

Global Faculty Initiative

Renewing Christian intellectual life in the world's research universities

PREVIEW RESPONSE

Do We Owe Justice to Robots?



Jennifer Herdt

Yale Divinity School

Justice · Theology · 1 min read

facultyinitiative.net/article/do-we-owe-justice-to-robots

Do we have obligations of justice only to fellow human beings, or also to non-human animals? potential trans-humans, robots, and extra-terrestrials?

To what extent is what is owed to another determined by their membership in a particular natural kind, i.e., their humanity? And to what extent is it determined by particular features of that individual, or of particular social groups or institutions to which that individual belongs?

Defenders of inalienable natural rights (e.g., Locke, Frederick Douglass) often insist that while these natural rights cannot be taken away, they can be forfeited, together with the dignity of humanity. What is secured by theological affirmations of the *imago dei* and of universal human dignity if theological justifications for the forfeiture of that dignity can and are often given?

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

Document type	Preview Response
Dialogue	Justice
Discipline	Theology
Author	Jennifer Herdt
Read online	facultyinitiative.net/article/do-we-owe-justice-to-robots



Global Faculty Initiative

Renewing Christian intellectual life in the world's research universities