

## **[#MeToo, the Talmud, and the Ethics of Accountability, Prof. Mira Beth Wasserman \(Rabbinical College in Philadelphia\)](#)**

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**PUBLIC LECTURE (In person and live stream): #MeToo, the Talmud, and the Ethics of Accountability, Prof. Mira Beth Wasserman (Rabbinical College in Philadelphia)**

**When:** TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023

**Time:** 5:30 - 7:00 PM (EST)

**Where:** NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA, SAINER AUDITORIUM (located at NCF's Caple Campus, 5313 Bay Shore Rd)

**Live Streaming:** [New College of Florida Religious Studies YouTube Channel](#).

### **#MeToo, the Talmud, and the Ethics of Accountability**

Prof. Mira Beth Wasserman

Director of the Center for Jewish Ethics and Associate Professor of Rabbinic Literature at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia.

With the rise of the #MeToo movement, Jewish activists invoked the Jewish ethical tradition to support principles of accountability, dignity, and gender justice. The Talmud seemed to offer a perfect precedent for #MeToo in the story of a rabbinic leader who was chastened and dismissed for sexual violations. But is this an accurate reading of Moed Katan 17a? In this talk, I take a second look at the talmudic text I at first celebrated and discover a more complicated and disturbing story. I offer my reading and re-reading as a case study in how the Talmud can--and can't--advance contemporary ethics.

Professor Wasserman's research focuses on the art of the Babylonian Talmud and on how the Talmud can be deployed to support contemporary Jewish ethics. Her book, *Jews, Gentiles, and Other Animals: The Talmud after the Humanities* (Penn Press), was awarded the Baron Prize for the best first book in Jewish studies published in 2017. Her current projects include a history of the idea of aggadah, and the direction of NEH-funded public scholarship on race, religion, and American Judaism.

Read more here: <https://www.ncf.edu/ncf-events/klingenstein-lecture-series/>

About

Prof.

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With Best Wishes,  
Prof. Susan Marks

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