackel, N., Tiede, W., and Tracey, I. 'An fMRI Study Measuring Analgesia Enhanced by Religion as a Belief System,' *Pain*, 139, 2: 467-476, 2008.
- Kahane, G. and Savulescu, J. 'Brain-Damaged Patients and the Moral Significance of Consciousness,' *The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy*, 33: 1-21, 2009.
- Savulescu, J. and Kahane, G. 'The Moral Obligation to Create Children with the Best Chance of the Best Life,' *Bioethics*, 23, 5: 274-290, 2009.
- Skene, L., Wilkinson, D., Kahane, G., and Savulescu, J. 'Neuroimaging and the Withdrawal of Life-Sustaining Treatment from Patients in the Vegetative State,' *Medical Law Review*, 17, 2: 245-261, 2009.
- Wilkinson, D., Kahane, G., Horne, M., and Savulescu, J. 'Functional Neuroimaging and Withdrawal of Life-sustaining Treatment from Vegetative Patients,' *The Journal of Medical Ethics*, 35, 8: 508-511, 2009.
- Kahane, G. 'Non-Identity, Self-Defeat, and Attitudes to Future People,' *Philosophical Studies*, 145, 2: 193-214, 2009.
- Kahane, G. 'Pain, Dislike, and Experience,' *Utilitas*, 21, 3: 327-336, 2009.
- Kahane, G. 'Feeling Pain for the Very First Time: The Normative Knowledge Argument,' *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 80, 1: 20-49, 2010.
- Kahane, G. and Savulescu, J. 'The Value of Sex in Procreative Reasons,' *American Journal of Bioethics*, 10, 7: 22-24, 2010 [peer commentary].
- Kahane, G. and Shackel, N. 'Methodological Issues in the Neuroscience of Moral Judgment,' *Mind and Language*, 25, 5: 561-582, 2010.
- Kahane, G. 'Evolutionary Debunking Arguments,' *Noûs*, 45, 1: 103-125, 2011.
- Savulescu J. and Kahane, G. 'Disability: A Welfarist Approach,' *Journal of Clinical Ethics*, 6, 1: 45-51, 2011.
- Kahane, G. 'Should We Want God to Exist?', forthcoming in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2011 [early view online: 14 Dec 2010].
- Kahane, G., Wiech, K., Shackel, N., Farias, M., Savulescu J. and Tracey, I. 'The Neural Basis of Intuitive and Counterintuitive Moral Judgement', *Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 2011; doi: 10.1093/scan/nsr005.
- Kahane, G. 'Value and Philosophical Possibility', forthcoming in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*.
- Chan, T. and Kahane, G. 'The Trouble with Being Sincere', forthcoming in *The Canadian Journal of Philosophy*.

Invited Articles and Chapters

- Kahane, G. 'Pain, Ethical Significance of,' in D. Borchert, ed., *The Encyclopaedia of Philosophy*, 2nd Edition, New York: Macmillan, vol. 7, 72-73, 2006.
- Kahane, G., Kanterian, E., and Kuusela, O. 'Introduction,' in *Wittgenstein and His Interpreters*, Oxford: Blackwells Publishers, 1-36, 2007.
- Kahane, G. 'Brain Imaging and the Inner Life,' *The Lancet*, 371, 1572-1573, 2008.

- Kahane, G., and Savulescu, J. 'The Welfarist Account of Disability,' in K. Brownlee and A. Cureton, eds., *Disability and Disadvantage*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 14-53, 2009.
- Savulescu, J., Sandberg, A., and Kahane, G. 'Enhancement and Well-being,' forthcoming in J. Savulescu, R. ter Meulen and G. Kahane, eds., *Enhancing Human Capacities*, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 3-18, 2011.
- Kahane, G. 'Reasons to Feel, Reasons to Take Pills,' forthcoming in J. Savulescu, R. ter Meulen and G. Kahane, eds., *Enhancing Human Capacities*, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 166-178, 2011.
- Foddy, B., Savulescu, J., and Kahane, G. 'Neuroethics', forthcoming in *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Psychiatry*, Oxford University Press.

Reviews

- Kahane, G. 'Meditations on the Flourishing and the Fallen,' *Times Higher Education Supplement*, May 2007 (review of R. Kraut, *What is Good and Why: The Ethics of Well-Being*, and P. W. Kahn, *Out of Eden: Adam and Eve and the Problem of Evil*).
- Kahane, G. review of P. A. Tabensky, ed., *The Positive Function of Evil*, *South African Journal of Philosophy*, 29, 1: 57-60, 2010.
- Kahane, G. review of S. Wilkinson, *Choosing Tomorrow's Children: The Ethics of Selective Reproduction*, forthcoming in *Medical Law Review*, 19, 2, 2011.
- Kahane, G. review of S. Stewart-Williams, *Darwin, God and the Meaning of Life: How Evolutionary Theory Undermines Everything You Thought You Knew*, forthcoming in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

- Procreative Beneficence and Disability. *Pacific American Philosophical Association Meeting*, Portland, Oregon, 2006 (respondent: Mary Mahowald).
- Cognitive Enhancement: A Perspective From Value Theory. *EU ENHANCE Project Workshop on Cognitive Enhancement*, Stockholm University, 2007.
- A Welfarist Account of Disability. *Disability and Disadvantage*, Manchester University (with Julian Savulescu), May 2007.
- Non-identity, Self-defeat, and Attitudes to Future People. *Disability and Disadvantage*, Manchester University, May 2007.
- How Are We to Understand the Concept of Disability? *Disability and Disadvantage*, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, September 2007.
- Human Nature, Evolution, and Debunking Arguments. *Human Nature and Bioethics*, Hong Kong City University, December 2007 (respondent: Joseph Lau).
- Brain Reading and the Privacy of the Inner. *Moral Brain Meeting*, Ghent University, January 2008.
- Evolution and Debunking Arguments. *James A. Moffett '29 Seminar in Ethics & DeCamp Seminar in Bioethics*, Princeton University, March 2008 (respondent: Gilbert Harman).
- Arbitrary Distinctions in Normative Ethics. *Moral Science: Science, Ethics and Innovation Workshop*. Manchester University, June 2008.
- Moral Theory and the Neuroscience of Morality. *The Ethical and Philosophical Implications of Neuroscience*. University of Bonn, October 2008.

Evolutionary Debunking Arguments. *The Ethical and Philosophical Implications of Neuroscience*. University of Bonn, October 2008 (Tutorial Session).

The Trouble with Being Sincere. *Judgement, Assertion and Norms*. Episteme Research Group. University of Geneva, December 2008 (with Timothy Chan).

Evolutionary Debunking Arguments. *Moral Philosophy Club*, University of Oslo, March 2009.

Neuroimaging Moral Judgment. *CSMN Colloquium*, University of Oslo, March 2009.

The Normative Knowledge Argument. *Language and Rationality Seminar*, University of Oslo, March 2009.

The Neuroscience of Moral Judgment: Empirical Findings and Possible Ethical Implications. *Oxford-Mount Sinai Consortium on Bioethics*, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, NYC, April 2009.

Neuroscientific Perspectives on Moral Judgment. *UK Clinical Ethics Network Conference*, St. Hugh's College, Oxford, June 2009.

Counterintuitive Moral Judgment: Cognitive Effort or Affective Deficit? *International Society for Research on Emotion Conference*, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, August 2009.

Out of the Armchair: Why Ethics Needs Psychology. *Philosophy Colloquium*, Delft University, November 2009.

Morality Biologized? *The Royal Institution of Britain*, London, January 2010.

Non-identity, Self-defeat, and Attitudes to Future People. *Philosophical Society*, King's College London, London, February 2010.

The Neuroscience of Morality. *South Place Ethical Society*, London, March 2010.

When, How and Why Consciousness Morally Matters. *The Vegetative State: Medical Facts, Ethical, Philosophical and Legal Dilemmas*, Sardinia, October 2010.

Facing the Unbidden. *Reason, Theology and the Genome*, Christ Church College, Oxford, October 2010.

Cognitive Science and Normative Ethics (reply to Joshua Greene), symposium on Neuropsychology and Normative Ethics, *American Philosophical Association Meeting*, Boston, December 2010.

Investigating the Moral Brain, Royal Institute of Technology KTH, Stockholm, February 2011.

Dual Processing and Moral Psychology, *Social Cognition and Neuroscience Seminar*, School of Psychology, University of Birmingham, March 2011.

The Armchair and the Trolley: From Empirical Psychology to Moral Principles, *Netherlands Meta-ethics Group*, Utrecht, April 2011.

Facing the Unbidden: Sandel, Religion and Human Enhancement, *3TU Research Day*, Utrecht, April 2011 [keynote lecture].

Brain Damage and the Moral Significance of Consciousness, *Meeting of the European Neurological Society*, Lisbon, May 2011.

Local Presentations

Brain Reading and the Privacy of the Inner. *James Martin 21st Century School Advanced Research Seminar*, Oxford University, 2006 (with Alexandra Couto).

Brain Reading and the Privacy of the Inner. *Oxford Neuroethics Workshop*, Oxford University, 2006.

Cognitive Enhancement: A Perspective from Value Theory. *ENHANCE project Workshop*, St Cross College, Oxford, 2006.

Well-Being, Disability and Selection. *James Martin 21st Century School Advanced Research Seminar*, Oxford University, 2006.

Neuroscience and Ethics. *James Martin 21st Century Advanced Research Seminar*, Oxford University, 2006.

Puzzles about Belief, Self-deception, and Lying. *James Martin 21st Century School Advanced Research Seminar*, Oxford University, 2007.

Pain, Experience and Frontal Lobotomy. *Neuroethics Workshop*, Oxford University, 2007.

Genetic Selection and Disability. *The Oxford Medical Humanities Forum*, Oxford, 2007.

If Nothing Matters. *The Moral Philosophy Seminar*, Oxford University, 2007.

Well-being and Adaptation. *James Martin 21st Century School Advanced Research Seminar*, Oxford University, 2007.

Anti-theism. *James Martin 21st Century School Advanced Research Seminar*, Oxford University, April 2008.

Neuroimaging Moral Intuitions. *Moral Science: Science, Ethics and Innovation Workshop*. Oxford University, November 2008.

Neuroimaging Moral Intuitions. *Carnegie Uehiro Oxford Conference on Medical Ethics*. St Cross College, Oxford University, December 2008.

Using Psychological Methods to Study Philosophical Questions. *Experimental Psychology Seminar*, Oxford University, February 2009.

The Neuroscience of Moral Judgment. *James Martin 21st Century School Advanced Research Seminar*, Oxford University, February 2009 (with Irene Tracey and Katja Wiech).

Nihilism: Nothing to Fear? *James Martin 21st Century School Advanced Research Seminar*, Oxford University, May 2009.

The Crippled Armchair: An Argument for Experimental Ethics, *James Martin 21st Century School Advanced Research Seminar*, Oxford University, February 2010.

From Is to Ought? Neuroimaging and Ethics, *The Oxford Atheist Society*, Oxford University, May 2010.

Neuroimaging, *Consortium on Ethics of Emerging Technologies*, Oxford, July 2010.

SELECTED ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE AND ACTIVITIES

Editorship

- Associate Editor of *the Journal of Medical Ethics* (from October 2011)
- Co-editor (with Russell Powell and Julian Savulescu), 'Evolution, Genetic Engineering and Human Enhancement', special issue of *Philosophy and Technology* (in preparation).

Public outreach

- Public lectures (e.g. 'Morality Biologized?' at *The Royal Institution of Britain*)
- Articles for popular media (e.g. 'Neuro ergo sum', *Prospect Magazine*, March 2010)
- Interviews for popular media (e.g. 'The Moral Code', *BBC4*, March 2010; 'Manipulating Morals', *The Guardian*, 4 April 2011)
- Contributor, 'Practical Ethics: Ethical Perspectives on the News' blog

Conference organization

- Improving Moral Psychology, Stockholm, June 2011
- Graduate Philosophy Conference, Oxford, 2001

Refereeing

Oxford University Press, The Wellcome Trust, The Leverhulme Trust, Polity Press, Cognition, Mind and Language, Bioethics, The Journal of Ethics, The Journal of Applied Philosophy, Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics, Neuroethics, ResPublica, Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal, Dutch Council for the Humanities.

SELECTED GRANTS AND AWARDS

Volkswagen Foundation Research Project Grant, 'Intuition and Emotion in Moral Decision-Making: Empirical Research and Normative Implications', €400,000, 2010-2013 (with Stephan Schlem, University of Groningen, and Birte Englich, University of Cologne)

Humanities Division Merit Award, University of Oxford, 2009

Wellcome Trust University Award (WT087208MF), 'Well-being, Consciousness, and Moral Decision-Making', £190,000, 2009-2014 (the 2nd such award to be given)

The John Fell OUP Research Fund, University of Oxford, 'The Neuroethics of Moral Decision-Making' (with Prof Savulescu), July-October 2009

Humanities Division Merit Award, University of Oxford, 2008

The John Fell OUP Research Fund, University of Oxford, 'Brain Reading and the Privacy of the Inner' (with Prof Savulescu), £80,000, 2007-2009

Fundacao Bial Research Grant, 'fMRI Study of Moral Judgment' (with Drs Shackel, Wiech and Farias), €43,000, 2007- 2008

Humanities Division Merit Award, University of Oxford, 2007