

Πορνεία porneia

THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES PRESENTS
THE DAVID L. DUNGAN MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES

Sexual (Im)morality in Early Christianity

Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 5:30 PM

Alumni Memorial Building, Cox Auditorium

When Paul and other early Christian authors condemned sex acts and desires as “porneia,” what counted as sexual immorality for the authors of the New Testament and early Christianity? Only “fornication” (that is, sex outside marriage)? Or many other actions that modern conservative Christians think are perfectly permissible, as long as they are performed in the “marriage bed”? In his talk, Martin argues that the ancient Christian (and Jewish) authors condemned many more actions than modern conservative Christians, including many desires modern Christians consider perfectly acceptable.



SPEAKER:

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Dale B. Martin specializes in New Testament and Christian Origins, including attention to social and cultural history of the Greco-Roman world. He is the author of six books and several articles on topics related to the ancient family, gender and sexuality in the ancient world, and ideology of modern biblical scholarship. Martin was an associate editor for the revision and expansion of the *Encyclopedia of Religion*, published in 2005. He has held fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany), the Lilly Foundation, the Fulbright Commission (USA-Denmark), and the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (elected 2009).

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