

SUSAN ABRAHAM

Assistant Professor of Women's Studies and Ministry
Harvard Divinity School
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Cambridge, MA 02138

EDUCATION

- 2003 Th.D. Theology, HARVARD DIVINITY SCHOOL, MA
- 1995 M.A. Theology, CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL UNION, IL
- 1986 M.A. English, UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI, INDIA
- 1984 B. A. English, UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI, INDIA

EMPLOYMENT

- 2007- Assistant Professor of Women's Studies and Ministry, Harvard Divinity School, MA
- 2002-2007: Associate Professor of Theology, St. Bonaventure University, NY

BOOKS

- *Identity, Ethics and Nonviolence in Postcolonial Theory: A Rahnerian Theological Assessment*, Palgrave MacMillan, May 2007
- *Shoulder to Shoulder: Frontiers in Catholic Feminist Theology*, co-edited anthology of contemporary Catholic Feminist theology with Elena Procaro-Foley, Fortress Press, October 2009
- *Space, Time and Law: Postcolonial Feminist Perspectives on Beliefs and Practices*, in preparation.

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

- “Karl Rahner on Authority in the Church” Jnanadeepa: Journal of Theological Studies, Papal Seminary, Pune, India, August 2001
- “The Caress of the Doer of the Word: A Postcolonial Critique of Miguel Díaz’s *On Being Human*,” Philosophy and Theology, Marquette University, Vol. 16, 1, 2004
- “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, June 2008
- “Postcolonial Theological Perspectives on Hindu-Christian Studies” for Hindu Christian Studies, June 2008
- “Queer Theologies and Spiritualities,” invited contribution for encyclopedia *LGTBQ America Today*, ed. Jack Hawley (Westport, CT, London: Greenwood Press), 2009
- “Practical Theology in Global Christian Contexts,” invited contribution to anthology in *Prophetic Witness: Catholic Women’s Strategies for the Church*, ed. Colleen Griffith, 2009
- “Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Valentine’s Day: Heterosexism and Nationalism in the US and India” invited contribution to JFSR, Spring 2009
- “The Pterodactyl in the Margins: Detranscendentalizing Postcolonial Theology” for *Planetary Loves*, ed. Mayra Rivera and Stephen Moore, June 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, October 2009

BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of Ann Loades: *Feminist Theology: Voices from the Past* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2001) in Modern Theology, October 2004
- Review of Beverley Lanzetta: *Emerging Heart: Global Spirituality and the Sacred* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2007), *Religious Studies Review*, 2007
- Review of Virginia Burrus and Catherine Keller: *Toward a Theology of Eros: Transfiguring Passion at the Limits of Discipline* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2006) in Theological Studies, June 2008

RESEARCH AND PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

- CTSA 2003 Annual Meeting of the Karl Rahner Society, presentation: “The Caress of the Doer of the Word: A Postcolonial Critique of Miguel Díaz’s *On Being Human*”
- AAR 2003 Annual Meeting Presentation: “When Karl Rahner meets Ashis Nandy: Christian and Postcolonial Resources for Nonviolent Resistance in India”
- CTSA 2005 Annual Meeting Invited Response Paper on Foucault and Practical Theology: “Spiritual Theology as Work on Oneself: A Postcolonial Assessment”
- 2006 Boston Theological Institute, MA: Keynote Speaker, “Mission and Conversion in India”
- CTSA 2006 Annual Meeting, Invited Paper: “Against Race? Theology in Dialogue with Postcolonial Theory”
- CTSA 2006 Annual Meeting, Session Convener: The Im/Possibility of Dialogue
- AAR 2006 Annual Meeting, invited paper: “Postcolonial Theory and Religious Studies” for the Foucault Consultation
- AAR 2006 Annual Meeting: Session Presider: Empire and the Other
- November 2007, Drew University, NJ: Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium, invited response to Gayatri C. Spivak: “Planetarity, Postcoloniality and the future of Feminist Theology”
- AAR 2007 Annual Meeting, Invited paper: “Theology and the Future of Hindu Religious Studies in the US”
- AAR 2007 Annual Meeting: Session Presider: Theology and Religious Reflection on Work, Immigration and Borders
- SBL 2007: Response to Jacob Olopuna, Religion and Religious Identity in Africa
- CTSA 2008 Annual Meeting: “Theological Anthropology and contemporary critiques of Maternity” for selected panel on Theological Anthropology and Motherhood in Catholic Theology
- 2008 Iona College, NY: “Liberating Wisdom: The Catholic Intellectual Tradition and Education for Transformation,” featured speaker on *The Catholic Intellectual Tradition*

- 2008 Harvard Divinity School, MA: featured faculty speaker at the Second Annual Diversity and Explorations conference: “Global Heart, Mother Tongue, Horizon: Spirituality and Leadership in the Third Millennium”
- 2008 Leadership Assembly, Sisters of St. Joseph, PA: “Mission and Ministry in the Third Millennium” Keynote Speaker, US Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph
- 2008 St. Bonaventure University, featured speaker, “Intellectual Charity: Pedagogies of Hope and Transformation,” Inaugural Honors Program Public Lecture
- 2008 St. Anselm’s College, NH, invited speaker: “Postcolonial perspectives on Globalization and Theology”
- 2009 Catholic Theological Union, IL, featured speaker: “Global Christianities between Colonialism and Postcolonialism”
- 2009 Boston University, Discussant, Panel on Religion and Ecology
- 2009 Harvard Divinity School, Discussant, Panel on Religion and Ecology

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 1991-1992 International Women’s Scholarship for Roman Catholic Studies in Ministry, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago
- 1996-1997 Dr. Stephen G. Jones and Wanda W. Jones Scholarship, Harvard University
- 2000-2001 Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard Divinity School
- 2006 Junior Faculty Professional Excellence Award, St. Bonaventure University
- 2009 Center for the Study of World Religions, faculty grant for consultation on Race, Gender, Class, Queer theory and Practical theology
- 2009 Boston University Center for Practical Theology grant for conference on Feminist Practical Theology, in consultation with Shelly Rambo and Dean Mary Elizabeth Moore

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Harvard University)

I) HARVARD DIVINITY SCHOOL (ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MINISTRY)

- ❖ Feminist Theology and Theory
Feminist Cross Cultural Perspectives on Beliefs and Practices
Feminist Environmental Philosophy and Theology
Creation, Eros, Cosmos: Feminist Perspectives on Creation and Eschatology
Doctoral Colloquium in Religion, Gender and Culture
Feminist Theology and Global Christianity, (Committee on the Study of Religion)
- ❖ The Practice of Feminist and Postcolonial Theology
Mission and Ministry in the Third Millennium
Reconciliation in a World of Violence
Christianity between Colonialism and Postcolonialism
- ❖ Practical Theology
Master of Divinity Senior Seminar
Histories, Theologies and Practices of Christianity

II) HARVARD UNIVERSITY

- ❖ Religion and Culture
Religion and the Sport Culture, (Harvard Extension School)

II) ST. BONAVENTURE UNIVERSITY (ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY)

- ❖ Roman Catholic Studies
Catholic and Franciscan Intellectual & Theological Heritage
Catholicism in Global Perspective
The Intellectual Journey
Karl Rahner's Theological Anthropology, Senior Capstone
Introduction to Catholic Feminist Theology
Mission and Ministry in the Global Church
Modern Theological Methods and Reasoning
- ❖ Religious Studies
Religion and Sport: An Inquiry into American Secular and Religious Values
Religion and Violence, Advanced Honors Seminar

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2006- Member by invitation, National work group on Constructive Theology
- 2005-2008 Steering Committee, Theology and Religious Reflection, AAR
- 2008- Co-Chair, Theology and Religious Reflection, AAR
- 2007-2009 CTSA Admissions committee member

HARVARD UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY SERVICE (selected)

- 1998-2000 Chair in World Christianity Search Committee, Doctoral student representative
- 1999 Orientation Coordinator, Harvard Divinity School
- 2007-2009 M.Div Senior Seminar Coordinator
- 2007 Admissions Committee, Harvard Divinity School
- 2007-2008 Emerson Chair Search subgroup
- 2007-2008 Latino/a Junior Search Committee subgroup
- 2009- CSWR Advisory Board

REFERENCES

- Professor Francis Schüssler Fiorenza, Charles Chauncey Stillman Professor of Roman Catholic Studies, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA
- Professor Stephanie Paulsell, Houghton Professor of the Practice, Harvard Divinity School
- Professor Roger Haight (S.J.), Professor of Christian Theology, Union Theological Seminary, NY
- Professor Robert Schreiter, (C.P.P.S.), Bernardin Center Vatican Council II Chair in Theology, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL