

WELCOME TO THE RUTGERS JOURNAL OF LAW AND RELIGION

“Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and give to God what is God’s.”¹ The Rutgers Journal of Law and Religion tries to do both. Welcome to its inaugural issue.

Founded not for a particular religion, ideology, or political philosophy, this journal strives to examine the interplay and impact of society’s two most formidable forces – Law and Religion. In honor of Rutgers’s long standing tradition of academic excellence, we welcome anyone with an interest in fostering this debate.

We, the founding staff, have noticed that, although Law and Religion seem superficially dichotomous, in reality, they are intrinsically similar. Both Law and Religion share stagnancy in that they are traditional paradigms with pervasive bureaucratic power; both Law and Religion are dynamic in that they run so near and dear to one’s soul that true consensus is often difficult to find; and both Law and Religion are altruistic in that their idealism calls each of us to be our very best. In light of these issues, and many others, it is our hope to foster the debate related to Law and Religion far into the future.

There are many people to whom the Rutgers Journal of Law and Religion will always be grateful. Their support and encouragement brought this endeavor from its infancy to what you see before you today. Firstly, thank you to those professionals who contributed their works to our inaugural issue. Thank you also to [the Anti Defamation League](#) and [the University of Pennsylvania Law School](#) for helping us secure these great works. Our staff worked hard to do all of your labors justice. To Dean Solomon and the rest of the [Rutgers School of Law administration](#), thank you for your belief in this journal and your willingness to back up that belief with valuable resources. To [Professor Perry Dane](#), our founding advisor, thank you for being there for us and tempering solid academic criticism with steady support. To the many other people and advisors within the fine legal community we call [Rutgers-Camden](#), including [the Rutgers Law Journal](#), [Career Services](#), the [Legal Research and Writing Department](#), the [Law Library](#), Tom Ryan and Melanie Gordon, and the [Lexis](#) personnel, your help gave us needed stability in our earliest and most critical days. Finally, I would like to give a personal thank you to the Rutgers Journal of Law and Religion’s [founding staff](#). Because of your unparalleled passion and dedication, the world will always be a better place.

In closing, we invite you to peruse the many pages within the Rutgers Journal of Law and Religion. Read the articles and expand your understanding by accessing the many hyperlinks contained in the footnotes. Afterwards, [e-mail us](#) your opinion and comments. Go to our [Useful Links](#) page, which provides valuable hyperlinks to other resources and interesting web pages. Look for future additions like the "New Developments in the Law" link to be added later this year. In short, have fun with this journal and learn much. For we, the founding staff, have done just that.

Warmly,
Terry Lyons
Founding Editor in Chief
Rutgers Journal of Law and Religion

¹ *Mark 15: 21.*