

Theorizing Structural Injustice

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In “Racial Structural Solidarity” (forthcoming, *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, 2018) I argue that effective political action against racial injustice requires a conception of solidarity based on the social and material reality of this form of injustice. I develop such a notion of solidarity by extending Iris Young’s notion of “gender as seriality” to race. Thus grounded, racial solidarity avoids the problems with Tommie Shelby’s “common oppression view” and Robert Gooding-Williams’ and Lawrie Balfour’s non-foundational view of solidarity.

“What Domination Can and Cannot Do. Gender Oppression and the Limits of the Neo-Republican Notion of Domination” (revised and resubmitted, *Social Theory and Practice*) argues that the neo-republican notion of domination is inadequate for understanding gendered forms of injustice because it cannot explain why gender constraints experienced by women contribute to their inferior position while gender constraints experienced by men contribute to men’s superior position. The implication of this argument is that we need to supplement the vocabulary of domination with that of oppression.

In “What (If Anything) Is Structural about the Basic Structure?” I argue that a systematic relation between the privileged and the oppressed is essential to a conception of oppression. I criticize Iris Young’s late appropriation of John Rawls’ idea of the basic structure by arguing that the Rawlsian notion does not involve any such relationship. Young’s analysis of housing insecurity is limited by its failure to analyze the privilege systematically related to the disadvantage of the position of housing insecurity.

In “Gender Exploitation and Feminist Contractualism,” I argue that contractualist understandings of gender exploitation are inadequate because they fail to capture its systematic character, i.e. the fact that gender exploitation is a relation between positions in the social structure of gender rather than a matter of contingent individual behavior.