Feminism and Legal Theory Project



Martha Albertson Fineman, Director

Fall 2010

## Barton Clinic Team Tackles Human Trafficking

Students in the Barton Public Policy Clinic work in self-directed teams under the supervision of a faculty member to identify and develop policy initiatives in areas of concern to children and youth-a project that is highly relevant to the Feminist Legal Theory Project and the Vulnerability and the Human Condition Project. Barton Center Co-Director, Barbara Bennett Woodhouse, L.Q.C. Lamar Professor of Law, is working with the student Anti-Human Trafficking Team of Ivie Guobadia, Elizabeth Host, Tommy Ozbolt and Rhiannon O'Connor. This team has been working in collaboration with John Harbin of King & Spalding LLP and with Georgia Women for a Change, a public policy think tank and advocacy center with a gender lens, to research best practice models for state human trafficking statutes.

While state anti-trafficking laws are important to prevention of commercial sexual and labor exploitation of children, they also protect persons of all ages who are trafficked into labor or sexual servitude.

Georgia's existing state law criminalizing trafficking in persons fails to ensure that victims of human trafficking are not prosecuted or jailed for conduct related to their victimization.

In addition to immunity from prosecution, the team has identified other elements of an effective anti-human trafficking scheme, including seizure of perpetrators' assets to provide restitution

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# **Emory Law To Receive Roraback Papers**

Catherine "Katie" G. Roraback, one of the nation's foremost civil rights lawyers, bequeathed all of her personal and professional papers and files, books and memorabilia related to reproductive rights, women in the practice of law and women's history to Martha A. Fineman, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law and director of the FLT Project.

In addition to many controversial cases, Roraback helped found the Connecticut Civil Liberties Union—doing so just a year after graduating from Yale School of Law, where she was the only woman in her class. She ran a successful solo practice and served many years in leadership positions for several professional legal organizations. Roraback also received numerous honors and awards for her legal work. She died in October 2007 at age 87.

Significantly, Roraback accomplished much of this when nearly all judges were men and there were relatively few women in law. She was instrumental in several important cases, including the 1971 trial of Black Panthers Bobby



Roraback (center) leaves federal court in 1972 after filing suit to negate a new antiabortion law in New Haven, Conn.

Seale and Ericka Huggins, and while her career was distinguished, she was mostly interested in service to others. Roraback said a principal aim was to always protect the rights of "dissenters and the dispossessed."

Roraback was perhaps best known as one of the lead attorneys in the landmark case of *Griswold v. Connecticut* (1965), which established a constitutionally protected right to privacy. In

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## New Vulnerability Studies Post-Doctorate Scholar Arrives

The Vulnerability and the Human Condition Initiative is an interdisciplinary community of scholars and students interested in the concepts of vulnerability and resilience.

Begun in 2008 under the auspices of the Feminism and Legal Theory Project and Emory's Race and Difference Initiative, the Vulnerability and the Human Condition Initiative is housed in the Laney Graduate School, where it will be one of the school's interdisciplinary themes. Its website lists workshops, activities and events relating to vulnerability and the human condition (www.emory.edu/ vulnerability.)

This fall, Kathryn Oliviero joined Emory as the second post-doctoral fellow in vulnerability studies. She has an office in the law school and will conduct research, co-teach courses, and develop a speaker series.

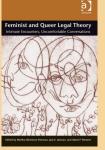
Oliviero received her PhD in women's studies from the University of California-Los Angeles in 2010. She is the re-

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#### **THREE NEW BOOKS**

#### Feminist and Queer Legal Theory Intimate Encounters, Uncomfortable

Encounters, Uncomfortable Conversations Edited by Martha A. Fineman, Jack



Jackson and Adam Romero

#### What is Right for Children? Edited by Martha A.

Fineman and Karen Worthington 94L 06G



Use discount code FLTP20 to save 20 percent at www.ashgate.com/fltp.

Transcending the Boundaries of Law Generations of Feminism and LegalTheory Edited by Martha A. Fineman



Use discount code FLTP-TBL10 to save 20 percent on the paperpback edition when checking out. Offer valid until Feb. 28. Visit www.routledge.com/ books/details/9780415481403.

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for harms caused to victims, enhanced penalties for crimes involving violence or underage victim, and eligibility for victim support services. In the coming months, the team will be working with community partners to propose amendments to Georgia law.

## Gender in Law, Culture and Society Series

Ashgate Publishing Co. is soliciting manuscripts for a new book series titled *Gender in Law, Culture, and Society*, edited by Martha Albertson Fineman of Emory University School of Law.

Gender in Law, Culture, and Society will address key issues and theoretical debates related to gender, culture, and the law. Its titles will advance understanding of the ways in which a society's cultural and legal approaches to gender intersect, clash, and are reconciled or remain in tension.

The series will further examine connections between gender and economic and political systems, as well as various other cultural and societal influences on gender construction and presentation, including social and legal consequences that men and women uniquely or differently encounter.

## **Roraback**

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*Griswold*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that a Connecticut law prohibiting the use of contraceptives violated the right to marital privacy.

*Griswold* became the foundation for subsequent cases that turned at least in part on privacy, including *Eisenstadt v. Baird* (1972), which extended *Griswold's* holding to unmarried couples; *Roe v. Wade* (1973); and *Lawrence v. Texas* (2003), which struck down a Texas anti-sodomy law. In 1972, Roraback also litigated *Women v. Connecticut* (the Connecticut counterpart to *Roe v. Wade*), which overturned the state's anti-abortion law.

So far, Fineman has received 29 linear feet of these materials from Roraback's estate. These include handwritten keynote addresses and other speeches, letters and other correspondence, photographs, numerous newspaper clippings, court documents, pamphlets, books, posters and audio cassette tapes. These documents will be archived in Emory University School of Law's Hugh F. MacMillan Law Library.

Primary archival materials that are

Intended for a scholarly readership as well as for courses, its titles will be a mix of single-author volumes and collections of original essays that will be both pragmatic and theoretical. It will draw from the perspectives of critical and feminist legal theory, as well as other schools of jurisprudence. Interdisciplinary and international in scope, the series will offer a range of voices speaking to significant questions arising from the study of law in relation to gender, including the nature of law itself.

Queries and proposals may be directed to:

Martha Albertson Fineman Robert W. Woodruff Professor Emory University School of Law 1301 Clifton Road NE Atlanta, GA 30322 **mlfinem@emory.edu** 

unedited and unpublished have the potential to offer researchers and scholars a means to see past received wisdom and begin to generate new theory. To that end, it is our hope that through studying Roraback's papers, scholars will gain an even more complete understanding of her work including the context in which the early right to privacy and subsequent abortion cases arose and evolved through the legal system.

Client confidentiality considerations have prevented attorneys for the Roraback estate from releasing any of the associated legal files. These files include a number of reproductive rights cases and their associated clients represented by Roraback. The estate's attorneys are in the process of obtaining consent forms from former clients in accordance with Connecticut law.

Fineman is facilitating communication in this sensitive matter between selected clients and the estate's attorneys. It seems likely, however, that many of these historically valuable files may be lost to history.

A notice will be sent when the Roraback papers are open to researchers.

## **Update from Enjung Kim**

After leaving Emory University, where I spent two years as a vulnerability studies post-doctoral fellow under Professor Martha Fineman's generous mentorship, I started an assistant professorship at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

I am teaching Women's International Human Rights and Disability and Gender in Film, both offered through the Gender and Women's Studies Department, my new intellectual home at UW. The classes I audited at Emory School of Law have been instrumental in designing these courses in a truly interdisciplinary manner incorporating international law and feminist legal theories.

I also am a member of the Disability Studies Cluster, Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education, Center for East Asian Studies and Center for Visual Cultures on the UW campus. I am working on an essay titled, "The Specter of Vulnerability and the Limits of Empathy," that reflects on the discussions that occurred during the vulnerability seminars at Emory.

One essay I started while at Emory, "The Melodrama of Virginity: The Gendered Discourse of 'the Sexual Oppression of Disabled People' and 'Its Solution,'" will be published in the journal, *Sexuality Research and Social Policy*. I benefited greatly from the discussion about this essay during the Feminist Disability Theories workshop at Emory held as part of Feminist Legal Theory workshop series.

I look forward to visiting Atlanta and Emory and continuing to collaborate with the inspiring and exciting group of feminist scholars.

#### FLT VISITING SCHOLARS SCHEDULE

Scholar	Country	Dates
Luo Ying	China	March 25, 2010-March 25, 2011
Hariett Musoke	Uganda	November 30-December 22, 2010
Jahid Bhuiyan	Bangladesh	December 13, 2010 to January 12, 2011
Xia Li	China	January to December 2011
Jennifer Hendricks	United States	March 13-26, 2011
Katie Kaul	Canada	Spring 2011
Louise Langevin	Canada	August 1, 2011 to June 15, 2012

### Visiting Scholars Program Seeks Applicants

The FLT Project sponsors visiting scholars, who are in residence for periods of time ranging from a week to a semester to the academic year.

The visits typically begin with a lecture to familiarize the Emory community with the visitor's work. Visiting scholars are provided office space, and they have access to Emory's libraries and assistance in scheduling meetings with faculty and researchers.

Applications should include a description of the scholar's current research project and how the FLT

Project will benefit from the scholar's residence at Emory. In addition, applications should note how the visit at Emory will be funded; if partial funding is requested from the FLT Project, note this in the application.

Applications should be mailed to: Martha Albertson Fineman Robert W. Woodruff Professor Emory School of Law G-500 1301 Clifton Road Atlanta, GA 30322 Or emailed to **mlfinem@emory.edu**.

#### 2009-2010 WORKSHOP RECAPS

- September: Masculinities and the Law: Presentations ranged from the theoretical: "Gender and Post-Conflict Societies" (Fionnuala NiAolain), to the cultural: "The Collateral Consequences of Masculinizing Violence" (Jamie Abrams), to the workplace: "Masculinity, Brotherhood and Unionization" (Francine Moccio).
- November: Violence and Vulnerability: Provocative discussions included those by Carol J. Peterson in her paper regarding sex workers in Hong Kong, and Maneesha Decka's paper on the "subhuman" aspect of violence, as well as a look at intimate partner violence in Bosnia, presented by Lisa Muftic.
- **December:** Feminist **Disability Theories and** the Law: This workshop focused on disability as human condition. Papers included "Environment-Frame" (Emory Law Professor Ani Satz), work on cognitive disability by Kristin Bumiller ("Autism and the Public Realities of Care and Queerness"), sexuality and disability ("Intersex Activism, Medical Normalization") and human rights ("Transnational Frame") by David Rubin.
- March: Vulnerability, Resilience and the State: Four panels included provocative discussions on the issues of vulnerability and resilience. Papers presented included those by Deborah Steinstra ("Resisting Resilience"), Jessica Weaver ("Juvenile Justice, Resilience, and the State") and Teemu Ruskola ("The State of Disaster").

## **Pursuing a Joint JD/PhD**

#### **By Sarah Stein**

This fall marks my third year of law school. By most accounts, I should be paying the final installments of my bar review tuition, tying up lose ends and securing my first job as an attorney. Instead, I enrolled in a full course load in Emory's Department of Women's Studies, working toward a PhD.

Generally, when people learn of my JD/PhD plan, the first question they ask is, "How many years will that take?"

"Five," I say.

"Five, total?" they ask.

"No. Seven, total. Five from here."

"Oh!" They say, "So, what will you do with a JD/PhD?"

The response is supposed to take the form of a named career path, such as "teach at the collegiate level," "practice Sarah Stein law" or "write." I answer

their question by listing each of these possibilities, trying to punctuate my response with a tone of contingency. I do plan to do each of these things in some capacity. However, what my joint degree will "do"-and already is doing-lies beyond a tally of years and a specific job title.

My dual curriculum gives me the time and space for critical reflection on the law. It encourages me to ask questions about the foundations of legal thinking and to search for creative ways to answer those questions. It has rekindled the academic enthusiasm with which I came into law school and

provides me with time to take critical inquiry seriously within the context of a legal education. I also find that it inspires me to work harder at acquiring a traditional legal knowledge so I can feel confident bringing that knowledge into the humanities classroom for an exciting new kind of analysis.

My Women's Studies coursework allows me to absorb legal doctrine alongside feminist political theory, continental philosophy, and postcolonial thought. It provides me with

> academic community an for the earnest exploration legal and theoretical of questions. Outside of coursework, seminar-style guest lectures, and research workshops, the PhD program connects me to greater networks of discussion. While it is only my first semester of the PhD program,

I am beginning to examine all of my current and completed coursework in terms of broader research goals. The interdisciplinary nature of Women's Studies and the broad variety of the legal field can be overwhelming to sort through. However, I can feel my analytical approach to both deepening and strengthening.

The PhD encourages me to approach the law searching for broader themes. The option to pursue a PhD in Women's Studies alongside my JD has provided me with an utterly unique program, and I am honored and excited to serve as its inaugural student.



Kathryn Oliviero is the second post-doctoral fellow in vulnerability studies.

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cipient of the Jean Stone Dissertation Research Award, the LGBTS Teaching Fellowship, and a Dissertation Year Fellowship.

Her research intertwines socio-legal analysis with intersectional feminist and performance studies to examine how visual political cultures manipulate insecurity into a gendered and racial sense of vulnerability.

Oliviero's dissertation considered how activist opposition to liberalized gay, immigration, and reproductive rights effectively harnesses sensationalism and memory to compose core national ideals-citizenship, intimacy, personhood, and family-as vulnerable and needing political protection.

She has written about the composition of insecurity in immigration and gay rights restrictions for an article in Signs, as well as an anthology on marriage. Her post-doctoral project refocuses this research to examine how international reactionary movements employ disability, children and animal rights narratives to generate cultural traction and call for state interventions.





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