

MONICA RAMSY

March 2023 • mgramsy@g.ucla.edu

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles, Sociology Ph.D. Program (entered Fall 2021)

Awards: 2022 – 2026 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholars Program Fellow; 2021 – 2025 Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellow; 2021 Susan Kellogg in the Sociology of Gender Award Recipient; 2022 Paula Stone Legal Research Fellow

Activities: Co-Chair, Gender & Sexuality Working Group, UCLA Sociology (June 2022 – Present); Associate Editor, *Michigan Journal of Law & Society* (August 2022 – Present); UCLA Community Scholars Program (January 2022 – June 2022); Member of 2022 *Q-Grad Conference* Planning Committee (March 2022 – June 2022)

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law

J.D., May 2019 (Thelton E. Henderson Center Public Interest and Social Justice Certificate)

Activities: Women of Color Collective (co-chair, 2017 – 2018, alumna mentor, 2019 – present); Middle Eastern Law Students Association (co-chair, 2017 – 2018); Juvenile Education Advocacy Project (now “Youth Advocacy Project,” 2016 – 2017); California Asylum Representation Clinic (2016 – 2017); Law Students for Justice in Palestine (2016 – 2019); Queer Caucus (2016 – 2019); Berkeley Immigration Group (2016 – 2019)

University of Southern California

Bachelor of Arts, *summa cum laude*, in Gender Studies with a minor in Natural Sciences, September 2014 (graduated in three years)

Activities: Women’s Student Assembly (assistant director, 2013 – 2014); *Interstitia* (founder and director, 2014 – 2015), a collective dedicated to fostering arts-meets-activism community through weekly discussions and a monthly journal publication; *Naked Narratives* (writer, 2014), a writing salon for women and gender minorities sponsored by the initiative Awesome Without Borders

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2023 – 2024

Just Beginnings Collaborative

Research Coordinator

Provide support for Just Beginning Collaborative Wayfinding Project Team by supporting efforts to archive abolitionist feminist and transformative justice-based child sexual abuse prevention tactics and strategies from across the United States. The aim of this research is to develop an anthology/curriculum resource for those seeking a radical approach within their communities to preventing child sexual abuse.

2022

Wellspring Philanthropic Fund

Racial Justice Program Consultant

Conducted mixed-methods research to analyze the trajectory of advocacy efforts, reform, and other shifts in particular states and jurisdictions in the following issue areas: bail and pretrial reform; decriminalization, jail closures, and reducing jail admissions; efforts

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supporting the leadership, voice, and agency of formerly incarcerated people and communities directly affected by criminalization, and; ending structural barriers to reentry. Consolidated this research into a 200-page report on the U.S. landscape of carceral systems and efforts to resist and reform these systems.

2022

Human Impact Partners

Research Intern

Conducted policy-focused, innovative, and strategic research evaluating health impacts and inequities to support targeted campaigns and movements for social change. Conducted literature reviews, developed quantitative and qualitative research tools, analyzed data using quantitative and qualitative research methods, wrote up research findings for reports, issue and policy briefs, and other materials, and translated HIP’s research findings into materials for public health professionals to advocate around social determinants of health, including community safety, economic security, immigration, and housing justice policies.

Provided research, writing, and project management support for the report “From Crisis to Care: Ending the Health Harm of Women’s Prisons” (February 2023), co-created by Human Impact Partners, [the California Coalition for Women Prisoners](#), [Californians United for a Responsible Budget](#), and [the Transgender, Gender Variant, Intersex Justice Project](#). This report — informed by public health research alongside interviews and survey responses from people currently and formerly incarcerated in women’s prisons — exposes the catastrophic health harms of incarceration in women’s prisons and provides evidence in support of investments in health-promoting social determinants of health instead of incarceration. Available at: <https://humanimpact.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/HIP-From-Crisis-to-Care-02-2023.pdf>.

2019

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law

Research Assistant for Professor Russell Robinson

Provided research, writing, and editing for scholarship examining sociolegal constructions of LGBTQ relationships and community formation, and particularly the ways in which sexual racisms inform, and are informed by, legal structures.

2019

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law

Research Assistant for Professor Leti Volpp

Conducted legal research for scholarship with a particular focus on the intersections between immigration law, critical citizenship studies, gendered nationalisms, and critical race theory. Provided legal research and writing support for the article *Protecting the Nation from “Honor Killings”*: *The Construction of a Problem*, 34 *Const. Comment.* 133 (2019).

2018 – 2019

UC Berkeley Center for Race and Gender

Graduate Student Researcher

Researched, developed, and organized event programming for the Center for Race and Gender (CRG), which serves as a central hub for faculty and students exploring multidisciplinary race and gender research. Facilitated the student advisory board meetings

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and development, managed social media communications for the Center, and supervised CRG interns. Created and spearheaded the inaugural (and now annual) CRG Student Research Symposium, which offers an opportunity for CRG student grantees to develop their research and presentation skills through a series of skills-based and peer-review workshops that culminate into a symposium dedicated for grantees to present their research to the UC Berkeley community.

2017 – 2018

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law

Research Assistant for Professor Angela Onwuachi-Willig (now serving as Dean of Boston University School of Law)

Conducted legal research on a variety of topics within the fields of family law and critical race theory. Provided, in particular, legal research and writing support for the articles *From Emmett Till to Trayvon Martin: The Persistence of White Womanhood and the Preservation of White Manhood*, 15 Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race (2018) and *What About #UsToo?: The Invisibility of Race in the #MeToo Movement*, 128 Yale Law Journal Forum (2018).

2016 – 2017

University of California, Irvine, School of Law

Center for Biotechnology and Global Health Policy Fellow

Researched a wide variety of legal issues within the fields of reproductive justice, bioethics, and racial justice with Professor Michele Goodwin. First, drafted a report examining the ways in which the school to prison pipeline impacts girls of color. Second, conducted research on the militarization of police equipment and practices, the Department of Justice's failure to collect comprehensive data on police-involved fatalities, and the particular impacts of police brutality on women and children of color. Third, helped to prepare an application for a UC-wide reproductive justice consortium by researching existing laws and policies that protect critical reproductive justice interests, as well as areas where such laws were notably silent or unenforced, with a particular emphasis on laws enshrining a lack of access to medical care for incarcerated pregnant people

2014

Annenberg Inclusion Initiative (formerly known as the Media, Diversity, & Social Change Initiative)

Harnisch Foundation Scholar

Performed filmic case-study analysis for the *Gender Inequality in Film* and *Race/Ethnicity in 600 Popular Films* reports. Coordinated the student body responsible for the media launch of the abovementioned reports by creating relevant bylines, utilizing social media, editing graphics, and delegating tasks related to the media launch.

2014

Undergraduate Research Associates Program

Scholar

Awarded a \$3,000 stipend to work with thanatologist and gender studies scholar Diana Blaine on the proposal for her book *Fatal Fantasies*, which explores mediatized representations of death in the United States through the lens of gender, race, and class. Conducted field research on relevant case studies for the book, collected data thereof, and served as primary student editor for the book proposal and its incipient chapters.

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2012 – 2013

ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives

Archivist

Processed archival collections by organizing, sorting and systematizing collection pieces and writing histories the collections. Managed subject files and data entry and assisted in the setup of exhibits.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (OUTSIDE ACADEMIC RESEARCH)

2019 – 2021

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Asian Law Caucus

Litigation Fellow, Immigrant Rights Program

Worked on impact litigation challenging the detention and deportation of Southeast Asian and other immigrant communities targeted for policing and immigration enforcement. Provided direct legal representation for noncitizens, with a particular focus on noncitizens in need of both post-conviction and immigration relief. Drafted written materials, led educational workshops, and otherwise supported efforts for pardon campaigns for immigrants. Supported policy efforts to expand the protections of SB 54 (the California Values Act), including conducting research, meeting with legislators, and organizing to pass AB 937 (the VISION Act).

This two-year fellowship was made possible by the Berkeley Law Public Interest Fellowship and the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California (VABANC) Law Foundation Fellowship.

2018 – 2019

UC Berkeley Graduate Student Assembly

Graduate Student Wellness Project Director

Served as student advocate on numerous committees to sustain and enhance graduate student wellness resources. Collaborated with the UC Berkeley Graduate Assembly Wellness Center to plan and host events serving graduate students' health and wellness needs.

2018

ACLU of Northern California

Legal-Policy Extern

Conducted legal research and writing in support of impact litigation and policy advocacy efforts, with a particular focus on ACLU NorCal's education equity, reproductive justice, and LGBTQ justice advocacy.

2018

Public Counsel, Immigrants' Rights Project

Summer law clerk

Provided legal research and writing for the Immigrants' Rights Project's appellate advocacy team. Worked as a direct services advocate, primarily for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) and children's asylum cases.

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2017 – 2018

East Bay Community Law Center, Immigration Unit

Clinical extern under the supervision of Immigration Unit Director Linda Tam

Served as the primary legal advocate on a diverse immigration caseload including asylum seekers and Violence Against Women Act self-petitioners. Conducted weekly client interviews, wrote declarations, researched country conditions, and developed affidavits with clients.

2017

ACLU of Southern California

Summer clerk with the LGBTQ, Gender, and Reproductive Justice Project

Engaged in legal analysis by researching, writing, and reporting extensively in the fields of gender justice, reproductive justice, and LGBTQ justice.

2015 – 2016

Planned Parenthood Los Angeles

Sexual health educator

Taught sexual education curriculum to Los Angeles United School District high school students on topics that included: sexuality; gender roles, relationships, and intimate partner violence; contraception; pregnancy; sexually transmitted infections, and; reproductive anatomy.

2014 – 2015

State Senate Campaign, Sandra Fluke

Political staff assistant

Conducted policy research on senate bills, legal reform, political organizations, and policy changes. Staffed endorsement meetings and Emerge California meetings.

PUBLICATIONS & PUBLICATION EXPERIENCE

Amira Jarmakani, Nadine Naber, & Monica Ramsy, “From Palestine to US Prisons, Radical Love Can Guide Our Fight for Liberation” (February 13, 2023), TruthOut. Available at: <https://truthout.org/articles/from-palestine-to-us-prisons-radical-love-can-guide-our-fight-for-liberation/>.

Monica Ramsy, *Heroizing Restorative Justice: Steven Universe and Rewriting Justice Narratives through Superhero Cartoons*, 11 *Calif. L. Rev. Online* 417 (Oct. 2020), <http://www.californialawreview.org/heroizing-restorative-justice-steven-universe>.

Monica Ramsy, *Beyond the U-Visa and Carceral Feminist “Crimmigration”*: Transforming the VAWA Self-Petition to Remedy Sexual Violence in Immigration Detention, 45 *N.Y.U. Review of Law and Social Change* (2021).

Monica Ramsy et al., *Testimony of Berkeley Law Delegation to Tijuana, Mexico, December 2018-January 2019*, 29 *Berkeley La Raza Law Journal* 2109 (2019), <https://doi.org/10.15779/Z38W37KW27>.

Smith, Stacy, Marc Choueiti and Katherine Pieper. 2014. Race/Ethnicity in 600 Popular Films: Examining On Screen Portrayals and Behind the Camera Diversity. Media, Diversity, & Social Change Initiative. Los Angeles, CA.

Smith, Stacy, Marc Choueiti and Katherine Pieper. 2014. Gender Inequality in Film: Examining On-Screen Portrayals and Behind-the-Scenes Employment Patterns in Motion Pictures Released between 2007-2013. Media, Diversity, &

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Social Change Initiative. Los Angeles, CA.

- **Michigan Journal of Law & Society** (*Associate Editor*), 2022 – Present
- **California Law Review** (*Associate Editor, Holistic Review Committee Editor*), 2017 – 2019
- **Berkeley Journal of African-American Law & Policy** (*Publications Editor*), 2017 – 2019
- **Berkeley Journal of Middle Eastern and Islamic Law** (*Communications Editor*), 2016 – 2017

SELECT INVITED LECTURES, MEDIA APPEARANCES, AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES

- Presenter, “Authoritarian and Conservative Rules in Contemporary Societies: The Battlefield of Women’s Rights and Freedom. Part II,” *XX ISA World Congress of Sociology*, Melbourne, Australia (June – July 2023, forthcoming).
- Panelist, “Revisiting Palestine as a Feminist Issue: Where Do We Go Now?” *Graduate Students in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Conference*, Pennsylvania State University (February 2023, declined invitation due to scheduling conflicts).
- Panelist, *Eighth Annual Graduate Student Conference in Public Law*, University of Texas at Austin School of Law (October 2022).
- Panelist, *New Directions in Law and Society Conference*, University of Massachusetts Amherst (October 2022, declined invitation due to scheduling conflicts).
- Panelist, “Rage and Refuge: SCOTUS, Bodily Autonomy, and the War on Terror,” *virtual event hosted by Vigilant Love, HEART, Palestinian Youth Movement, Palestinian Feminist Collective, and For the Binat* (July 2022). Available at: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/dXxl6ZxXF5UxO92NBIC-515lfH8BQnGvvVwh0j2YR556baNQlv4ImUAdjXb2Z2k.pmr2jsTX_91eZOpp (please email directly for zoom recording passcode).
- Panelist, “CRITICAL DIALOGUE: (Mis) Trust and Institutional Change in a Time of Racial Reckoning,” *The Society for the Study of Social Problems 72nd Annual Meeting*, Los Angeles, CA (August 2022).
- Panelist, “Unsettling the Law, Unsettling Ourselves: A Roundtable Discussion,” *24th Conference of the Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities*, Emory University School of Law (June 2022).
- Invited podcast interviewee, *The Anti-Girlboss Socialist Club*, “Pinkwashing Zionism: Why Palestine is a Feminist Issue (w/ the Palestinian Feminist Collective)” (January 2022). Available at <https://open.spotify.com/episode/3qnaWEbqUTkeG3H8tHCj9m?si=6ff42ac90e3046c6>.
- Invited Peer Editor, “A queer space rock of color punches out a racist pig” *Revising the Paradox of Fiction and Reshaping Narrative Empathy and Activism Through the Case of Children’s TV Show Steven Universe*, by Julia Zielke, *Intersect: The Stanford Journal of Science, Technology, and Society* 15:1 (December 2021).
- Invited Panelist, *Immigration Law Panel - Student Immigration Relief Clinic*, UC Berkeley (March 2021).
- Invited Panelist, *Demystifying the United States’ Role at the Border*, UC Berkeley Law (February 2019).
- Conference Organizer, *#MeToo: One Year Later with Roxane Gay* (January 2019).
- Invited Panelist, *#MeToo? Questioning the Legal Community’s Response to the Movement*, UC Berkeley Law (April 2018).
- Invited Panelist, *Dis-Oriented: A Critical Screening and Panel Discussion*, UC Berkeley Law (February 2018).

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– Moderator, *Reproductive Justice Without Borders*, UC Berkeley Law (October 2017).

HONORS & AWARDS

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholars Program Fellowship, 2022 – 2026
- UCLA Center for the Study of Women Paula Stone Legal Research Fellow, 2022
- Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellow, 2021 – 2025
- Susan Kellogg in the Sociology of Gender Award Recipient, 2021 – 2022
- Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California Law Foundation Fellow, 2020 – 2021
- Berkeley Law Public Interest Fellow, 2019 – 2020
- Francine Diaz Memorial Award Recipient, 2019 – 2020
- Equal Justice America Legal Services Fellow, 2018
- American Jurisprudence Award (Race, Sexuality and the Law with Professor Russell Robinson), 2018¹
- Prosser Prize (Crimmigration with Professor Leti Volpp), 2018²
- Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles Fran Kandel Public Interest Grant, 2017
- University of Southern California Dean’s List, 2011 – 2014
- Undergraduate Research Associates Program Scholar, 2014
- University of Southern California Renaissance Honors Award, 2014
- Harnisch Foundation Scholar, 2014
- Phi Beta Kappa, 2014
- Phi Kappa Phi, 2013 – 2014

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- State Bar of California (Admitted 2020)
- Sociologists for Women in Society (2022 – Present)
- Society for the Study of Social Problems (2022 – Present)
- American Sociological Association (2021 – Present)
- Law and Society Association (2021 – Present)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Arabic (proficiency); Spanish (proficiency)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Healing & Reconciliation Institute (participated in Facilitator training series, March – April 2023)

¹ Awarded to the student earning the highest grade in the course.

² Awarded to the student earning the second-highest grade in the course.

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- California Conference for Equality and Justice (*illumine Restorative Justice Training Program* member, January 2022 – July 2022)
- Arab Resource & Organizing Center (member, 2019 – present)
- Palestinian Feminist Collective (core member, 2021 – present)
- California Coalition for Women Prisoners (member, 2021 – present)