

RONI AMIT

University of Massachusetts School of Law
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ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL OF LAW, Dartmouth, MA
Assistant Professor of Law and Director, Immigration Clinic, July 2022-Present

TERRY WEST CIVIL LEGAL CLINIC, UNIVERSITY OF TULSA SCHOOL OF LAW, Tulsa, OK
Assistant Clinical Professor of Law and Clinic Director, August 2019-May 2022

DEPORTATION DEFENSE CLINIC, HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Hempstead, NY
Clinical Fellow, September 2017-July 2019

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

AFRICAN CENTER FOR MIGRATION & SOCIETY, UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND,
Johannesburg, South Africa
Senior Researcher, Practices in Rights and Law Initiative, April 2010-June 2016

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

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, HUNTER COLLEGE, New York, NY
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Summer 2005
Courses: International Human Rights, International Law

EDUCATION

J.D., NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY
Admitted to the New York State Bar

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

PUBLICATIONS (SELECTED)

CLINIC REPORTS- TERRY WEST CIVIL LEGAL CLINIC

Changing the Game: Eliminating Inequities in Oklahoma's Rental Law (June 2021)

Leveling the Playing Field: Legal, Economic and Policy Considerations in Establishing an Access to Counsel Program for Tulsa's Eviction Docket (January 2021).

Advancing Housing Justice in Tulsa: An Examination of the FED Docket (June 2020).

ARTICLES AND SHORT PIECES

Decolonization's Borders (with Loren Landau), *Africa is a Country* (February 2020).

Reclaiming Refugee Rights as Human Rights (Comment), 31 PACE INT. L REV. 557 (2019).

(Dis)Placing the Law: Lessons from South Africa on Advancing US Asylum Rights, 20 LOY. J. PUB. INT. L. 135 (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. 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. REF. 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.) (2022).

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

Understanding Immigration Detention and Deportation in South Africa: A Summary of Law, Practice, and Human Rights Violations at the Lindela Detention Centre (2015).

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

Somalinomics: A Case Study of the Economics of Somali Informal Trade in the Western Cape (with Vanya Gastrow) (2013).

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).

The Zimbabwean Documentation Process: Lessons Learned (2011).

Issue Brief: The First Safe Country Principle in Law and Practice (2011).

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

Protection and Pragmatism: Addressing Administrative Failures in South Africa's Refugee Status Determination Decisions (2010).

National Survey of the Refugee Reception and Status Determination System in South Africa (with Tamlyn Monson) (2009).

PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

Cornell University Institute for African Development, Ithaca, NY (Sept. 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 (Sept 2015)

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

Department of Home Affairs, Policy Colloquium on a New International Migration Policy Paradigm for South Africa, Pretoria, South Africa (June 2015)

The Role of the Asylum System in Connection with Migration Management

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

Understanding Micro and Macro Level Causes of Xenophobia

Scalabrini Centre, Migration in Africa, Cape Town, South Africa (Dec 2014)

Expanding 'Illegality' in Law and Practice: The Limits of South Africa's Migration Management Regime

Ruppin Academic Center, Immigration and Social Integration, Emek Hefer, Israel (May 2014)

The Law as an Obstacle to "Lawfulness": Policy, Practice and the Legal Order in South Africa's Migration Management Regime

Northwestern University Center for Forced Migration Studies, Refugee Protection Outside of the International Legal Framework, Evanston, IL (May 2014)

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

Institute for Security Studies, National and International Perspectives on Crime Reduction and Criminal Justice, Johannesburg, South Africa (Aug 2013)

The Invisibility of Immigration Detention in South Africa

International Detention Coalition Workshop, Immigration Detention, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (Oct 2012)

The First Safe Country Principle in Law and Practice

Northwestern University Center for Forced Migration Studies, Methodologies of Knowledge: Documenting Forced Displacement in Global Crisis, Evanston, IL (June 2012)

Tracking Asylum and Detention Processes

University of the Witwatersrand, Public Interest Law Gathering, Johannesburg, South Africa (Dec 2011)

Courts, Context, and the Barriers to Effecting Change through Public Interest Litigation

University of Oxford Refugee Studies Centre, Regional Workshop on Refugee Status Determination and Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa, Kampala, Uganda (Nov 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 (Apr 2007)

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

Irmgard Coninx Foundation and Social Science Research Center, Berlin Roundtables on Transnationality: Reframing Human Rights, Berlin, Germany (Oct 2005)

Human Rights: From Rhetoric to Jurisdiction

International Law Association, New York, New York (Oct 2004)

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