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Ronald John Terchek

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Professional Career

Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, University of Maryland, 1965-2001.
Professor Emeritus, 2001 to the present.

Selected recent publications and papers

Books

Gandhi: Struggling for Autonomy. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 1998; Delhi: Sage of India, 2000 (2nd printing).

Republican Paradoxes and Liberal Anxieties: Retrieving Neglected Fragments in Political Theory. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 1997.

Edited works

Democratic Political Theory: A Reader coedited with Thomas Conte. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2001.

Interactions: Foreign Policy as Public Policy (co-edited with Don Piper). Washington: American Enterprise Institute, 1983.

Chapters in books

“Gandhi, Nonviolence and Conflict,” in *Cambridge Companion to Gandhi* edited by Judith Brown and Anthony Parel. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2011.

“Political Fatalism,” “Norberto Bobbio,” and “Political Fatalism,” *Blackwell’s Encyclopedia of Political Thought*, Editor in Chief: Michael Gibbons. Blackwell, 2011.

- "Mahatma Gandhi," *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*, Sage Publications, 2010.
- "Encounters with Modernity and Tradition," in *Letting Be: Fred Dallmayr's Cosmopolitical Vision*, edited by Stephen Schneck. Notre Dame, IN: Notre Dame University Press, 2006.
- "Gandhi's Politics," in *Gandhi's Experiments with Truth*, edited by Richard L. Johnson. Lanham, MD: Lexington Press, 2006.
- "Gandhian Autonomy in the Late Modern World," in *Gandhi, Freedom, and Self-Rule* edited by Anthony Parel. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2000. In the series, "Comparative Political Theory."
- "Leo Strauss and the Republican Tradition," in *Leo Strauss, the Straussians, and the Study of the American Regime* edited by Kenneth Deutsch and John Murley. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 1999.
- "Gandhian Politics," in *New Perspective and Dimensions on Gandhi* edited by V. T. Patil. New Delhi: Inter-India Publications, 1989.
- "Expanding Equality of Opportunity: The Case of Nehru," in *Studies on Nehru* edited by V. T. Patil. New Delhi: Sterling Publications, 1987.
- "The Fruits of Success and the Crisis of Liberalism" in *Liberals on Liberalism* edited by Alfanso Damico. Totowa: Roman & Littlefield, 1986.
- "Gandhi's Democratic Theory," in *Political Thought of Modern India* edited by Thomas Pantham and Kenneth Deutsch. New Delhi: Sage of India, 1986.
- "The Liberal Language of Rights: From Locke to Rawls," in *Political Thought and Political Theory* edited by Bhikhu Parekh and Thomas Pantham. New Delhi: Sage of India, 1986.
- "The Psychoanalytic Basis of Gandhi's Politics," in *Studies on Gandhi* edited by V.T. Patil. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers, 1983.

Articles

- "Challenging Grand Narratives and the Fatalism They Sponsor," *Gandhi Marg*, 28, 4 (March, 2008), 423-36.

"Gandhi: Nonviolence and Violence," *Journal of Power and Ethics: An Interdisciplinary Review* 2(3), 2001, 213-42.

"Teaching Democracy: A Survey of Courses in Democratic Theory," *Perspectives on Politics*, I, 1 (March, 2003).

"Problemazing Modernity: Gandhi's Decentering Impulse," *Gandhi Marg* 23, 1 (June, 2001).

"Recovering the Political Aristotle," with David Moore, *American Political Science Review*, 94, 4 (December, 2000).

"Political Metaphors: Markets or Oligopolies," *Associations* (September 1999).

"Gandhi and the Autonomous Woman" with Nitis das Gupta, *Journal of Gandhian Studies*. 1998.

"Gandhi and Moral Autonomy," *Gandhi Marg*, 13, 4 (March 1992).

"Punishing Liberals or Rehabilitating Liberalism?" *American Political Science Review*, 83, 4 (Dec., 1989).

"Conflict and Coalition: The Hobbesian Foundations of Formal Theory," *Political Science Review* (1985).

"Retrieving Pluralism," *Ethics*, 94 (July, 1984).

"Positive Political Theory and Heresthetics: The Axioms and Assumptions of William Riker," *Political Science Reviewer* (1984).

Papers and presentations at professional conferences

"Gandhi's Salt March: Fusing Politics and Economics," American Political Science Association, September, 2010.

"Hind Swaraj after One Hundred Years," Princeton University, December, 2009.

"Gandhi's Concept of Political Power," Gettysburg College, October 2008.

"Fatalism, Skepticism, and Hope in Gandhi's Democratic Politics," University of Calgary, 2007.

"Gandhi's Challenge to Modern Democracy," Miami University of Ohio, October, 2007.

Roundtable on Frank Bryan's *Real Democracy*, American Political Science Association, September, 2004.

"Democratic Citizenship in an Era of Disengagement," Southern Political Science Association, January, 2004.

"Working Myths and Democratic Politics," American Political Science Association, September, 2003.

"Power and Democracy" Midwest Political Science Association, April 3-6, 2003.

"Gandhi and Terrorism," Midwest Political Science Association, April 3-6, 2002.

"Whose Realism? Which Reality?" American Political Science Association, September, 2001.

"Pluralism: Modern and Postmodern," Midwest Political Science Association, April, 2001.

"The New Fatalism and Democratic Politics," American Political Science Association, September 2000.

"Gandhi's Critique of Class and Caste," Midwest Political Science Association, April, 2000.

"Problematizing Modernity and Modernization: Gandhi's Decentering Impulse," American Political Science Association, September 1999.

"Gandhi and Autonomy," Central American Philosophical Association, May, 1999.

"Gandhi, Tradition, and Cultural Globalization," Western Political Science Association. March, 1998.

"Political Metaphors: Markets or Oligopolies," American Political Science Association, September 1998.

"Democracy and Our Discontents," Northeast Political Science Association, November 1997.

"Democratic Citizenship Revisited," American Political Science Association, September 1997.

"Gandhi on Modernity and Modernization," American Political Science Association, September 1996.

"The Stakes of Citizenship and the Citizen's Stakes," American Political Science Association, September 1995.

"The Cultures of Liberalism," Southern Political Science Association, November, 1994.

"Civic Realism and Contemporary Democratic Theory," American Political Science Association, September 1994.

"Reconstituting the Founding: Machiavelli, Lincoln, and Political Rhetoric," Roundtable on Political Myth, Rhetoric, and Symbolism, American Political Science Association, September 1993.

"Noisy Democrats: Machiavelli and Rousseau," Southwestern Political Science Association Meetings, March, 1993

"A Rawlsian Reading of Gandhi," International Political Science Association, Paris, 1985.

Book Reviews

Books reviewed in *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Theory*, *Review of Politics*, *Utilitas*, *Ethics*, *Choice*, *Gandhi Marg*, *Perspectives on Political Science*, *Political Science Review*, *Human Rights Quarterly*, *Social Indicators*, and *World Affairs*.

Selected Professional Activities

Offices in national organizations

Foundations of Political Theory: Chair 1982-83, 1988-92; Member, Board of Directors, 1993-96; Member, Best Paper Award Selection Committee, 1997; Chair and organizer for the 2002 American Political Science Association, Foundations of Political Theory Section.

Conference for the Study of Political Thought: Chair, Spitz Award Selection Committee for the best book in liberal democratic theory, 1992-93. Member of the Spitz Award Committee, 1987-1989 and 1993-2000.

Conference for the Study of Political Thought: 1977-1996. Co-convener: Baltimore-Washington Section.

American Political Science Association: member, Committee on Organized Sections, 1989-92; member, President's Advisory Committee on Organized Sections, 1993; member, Committee to Review Editor of *Perspectives on Politics*, 2006.

Editorial Advisory Board, *Journal of Gandhian Studies*, 1996 to the present.

International Journal of Gandhian Studies, 2007 to present.

External doctoral examiner at the following Indian Universities: Karnatak, Orissa, Mysore, North Bengal, and Sambalpur.

Delivered a series of lectures on modern Western political theory, American political theory and Gandhi's political theory at the Universities of Delhi, Baroda, and Rajasthan, January 1994; at the Universities of Delhi and Baroda, January, 1989 and Nehru University and the University of Baroda, March 1984.

Honors and Awards

“Outstanding Book of the Year,” (1998) for *Gandhi: Struggling for Autonomy by Choice: The Journal of Research and University Libraries*

Elected to Omicron Delta Kappa, Pi Sigma Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi

Various University, College, and Departmental Teaching Excellence Awards since 1971.

University of Maryland, Faculty Mentor of the Year Award, 2001.

Who's Who in the East (Latest entry, 1999).

Who's Who in America, 2000 to the present.

Research Interests

Liberal democratic theory.

Classical Liberalism: Locke, Smith, and J. S Mill.

Gandhi's political theory.

Civic realism.

Selected Courses Previously Taught

History of Political Theory: Ancient and Modern (undergraduate and graduate)

Contemporary Political Theory (undergraduate)

American Political Theory (undergraduate and graduate)

Political Theories of Gandhi (undergraduate)

Democratic Political Theory (graduate)

Modernity and Its Critics (graduate)

Teaching Political Science (graduate)

Various courses in the department's and university's honors programs.

Work in progress

"Democracy's Fate: Political Minimalism and Civic Realism." A book manuscript based on several papers on democratic theory that I previously delivered at various conferences. The first part of the book looks at some of the historical assumptions of liberal-democratic theory and the civic republican alternative. Next, I consider various models of contemporary democratic practice, with particular attention given to pluralism, both modern and postmodern, performance democracy, and market theories of democracy. The last section deals with issues of globalization and democracy, complexity and neorealism, and changing ideas of political action and political fatalism.

"Gandhi: Between Past and Future." A book manuscript based on several papers I presented earlier. The section dealing with the past takes up such themes as the Indian Renaissance and its contributions to Gandhi's thinking, the economic condition of India during British colonialization with special emphasis on changing patterns of property ownership, and Gandhi's critiques of modernity and inequality. The section dealing with the future takes up various themes in Gandhi's writings which speak to important contemporary issues, such as the environment, globalization, conflict and nonviolence, and secularism and plurality.