

RONI AMIT

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EDUCATION

J.D., NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY

Honors: Arthur Helton Global Human Rights Fellowship
Dean's Scholarship

Activities: International Human Rights Clinic

Ph.D., UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, Seattle, WA

Political Science Department

Dissertation: Judges without Borders: International Human Rights Law in Domestic Courts

Fields: International Law and Human Rights
International Relations
Comparative Politics

Honors: Human Rights Education and Research Grant

Dorot Foundation Travel Grant
Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship
J. Allen Smith Graduate Fellowship

Activities: Professor Joan Fitzpatrick, Research Assistant

Teaching Assistant: International Relations, Introduction to Politics, American Foreign Policy
Instructor: International Law

M.A., GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, Washington, D.C.

Elliott School of International Affairs

Honors: Graduate Fellowship
Distinction in all Fields

B.A., TULANE UNIVERSITY, New Orleans, LA

Political Economy

Honors: Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

PROFESSIONAL AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

DEPORTATION DEFENSE CLINIC, HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Hempstead, NY

Clinical Fellow, September 2017-present

Design and co-teach clinic seminar. Supervise students doing client representation and drafting and filing legal briefs. Represent detained and non-detained individuals in removal proceedings, motions to reopen, and bond hearings before the New York immigration courts and Board of Immigration Appeals. Design impact litigation around immigration practices. Draft legal briefs.

HUNTER COLLEGE HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM, New York, NY

Adjunct Professor, 2017, 2018

Courses: The Plight of Refugees: Can Rights Survive Politics?

The Migration Crisis: Refugee and Immigrant Rights in Policy and Practice

REFUGEE & IMMIGRANT CENTER FOR EDUCATION & LEGAL SERVICES (RAICES), San Antonio, TX

Volunteer Attorney, Family Detention Program, October-December 2016

Represented over forty individuals in expedited immigration removal proceedings and credible fear reviews before the San Antonio immigration court. Consulted with detained women and children at the Karnes Family Detention Center. Prepared declarations, legal submissions, and requests for review.

AFRICAN CENTER FOR MIGRATION & SOCIETY, UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND,

Johannesburg, South Africa

Senior Researcher, Practices in Rights and Law Initiative, October 2010-June 2016

Conducted rights-based research on the refugee situation in South Africa, including administrative justice deficiencies in the status determination process; unlawful arrests, detentions, and deportations; and departures from the rule of law. Testified before Parliament and did media appearances around these issues. Supervised rights-based research projects focusing on migrant survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and unaccompanied minors at the border.

FORCED MIGRATION STUDIES PROGRAM, UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, Johannesburg,

South Africa

Lecturer, 2011-2015

Topics: Human Rights, Asylum, and Immigration in Law and Policy;

Migration and Human Rights: Policy, Practice, and the Limits of Law

LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, Johannesburg, South Africa

Strategic Litigation Consultant and Global Human Rights Fellow, September 2008-March 2010

Conceived and conducted rights-based research on the asylum and detention system in support of litigation goals. Designed litigation strategies seeking structural change on the basis of research findings. Implemented and managed broad-based survey of immigration detainees.

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, HUNTER COLLEGE, New York, NY

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Summer 2005

Courses: International Human Rights, International Law

PUBLICATIONS (SELECTED)

ARTICLES

(Dis)Placing the Law: Lessons from South Africa on Advancing US Asylum Rights, LOY. J. PUB. INT. L. (forthcoming Spring 2019).

South Africa's Deliberately Flawed Asylum System: A Mechanism for Migration Control, GEO. J. INT'L AFF. (June 2016).

Refugee Protection is Politics (with Loren Landau), OPEN DEMOCRACY: Open Global Rights Debate: The Future of Refugee Protection (March 2016).

African Refugees in South Africa are Often Unable to Access their Rights, Africa at LSE Blog, London School of Economics (January 2016).

Paying for Protection: Corruption in South Africa's Asylum System, MIGRATION INFORMATION SOURCE, Migration Policy Institute (November 2015).

Wither Policy: Southern African Perspectives on Understanding Law, "Refugee Policy" and Protection (with Loren Landau), 27 J. REF. REFUGEE STUD. 534 (2014).

Making Migrants 'Il-Legible': The Policies and Practices of Documentation in Post-Apartheid South Africa (with Norma Kriger), 40 KRONOS 269 (2014).

Detention as an Instrument of Control: Security Rhetoric and the Legitimization of Illegality in South Africa, FORCED MIGRATION REVIEW, Special Issue: Detention, Alternatives to Detention, and Deportation (September 2013).

Winning Isn't Everything: Courts, Context and the Barriers to Effecting Change through Public Interest Litigation, 27 S. AFR. J. HUM. RTS. 8 (2011).

No Refuge: Flawed Status Determination and the Failures of South Africa's Refugee System to Provide Protection, 23 INT'L J. REFUGEE L. 458 (2011).

BOOK CHAPTERS

Above the Law: Securitization in South Africa's Migration Management Regime, in LAW AND MIGRATION IN A CHANGING WORLD (Marie-Claire Foblets and Jean-Yves Carlier, eds.) (forthcoming 2019).

The Role of Migrant Traders in Local Economies: A Case Study of Somali Spaza Shops in Cape Town, in MEAN STREETS: MIGRATION, XENOPHOBIA AND INFORMALITY IN SOUTH AFRICA (Jonathan Crush, Abel Chikanda, and Caroline Skinner, eds.) (with Vanya Gastrow) (2015).

From Protection to Exclusion: Asylum Seekers and Immigration Detention in Democratic South Africa, in IMMIGRATION DETENTION: THE MIGRATION OF A POLICY AND ITS HUMAN IMPACT (Amy Nethery and Stephanie J. Silverman, eds.) (2015).

Constitutionalism in Egypt in POLITICAL CULTURE AND CONSTITUTIONALISM: A COMPARATIVE APPROACH (Daniel P. Franklin and Michael Baun, eds.) (with Nathan Brown) (1995).

HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH REPORTS- AFRICAN CENTRE FOR MIGRATION & SOCIETY

Queue Here for Corruption: Measuring Irregularities in South Africa's Asylum System, co-published with Lawyers for Human Rights (2015).

Border Justice: Migration, Access to Justice and the Experiences of Unaccompanied Minors and Survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Musina (with Rosalind Elphick) (2012).

Elusive Justice: Somali Traders' Access to Formal and Informal Justice Mechanisms in the Western Cape (with Vanya Gastrow) (2012).

Breaking the Law, Breaking the Bank: The Cost of Home Affairs' Illegal Detention Practices (2012).

No Way In: Barriers to Access, Service and Administrative Justice at South Africa's Refugee Reception Offices (2012).

All Roads Lead to Rejection: Persistent Bias and Incapacity in South African Refugee Status Determination (2012).

Lost in the Vortex: Irregularities in the Detention and Deportation of Non-Nationals in South Africa (2010).

PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

Cornell University Institute for African Development, Ithaca, NY, September 2016

Refugees and Migrants in Southern Africa: How Security Has Displaced Development and Humanitarian Goals in Migration Policy

American University in Cairo, Centre for Migration and Refugee Studies, Cairo, Egypt, September 2015

Expanding 'Illegality' in Policy and Practice: The Limits of South Africa's Migration Management Regime and How the Law Impedes 'Lawfulness' and Rights

Centre for Conflict Resolution, Public Dialogue on Xenophobia, Cape Town, South Africa, May 2015

Understanding Micro and Macro Level Causes of Xenophobia

Northwestern University Conference, Refugee Protection Outside of the International Legal Framework, Evanston, IL, May 2014

Wither Policy? Southern African Perspectives on Understanding Law, "Refugee" Policy and Protection

International Detention Coalition Workshop, Immigration Detention, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, October 2012

The First Safe Country Principle in Law and Practice

University of Oxford Refugee Studies Centre, Regional Workshop on Refugee Status Determination and Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa, Kampala, Uganda, November 2010

The Merging of Immigration and Asylum in South Africa

New York University Centre for Human Rights and Global Justice, Emerging Human Rights Scholarship Conference, New York, NY, April 2007

Judicial Activism through International Law: From Security to Rights Supremacy in Israel's High Court of Justice

International Law Association, New York, New York, October 2004

Palestinian Rights and the Global Judiciary: How Human Rights Trumped Security in Israel's High Court of Justice