

**Robert M. (Bob) Tappan** received his Ph.D. from the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia in 2011. His work focuses on Islamic ethics, theology, and law, with a special emphasis on Shi'î thought. Particular areas of ethical interest include bioethics, animal and environmental ethics, and the ethics of war and peace. His publications include "More Than Fatwas: Ethical Decision Making in Iranian Fertility Clinics," in *Islam and Assisted Reproductive Technologies: Sunni and Shia Perspectives* (Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2012), and entries on "Abortion," "AIDS," "Animals," "Dietary Rules," "Ethics," "Family Planning," "Health Care," and "Medicine" in the *Encyclopedia of Islam in the United States* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2007). Tappan is currently working on a manuscript based on his Ph.D. dissertation "Beyond Clerics and Clinics: Islamic Bioethics and Assisted Reproductive Technology in Iran." In addition, he is preparing a book chapter on gender in Islamic bioethics, and an article on animal research and Islamic bioethics. He is also a member of the Science and the Human Person Working Group as part of the Contending Modernities project, based out of the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame. He has lived in or visited numerous Muslim countries, including Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Qatar, Iran, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Tappan is an assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Towson University, Towson, MD. He teaches a range of courses at Towson in comparative religion, Islamic studies, and religious ethics, including: RLST 203: Introduction to Islam; RLST 206 Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; RLST 305/505: Faith Perspectives in Medical Ethics; RLST 313 Islamic Ethics; RLST 363 Sufism: Islamic Mysticism; and RLST 367: Islam in the Modern Age.