

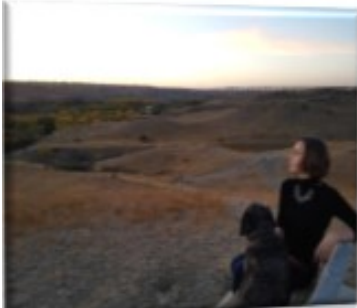
Philosophy Department
Colloquium Series

Friday, November 29, 2019

3:00 p.m.

C-640

Everyone is welcome



***On the Puzzling Death of the
Sanctity-of-Life Argument***

Katharina Stevens

Abstract: The passage of time influences the content of the law and therefore also the validity of legal arguments. This is true even for charter-arguments, despite the widely held view that constitutional law is made to last. In this paper, I investigate the reason why the sanctity-of-life argument against physician assisted suicide lost its validity between the Supreme Court decision in *Rodriguez v. British Columbia* in 1993 and *Carter v. Canada* in 2015. I suggest that a rhetorical approach to argument evaluation is the best basis for a satisfying explanation.