

# ELIZABETH HOLZER

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## EMPLOYMENT

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Associate Professor of Sociology and Human Rights, University of Connecticut 2016 – present

Assistant Professor of Sociology and Human Rights. University of Connecticut 2010 – 2016

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. in Sociology. University of Wisconsin–Madison 2010

M.S. in Sociology. University of Wisconsin–Madison 2002

B.A. in Sociology. Wellesley College 2000

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Refugees and Humanitarianism, Political Sociology, Human Rights, Law and Society, Social Theory, Gender

## BOOK

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Elizabeth Holzer. 2015. *The Concerned Women of Buduburam: Refugee Activists and Humanitarian Dilemmas*. Cornell University Press. <http://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/book/?GCOI=80140100951210>

\*Co-Winner, 2016 **Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award** from the American Sociological Association Political Sociology Section

\*Winner, 2016 **Outstanding Book Award** from the American Sociological Association Peace, War and Social Conflict Section

\*Winner, 2016 **Gordon Hirabayashi Human Rights Book Award** from the American Sociological Association Human Rights Section

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES (\*signifies graduate student coauthor)

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Barret Katuna\* and Elizabeth Holzer. 2016. “Unobtrusively Stretching Law: Legal Education, Activism, and Reclaiming Title IX.” *Social Movement Studies*. 15(1):80-96.

Catherine Buerger\* and Elizabeth Holzer. 2015. "How Does Community Participation Work? Human Rights and the Hidden Labour of Interstitial Elites in Ghana." *Journal of Human Rights Practice*. 7(1):72-87.

Elizabeth Holzer and Kamryn Warren\*. 2015 "Humanitarian Spectacles from Below: A Study of Social Connections in Unsettled Contexts." *Ethnography*. 16(4):482-502.

Elizabeth Holzer. 2014. "Humanitarian Crisis as Everyday Life." *Sociological Forum*. 29(4):851-872.

Elizabeth Holzer. 2013. "What Happens to Law in a Refugee Camp?" *Law & Society Review*. 47: 837-872.

\*Winner of the 2014 **Outstanding Published Paper Award** from the American Sociological Association Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section.

Elizabeth Holzer. 2012. "A Case Study of Political Failure in a Refugee Camp." *Journal of Refugee Studies*. 25:257-281.

Elizabeth Holzer. 2008. "Borrowing from the Women's Movement 'for Reasons of Public Security': A Study of Social Movement Outcomes and Judicial Activism in the European Union." *Mobilization*. 13(1):195-214.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

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Elizabeth Holzer. 2012. "Free Burma: Transnational Legal Action and Corporate Accountability, by John. G. Dale." *American Journal of Sociology*. 117(6):1835-1837.

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

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Co-PI, *Taming Water in Ethiopia*, NSF Partnerships for International Research and Education (with Manos Anagnostou, PI; Paul Block, Yang Hong, Liangzhi You, co-PIs), (\$4.3M), 2016-2021.

Co-Winner, Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award from the American Sociological Association Political Sociology Section, 2016

Winner, Outstanding Book Award from the American Sociological Association Peace, War and Social Conflict Section, 2016

Winner, Gordon Hirabayashi Human Rights Book Award from the American Sociological Association Human Rights Section, 2016

Winner, Outstanding Published Paper Award from the American Sociological Association Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section, 2014

Organizer, *Legal Mobilization during Humanitarian Crises*, Law & Society International Research Collaborative, (conference travel grants for scholars from low-income countries), 2010–12

Fellow, Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (\$24,000), 2009–10

Fellow, Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (declined), 2009–10

Co-PI, NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, (with Myra Marx Ferree–PI) (\$8527), 2007–8

### **University of Connecticut**

Faculty Mentoring Award, Department of Sociology, 2015

Grant, Scholarship Facilitation Fund, Office of the Vice President for Research (\$1350), 2015

Fellow, Human Rights Institute, (one semester research leave), 2014

Grant, Human Rights Institute, (\$2500), 2014

Grant, University of Connecticut Faculty Large Grant Competition (\$30,703), 2011

### **University of Wisconsin**

Fellow, University Graduate Fellow (tuition remission and benefits), 2009–10

Grant, Graduate Student Collaborative Vilas Conference Travel Grant (\$600), 2009

Grant, Sociology Department Conference Travel Grant (\$500), 2009

Grant, Sociology Department Small Research Grant (\$250), 2009

Fellow, Institute for Legal Studies Fellowship (office space and database resources), 2005–6

Fellow, Center for German and European Studies Fellowship (tuition/salary), 2002

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND REFEREED WORKSHOPS**

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“Legal Mobilization during Humanitarian Crises.” Workshop on *Strengthening Sociolegal Research: Approaches that Involve Undergraduates*. Arlington, VA, July 21 – 22, 2014.

“Mundane Factionalism at the Buduburam Refugee Camp.” Kofi Annan Institute for Peace, University of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia, June 25, 2014

Co-Lead Participant, “Refugee Negotiation and Construction of Status in the Margins.” Workshop on *Refugee Protection Outside of the International Legal Framework*, Evanston, IL, May 27-28, 2014

“What Happens to Law in a Refugee Camp?” Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, February 25, 2013

“Familial Politics, Cosmopolitanism and Deliberative Democracy” (with Hallie Liberto, UConn). Workshop

on ‘Cosmopolitanism and Deliberative Democracy: Norms and Justifications,’ Bucharest, Romania, 2012

“Developing Refugees.” Mary Washington University, Fredericksburg, VA, October 9, 2012.

“Compassionate Authoritarianism in a Refugee Camp.” Thematic Session—Gender & Human Security at the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV, August 20 – 23, 2011

“Political Fear and Political Hope in the Shadow of Humanitarian Care.” Young Scholars in Social Movements Mini-Conference. University of Notre Dame, April 29, 2011.

“Governmentality and Blame Games.” American Sociological Association Junior Theorists’ Symposium, Atlanta, GA, August 13, 2010.

Participant, Law & Society Association Graduate Student Workshop, Baltimore, MD, July 5, 2006.

### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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“Taxing Refugees? Rethinking the Relevance of a Scorned Institution.” Biennial Conference of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM), Bogota, Colombia, July 15-18, 2014.

Chair, *Sanctuary without Refugee Camps*” IASFM, Bogota, Colombia, July 15-18, 2014.

“Unpacking the Motivations of Repressive Actors,” (sponsored by CRN21 Law and Social Movements). Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association (LSA), Minneapolis, MN, May 31, 2014

Session Co-organizer, *Refugees and Humanitarianism* (with Galya Ruffer), LSA, Minneapolis, MN, May 20, 2014

“Humanitarian Crisis as Everyday Life,” Eastern Sociological Society Meeting, February 21, 2014

Session Organizer, *Sanctuary without Refugee Camps*, 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Human Rights Institute, Storrs, CT, September 19-21, 2013.

Session Co-Organizer, Human Rights Section roundtables, 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), New York, NY, August 10 – 13, 2013.

Reader, “Author Meets Reader - Out in Africa: LGBT Organizing in Namibia and South Africa, by Ashley Currier (sponsored by CRN21 Law and Social Movements and CRN 13 African Law and Society). LSA, Boston, MA, May 30 – June 2, 2013.

“Transnational Authority and Political Legitimacy in a Refugee Camp” 107<sup>th</sup> ASA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, August 17 – 20, 2012.

“Discrediting Social Protest: An Analysis of Repression in a West African Refugee Camp” (with Samuel Agblorti). 2012 International Conference on Law and Society, Honolulu, HI, June 5 – 8, 2012.

“Rights Claims and the Repression of Social Protest in a West African Refugee Camp.” IASFM, Kampala, Uganda, July 4 – 6, 2011.

Session Organizer, “What Happens to Law in a Refugee Camp?” IASFM Conference, Kampala, Uganda, July 4 – 6, 2011.

Session Organizer, “Human Rights Writ Large,” 106<sup>th</sup> ASA Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, August 20 – 23, 2011

“Political Fear and Political Hope in the Shadow of Humanitarian Care.” 43rd Annual Conference of the Liberian Studies Association, Durham, NC, April 1 – 2, 2011.

“Bifurcated Governmentality.” 105th ASA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, August 14 – 17, 2010.

“Empowerment and Repression.” (Sponsored by CRN 21 Law and Social Movements). LSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, May 17 – 20, 2010.

“Who is Accountable When the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Is Mother?” 104th ASA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, August 8 – 11, 2009 and LSA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, May 28 – 31, 2009.

“Why can’t refugees hold UNHCR accountable?” 12th IASFM Conference, Nicosia, Cyprus, June 28 – July 2, 2009.

“Advocating while Researching: Cautionary Tales.” Service panel. Midwest Law & Society Retreat, Madison, WI, September 19 – 20, 2008.

“Incidentally Untying Citizenship from Nation-State.” Conference on Gender, Genre, and Political Transformations, 1789-1989, Minneapolis, MN, November 10 – 12, 2006.

“Democracy in Displacement: Methodological Concerns for Studying Democracy in Refugee Camps.” 10<sup>th</sup> IASFM Conference, Toronto, Canada, June 18 – 22, 2006.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**Director of Graduate Studies**, Department of Sociology, 2016 – present

**Faculty Mentoring Award**, Department of Sociology, 2015

### **Undergraduate Courses**

Social Theory  
Sociology of Global Human Rights  
Refugees and Humanitarianism  
Political Sociology

### **Graduate Courses**

Contemporary Social Theory  
Human Rights

## **Graduate Thesis Advising**

Kamryn Warren (Advisor, Sociology, MA 2013, PhD expected 2018)  
Selam Negatu (Advisor, Sociology, PhD expected 2021)  
Ezana Atsbeha (Advisor, Sociology, PhD expected 2021)  
Kristen Kirksey (Advisor, Sociology, MA expected 2018)  
Nabil Tueme (Advisor, Sociology, MA expected 2018)  
Erika Del Villar (Associate Advisor, Sociology, MA 2013, PhD expected 2018)  
Ordoitz Galilea (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD expected 2019)  
Catherine Buerger (Associate Advisor, Anthropology PhD 2016)  
Jennifer Willet (Associate Advisor, Social Work, PhD 2015)  
Roseanne Njiru (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2015)  
Miho Iwata (Associate Advisor, Sociology, PhD 2014)  
Dan Tagliarina (Associate Advisor, Political Science, PhD 2014)  
Jordan Moses (Advisor, Sociology, MA 2017)  
Margarita Saenz Soto (Advisor, Latin American Studies, MA 2012)

## **Other Graduate Mentoring**

Area Exam Committees: Ordoitz Galilea (2016), Kamryn Warren (2015), Erika De Villar (2014), Farhan Yousaf (2014), Adane Gebyanesh (2013), Roseanne Njiru (2013), Barret Katuna (2013), Jennifer Willet (2012), Catherine Buerger (2011)

Discussant, MASSCON Symposium on Qualitative Sociology, Boston, MA, May 13, 2015.

Panelist, Securing External Funding for Graduate Students. Department of Sociology, September 2, 2014, September 19, 2013, October 12, 2012 and October 12, 2011, April 27, 2011

Panelist, Academic Job Market Advice from Scholars Working in Human Rights. Human Rights Institute, April 12, 2013

Panelist, Graduate Student Professional Development Workshop. Graduate School, November 3, 2013

Discussant, 4th Annual Democracy and Governance Conference, Political Science Dept., March 2, 2012

Reviewer, Committee on Graduate External Funding. Department of Sociology, October 2010

Co-Chair, "Interdisciplinarity." Humanities Institute Graduate Student Round Table, 2010

## **Undergraduate Mentoring**

Faculty Advisor, Namaste (undergraduate journal of human rights), 2011 – 2015

Honors Thesis Advisor, Philip Menard, 2014 – 2015

Panelist, Truman Mock Interview Panel, Office of National Scholarship, March 9, 2015

Presenter, “Water and Human Security,” McNair Fellows, May 15, 2013, May 15, 2014, May 20, 2015

Honors Thesis Advisor, Sharon Hwang, 2013

Presenter, “Mobilizing for Human Rights” (with Shareen Hertel, Kathy Libal), Universitas 21, July 9, 2013

Panelist, Options after College, sponsored by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, April 19, 2013

Rowe Scholars Advisor, Gian Grant, 2012

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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### **Professional Associations**

Awards Committee, ASA Political Sociology Section	2017
International Activities Committee, Law and Society Association	2016 –
Awards Committee, ASA Peace, War and Social Conflict Section	2015
Awards Committee, ASA Human Rights Section	2014
Membership Committee, ASA Human Rights Section	2013, 2014
Nominations Committee, ASA Peace, War and Social Conflict Section	2013, 2014
Nominations Committee, ASA Human Rights Section	2012, 2013
Program Committee, ASA Human Rights Section	2010, 2012
Interim Executive Committee, New Scholars Network, Refugee Research Network	2009 – 10
Program Coordinator, 2007 Joint Annual Meeting on Law and Society in Berlin	2005 – 07

Occasional reviewer for *Mobilization*, *Sociological Inquiry*, *Sociological Forum*, *Law and Society Review*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, *Gender and Society*, *Journal of Refugee Studies*, *Refugee and NSF Law and Social Sciences Program*

### **University of Connecticut**

Planning Committee, Department of Sociology	2016 –
UNESCO Chair Human Rights Conference Committee	2015 –
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Human Rights Institute	2014 –

Awards Committee, Department of Sociology	2013 –
Gladstein Committee, Human Rights Institute	2010 –
Graduate Student Committee, Department of Sociology	2010 – 12, 2016 –
Sociology Headship Search Committee	2016
Faculty Fellowship Committee, Human Rights Institute	2015, 2016
Summer Dissertation Funding Committee, Human Rights Institute	2014
Workshop Funding Committee, Human Rights Institute	2010 – 11, 2013
Merit Committee, Department of Sociology	2012 – 13
Universitas 21 Summer School Planning Committee	2011 – 13
Executive Committee, Department of Sociology	2011 – 13
Seminar Series, Human Rights Institute	2012
Program Funding Committee, Human Rights Institute	2012

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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American Sociological Association, Law and Society Association, International Association for the Study of Forced Migration