ABSTRACT: In this paper I diagnose how injustice penetrates the metaphysics of agency to undermine an agent's capacity to be robustly self-governing. I discuss cases in which agents confront value conflicts that they wouldn't face under more just conditions. Here, the resolution of the conflict does not require the agent to do something that she ought not to do, and the agent ends up doing something that she values once she has resolved the conflict, but the agent is nonetheless failing to act in a way that reflects where she stands. I argue that in conditions of injustice the world can fail to give some agents the opportunity to exercise their capacity for robust self-governance; an agent can only conform to the requirements of practical rationality by undermining her normative self-governance.

October 3, 5:00-6:30pm, Hancock 2023

For more information, please contact Prof. Henry Pratt at henry.pratt@marist.edu or 845-575-3000 x2820.