The handle [http://hdl.handle.net/1887/36507](http://hdl.handle.net/1887/36507) holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

**Author:** Mansvelt Beck, Floris  
**Title:** How we do things here: moral communities, integration and toleration in the Netherlands: competing interpretations of liberalism in parliamentary practice, 2000-2013  
**Issue Date:** 2015-12-02
Acknowledgments

The present project could not have been completed without the inspiration and support of my teachers, colleagues, friends, and family. In its pursuit, however, friendships and familial relationships have also been neglected. Apologies are due, therefore, besides gratitude, as is the promise of betterment. Here, I will limit myself to those few people who have either affected, or been affected by, this dissertation research the most directly.

Paul Nieuwenburg taught me most of what I know about doing political philosophy during lunchbreak walks at the Department of Legal Philosophy in Leiden. Writing this dissertation under Paul’s supervision has been an honor and a mixed pleasure – being supervised by Paul can be somewhat daunting, though he seems to be getting milder with age. Thank you for everything you’ve taught me, and will undoubtedly continue to teach me, Paul.

Ruud Koole has been an exemplary supervisor. I happen to learn most from my mistakes, and Ruud gave me ample freedom to make them, for which I am grateful. But he also knew when to intervene, gently admonishing me when playtime was over. In taking up this project and in the process of bringing it to a successful end Ruud has shown himself to be eminently reasonable – a qualification that no doubt will not surprise him. In the end, I think my dissertation research took on a form very close to that envisaged by Ruud at the very beginning. Thank you for your patience in allowing me to get there by my own devices, Ruud.

Frank de Zwart and Joop van Holsteijn also deserve special mention. Intellectuals both, whose interests and education transcend disciplinary boundaries, Frank and Joop have each helped me, and continue to help me, to look at my work from different angles than my own. I thank them both for their criticism and advice, and of course for their conversation and company.

My parents, Elisabeth Mijs and Frits Mansvelt Beck, each in their own way provided me with an object lesson in plowing your own furrow. The
choices made by or forced upon you shaped my world; I’ve been trying to understand it ever since. Besides thus laying the foundations for a life of enquiry, you have both been helpful in this, the present enquiry, as well. Not only by reading and commenting on the work in process and providing relief when necessary, but also by spending many a day with your grandchildren to allow me or Roos to work on our respective Ph.D.’s. This goes for my other two ‘moms’ as well, of course, Trish Nice and Joanneke Cuperus: without all your help I would probably still be up in the attic, pounding away at my Remington... Thanks especially for taking me in as your own and trusting me with your daughter, respectively.

Saar, Isaac, Nora: the choices made by your parents are currently shaping your world. If there is one reason I would have liked to finish this project somewhat sooner it is that I would have been able to spend more time with the three of you, free from the ever-present Ph.D. If there was one good reason to finish it somewhat later, it was to spend more time with you, never mind the Ph.D.

Roos, I’m a lucky man.

_Vauchigon, 2015_