

LEANDRA ZARNOW, PhD
Curriculum Vitae

Department of History ♦ University of Houston
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EDUCATION

- 2010 Doctorate in History with a Doctoral Emphasis in Feminist Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
 Dissertation: “‘A Very Simple Sense of Justice’: Bella Abzug, Jewish Radicalism, and the Legal Left from the Popular Front to the Cold War.”
- 2006 Masters in United States History, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2001 Bachelor of Arts, Smith College
 Majors: Government & American Studies, *Cum Laude* & High Honors in American Studies
 Thesis: “The Politics of Beauty: Tensions Between Feminism and Popular Culture.”

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2015-Present Assistant Professor, Department of History and Affiliate of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Houston
- 2013-2014 Research Affiliate, Centre for the Study of the United States, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto
- 2011-2013 New Faculty Fellow, American Council of Learned Societies, Placement: Department of History, Stanford University
- 2010 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Tamiment Library, New York University

BOOK PROJECTS UNDER CONTRACT

- 2019 *Protest to Politics: “Battling Bella” Abzug, Democratic New Politics, and the Decade of Women*, winter 2019 list, Harvard University Press.

BOOK PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Becoming Bella: Bella Abzug, Cold War Dissent, and the Roots of Postwar Feminism, manuscript drafted, seeking contract.

In Defense of Citizenship: Women’s Advocacy of Human Rights and the Development of Feminist Jurisprudence, preliminary research stage.

With Katherine Turk (University of North Carolina), *A Past of Our Own: Writing Women into History*, preliminary research stage.

ARTICLES PUBLISHED

- 2010 “The Legal Origins of ‘The Personal is Political’: Bella Abzug and the Sexual Color Line in Cold War Civil Rights Law,” in *Breaking the Wave: Women, Their Organizations, and Feminism, 1945-1985*, eds. Kathleen Laughlin and Jacqueline Castledine (New York: Routledge, 2010).
- 2010 “Bringing the ‘Third Wave’ into History,” in Kathleen Laughlin, et al., “Is It Time to Jump Ship? Historians Rethink the Wave Metaphor,” *Feminist Formations* 22, no. 1 (Spring 2010): 76-135, 110-120.
- 2010 “From Sisterhood to Girlie Culture: Closing the Great Divide between Second and Third Wave Popular Feminism,” in *No Permanent Waves: Recasting Histories of U.S. Feminism*, ed. Nancy Hewitt (Rutgers, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2010).
- 2009 “Remembering Public Life: Writing Policy into Biography,” *Journal of Policy History* 21, no. 4 (2009): 448-454.
- 2008 “Braving Jim Crow to Save Willie McGee: Bella Abzug, the Legal Left, and Civil Rights Innovation, 1948-1951,” *Law and Social Inquiry* 33, no. 4 (Fall 2008), 1003-1041. *Winner of the 2007 Law & Society Graduate Student Competition and the Judith Lee Ridge Prize.
- 2007 Gwendolyn Mink with Samantha Ann Majic and Leandra Zarnow, “Poverty Law,” *Cambridge History of American Law, III*, eds. Christopher Tomlins and Michael Grossberg (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007).

ARTICLES IN PROGRESS

“Enterprising Global Feminists: Bella Abzug, Mim Kelber, and the Nation in NGOization,” expected submission to *Gender & History* in winter 2019.

With Katherine Turk, “‘A Patriarchal Bargain’: Gerda Lerner, the Gender Turn, and the Sidelining of Women’s History,” expected submission to the *Journal of American History* in winter 2019.

“Talking Around Each Other: Women in Political History,” state of the field, expected submission to *Journal of Policy History* in fall 2018.

“A Tax Revolt for Peace: Bella Abzug, the Vietnam War, and the Unraveling of the Cold War Labor-Liberal Accord,” expected submission to *Labor: Studies in Working-Class History* in fall 2018.

BOOK REVIEWS: PUBLISHED AND SUBMITTED

- 2017 Review of Marjorie Spruill, *Divided We Stand: The Battle Over Women’s Rights and Family Values that Polarized American Politics* in *Journal of Southern History*, in *Journal of Southern History*, forthcoming.

- 2015 Review of *Making Women's Histories: Beyond National Perspectives*, eds. Pamela S. Nadell and Kate Haulman in *Women's Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 44, no. 5 (2015): 717-720.
- 2014 Review of Leigh Ann Wheeler, *How Sex Became a Civil Liberty in Women and Social Movements in the United States, 1600-2000* 18, no. 1 (Spring, 2014).
- 2013 "Rethinking Legal Liberalism: The Sexual Freedom Doctrine That Never Was," review of Marc Stein, *Sexual Injustice: Supreme Court Decisions from Griswold to Roe* in *Reviews in American History*, 41 (2013): 162-168.
- 2008 Review of Anne Valk, *Radical Sisters: Second-Wave Feminism and Black Liberation in Washington, D.C.* in *Women and Social Movements in the United States* 12, no. 4 (December 2008).

DIGITAL PROJECTS

- 2017-ongoing *Sharing Stories from 1977: The National Women's Conference Remembered*: national digital public history project with oral history, archival, curricular, and scholarship components documenting the experience of over 150,000 participants at lead-up state meetings and the National Women's Conference held in Houston, Texas in 1977. It is expected that this project will be multi-institutional and fully completed by the 50th anniversary in 2027. Grant writing and development stage.
- 2016 *WGSS Voices*: coordinated the creation and launch of a student designed website with continued use in WGSS research capstone course:
<http://classweb.uh.edu/wgssvoices/>

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2010 Judith Lee Ridge Article Prize, Western Association of Women Historians

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2017 Co-Director with Professor Nancy Beck Young, "Gender, the State, and the 1977 International Women's Year Conference," Summer Seminar at University of Houston, National Endowment for the Humanities, U.S. Government (\$71,600)
<http://classweb.uh.edu/nehnatlwomensconf/>
- 2017 New Faculty Research Grant, Division of Research, University of Houston
- 2015 Summer Stipend Fellowship, National Endowment for the Humanities, U.S. Government
- 2015 CLASS Dean's Book Completion Grant, University of Houston
- 2013 The Cashmere Subvention Grant in Jewish Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, Women's Caucus of the Association for Jewish Studies

2010 Feinstein Center for American Jewish History Summer Fellowship, Temple University

PRE-DOCTORATE NATIONAL AWARDS

2007 Law & Society Graduate Student Competition Prize, American Bar Foundation

2006 Jewish Caucus Prize, National Women's Studies Association

SELECTED PRE-DOCTORATE FELLOWSHIPS

2009 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation

2009 Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Fellowship in Women's Studies, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation

2008 Graduate Division Dissertation Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara

2008 Schlesinger Library Dissertation Grant, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University

2008 Graduate Division Humanities/Social Science Research Grant, University of California, Santa Barbara

2007 UC Regent's Departmental Dissertation Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara

2007 Research Grant, Labor and Employment Research Fund, University of California

2006 Hadassah-Brandeis Institute Research Award in Biography, Brandeis University

2004 Margaret Storrs Grierson Fellowship, Sophia Smith Collection, Smith College

2003-2007 Departmental Graduate Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara

INVITED LECTURES

2014 "Bringing Protest Politics to Capitol Hill: Rethinking the 1970s through the Career of Outsider Politician New York Representative Bella Abzug," Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto, March 21, 2014

2014 "Towards Feminism in Politics: Bella Abzug's Journey from Oppositional Grassroots Activism to a Power Position in Washington," Symposium: Rereading the Feminist 60's: Politics, Work, Social Movements, University of California, Santa Barbara, February 7, 2014

- 2013 “The Making of a ‘People’s’ Politician: Jewish Congresswoman Bella Abzug’s First Career as an Early Civil Rights Lawyer,” Jewish Studies and African American Studies Programs, Cal State University, Fresno, February 12, 2013
- 2012 “Trans-Ms.-ions: *Bust* and *Bitch* Magazines and the Popular Feminist Tradition,” *Ms.* at 40 and the Future of Feminism Symposium, Clayman Institute for Gender, Stanford University, California, February 15, 2012
- 2010 “‘Only Such Emotion as Fear’: Bella Abzug and the National Lawyers Guild’s Legal Challenge to Cold War Repression,” Tamiment Library, New York University, December 9, 2010
- 2008 “Pushing Against the Extraordinary: Engaging with Bella Abzug,” Schlesinger Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, September 24, 2008

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 “Bella Abzug, IWY, and the 1970s Human Rights Moment,” International Federation for Research in Women’s History, Simon Frasier University, Vancouver, Canada, August 9-12, 2018
- 2018 Roundtable Participant, “Now and Then, Here and There: Critical Perspectives on Diversity and the Profession from North America and the UK,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada, June 7-10, 2018
- 2018 Roundtable Participant, “‘The Year of the Woman,’ Past and Present,” Policy History Conference, Tempe, Arizona, May 16-19, 2018
- 2017 Roundtable Organizer/Moderator, “In Retrospect: Women’s Historians Reflect on Work, Scholarship, and How We Got Here,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York, June 1-4, 2017
- 2017 Invited Participant, Law and Politics Roundtable, “Historians and Feminists: An Intergenerational Conversation,” Veteran Feminists of America Archives Opening Symposium, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, March 30-31, 2017
- 2016 Invited Participant, Writing Workshop, “The Challenges of Writing Biographies of Feminist Legal Icons,” American Society for Legal History, Toronto, Canada, October 26-27, 2016
- 2016 Panelist, “On Leadership: American Women in Political Life,” State of the Field Roundtable, Committee on the Status of Women in the Historical Profession, Organization of American Historians, Providence, Rhode Island, April 7-10, 2016
- 2015 Panelist, “A Lawyerly Congresswoman: Bella Abzug and the ‘Deliberate’ Legal Feminist Edge of 1970s Congressional Reform,” American Society for Legal History, Washington, D.C., October 28-November 1, 2015

- 2015 Panelist, “A Global Gender Gap?: The Transnational Vagaries of Bella Abzug’s Feminist Organizing After Congress” and Jane DeHart Tribute Lecture, Western Association of Women Historians, Sacramento, California, May 14-16, 2015
- 2014 Presenter and Roundtable Organizer, “Before Going Global: Untangling the Domestic in Bella Abzug’s Internationalist Campaign for Gender Parity and Human Rights” in “Feminism, the State, and Global Governance in the Twentieth Century,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, May 22-25, 2014
- 2014 Presenter and Panel Organizer, “A ‘People’s Politician’ Considered: What Bella Abzug Can Tell Us About the Waning of an American Century,” in “The Labors of Life: Expanding the Contours of Labor Biography,” Organization of American Historians, Atlanta, Georgia, April 10-14, 2014
- 2014 Panelist, “‘We Just Have to Push and Push and Push’: Bella Abzug and the Campaign for Women’s Liberation within Electoral Politics,” A Revolutionary Moment: Women’s Liberation in the Late 1960s and Early 1970s, Boston University, Boston, March 28-29, 2014
- 2013 Panel Organizer, “Woman Power for Peace: Linkages in Domestic and International Anti-War and Anti-Imperialist Activism during the Vietnam Era,” and Presenter, “Bella Abzug, Peace Politics, and the Transformation of the Democratic Party,” Activism and Scholarship: A Conference Honoring Amy Swerdlow, Sarah Lawrence College, New York, March 1-2, 2013
- 2012 Panelist, “Roundtable: Scholarship and Activism: The Labors of Eileen Boris,” Western Association of Women Historians, Berkeley, California, May 4-6, 2012
- 2011 Invited Participant, “The Challenges of Writing Biographies of Feminist Legal Icons” Pre-Session, American Society for Legal History, Atlanta, Georgia, November 9-11, 2011
- 2011 Invited Presenter, “Bella Abzug and the Cold War Legal Counterattack,” Gender History Workshop, Stanford University, October 14, 2011
- 2011 Roundtable Organizer and Chair, “For Love of Justice: Redefining Feminist Legal History,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, June 9-11, 2011
- 2009 Panel Coordinator and Presenter, “‘The Conservatives’ Devil’: Bella Abzug and the Rightward Turn,” Organization of American Historians, Seattle, WA, March 26-29, 2009
- 2008 “Remembering Public Life: Writing Policy into Biography,” Policy History

Conference, St. Louis, MO, May 29-June 1, 2008

- 2007 Invited Participant, Writing Workshop, “Writing Past Lives: Biography as History,” Schlesinger Library Summer Seminar on Gender History, Radcliffe College of Harvard University, June 2007
- 2007 “A Very Simple Sense of Justice’: Bella Abzug’s Quest for *Tikkun Olam* in the Law during the Early Cold War,” A Jewish Feminine Mystique? American Jewish Women in the Postwar Era, New York University, February 25-27, 2007
- 2006 Too Much Too Soon?: Bella Abzug’s Civil Rights Activism in Law and Policy Before *Brown*,” Policy History Conference, Charlottesville, VA, June 1-4, 2006
- 2006 Invited Participant, “Rethinking the Wave Metaphor in Writing the History of the Women’s Movement in the United States—Roundtable,” American Historical Association, Philadelphia, PA, January 5-8, 2006
- 2005 “Braving Jim Crow to Save Willie McGee: Bella Abzug and the Fight for Civil Rights, 1948-1951,” American Society for Legal History, Cincinnati, OH, November 10-12, 2005
- 2005 “From Sisterhood to Girlie Culture: Closing the Great Divide Between the Second and Third Wave Cultural Agendas,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Scripps College, Claremont, CA, June 2-5, 2005
- 2004 “How Feminist Lobbyists Successfully Advanced Policy in Conservative Times: A Case Study of Battered Immigrants,” AHA Pacific Coast Branch, San Jose, CA, August 5-8, 2004
- 2004 “Securing Liberal Policies in a Conservative Political Climate: Public Benefits Protections for Battered Immigrant Women, 1990-2000,” Policy History Conference, St. Louis, MO, May 21-24, 2004

CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 Moderator, McGovern Lecture and Roundtable with Martha Cotera, Gloria Steinem, Melba Tolliver, and Charlotte Bunch, November 6, 2017
- 2017 Panelist, Houston + Feminism Panel, Wiki Edit-A-Thon, March 7, 2017
- 2016 Moderator, “The Election of 1932 and its Contemporary Significance,” Humanities Texas Event, October 6, 2016
- 2016 Workshop Presenter, Center for Public History Research Colloquium, September 30, 2016
- 2015 Moderator, Tamara Keith Lecture, October 14, 2015

GRADUATE STUDENT TRAINING

Dissertation Committees

- Julie Sarpy, defended November 2016
- Allison Hughes, defended May 2016
- Christopher Haight, defended April 2016
- John Huntington, defended April 2016
- Anna Marie Anderson
- Lindsay Drane
- Timothy Vale
- Timothy Quevillon

Comprehensive Exam Training

- Timothy Quevillon, November 2017

Masters Thesis/Exams

- Sanea Sakhyani (Public History)
- Lia Thrasher (Art History)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2015-Present Department of History & Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program,
University of Houston

Graduate Courses

- “What is Contemporary History?” Co-Taught Graduate Readings, Research, and Public History Seminar, Fall 2017
- “The Professional Historian,” Graduate Seminar, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2018
- U.S. History Graduate Research Seminar, Fall 2016

Undergraduate Courses

- “Women in the Modern United States Since Reconstruction,” Spring 2015, Fall 2015
- “Issues in Feminist Research: Theories and Methods in Documenting and Representing Women, Gender, and Sexuality,” Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018

2011-2013 Department of History, Stanford University

Graduate/Upper-Division Courses

- “History Through a Life: The Allure of American Biography,” Spring 2012, Spring 2013
- “The Pivotal Decade in U.S. History: 1960s or 1970s?” Fall 2011, Spring 2013
- “Law and the State in Modern America: Studies of the First and Fourteenth Amendments,” Winter 2013

Undergraduate Course

- “Women in Modern America,” Spring 2012

2011 Department of Women's Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University (Ontario, Canada)

Undergraduate Course

- “Gender, Subjectivity, and Resistance,” Winter 2011

2009-2011 Department of History, University of Waterloo (Ontario, Canada)

Undergraduate Courses

- “America Since 1877,” Winter 2011
- “Living Large: History of Women in the Modern United States,” Spring 2009

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2016-2019 Executive Board, Coordinating Council for Women in History

2019 Awards Committee Chair, CCWH/Berkshire Graduate Student Fellowship

2016-2018 Awards Committee Member, CCWH/Berkshire Graduate Student Fellowship

2014-2015 Executive Board, Western Association of Women Historians

2015 Awards Committee Chair, Judith Lee Ridge Prize, Western Association of Women Historians

2014 Media Committee, Berkshire Conference on the History of Women

2012-2014 Awards Committee Member, Judith Lee Ridge Prize

2012 Journal Peer Review: *Feminist Studies*

DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2016-2019 Executive Board, Friends of Women’s Studies, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

2017-2018 Merit Committee, History Department

2016-2018 Executive Committee, History Department

2015-ongoing Donor Recruitment, Carey C. Shuart Women’s Archive and Research Collection

2015-2016 Merit Committee, History Department

2015 Undergraduate Committee, History Department

2015 Library and Technology Standing Committee, History Department

UNIVERSITY-WIDE PROGRAMMING

2018 Organizer, Public Lecture by Dr. Malgorzata Rymysz-Pawlowska, Center for Public History, March 21, 2018

2017 Creator and co-organizer, “The National Women’s Conference: Taking 1977 Into the 21st Century,” 25 panels and over 100 panelists, CLASS/CPH/WGSS/History/Special Collections, November 6-7, 2017: <http://www.uh.edu/class/77womensconf>

2016 Organizer, “Samina Ali on Muslim Women and Digital Activism,” WGSS, February 17, 2016

2015 Co-organizer, “Collaboration: Symposium on Women Remaking American Political Culture, WGSS/History, October 14, 2015

HISTORICAL CONSULTING

2016 Working Group Consultant on Congressional Report, Congressional Commission on an American Women’s History Museum, Winter 2016: <http://amwh.us/report/>

2016 Invited Consultant, Scholar’s Summit, Congressional Commission on an American Women’s History Museum, Washington, D.C., January 27, 2016

COMMUNITY LECTURES

2018 “Houston in the Spotlight: The 1977 National Women’s Conference,” Zonta Club of Houston, March 21, 2018

MEDIA COMMENTARY AND EDITORIALS

2017 Interview, *The Progressive Forum*, Pacifica Radio, December 28, 2017

2017 Editorial, “More than a Few Bad Apples,” *Houston Chronicle*, December 16, 2017: <https://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/outlook/article/Zarnow-More-than-a-few-bad-apples-12436130.php>

2017 Interview, “Women’s Rights,” *Red, White, and Blue*, TV 8, PBS, November 9, 2017: <http://video.houstonpbs.org/video/3006691249/>

2017 Interview, *Houston Matters*, News 88.7, November 27, 2017

2017 Interview, *The Progressive Forum*, Pacifica Radio, November 26, 2017

2017 Interview, “How Much Change Does Protesting Usually Accomplish?” *Houston*

Matters, News 88.7, September 26, 2017:

<http://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/articles/news/politics/2017/09/26/239035/how-much-change-does-protesting-usually-accomplish/>

- 2016 Quoted Authority, “Why No One Really Seems to Care that Hillary Will Be the First Female President,” *National Post*, November 4, 2016:
<http://news.nationalpost.com/news/world/why-no-one-really-seems-to-care-that-hillary-will-be-the-first-female-president>
- 2016 Quoted Authority, “Bitch Magazine Turns Twenty,” *New Yorker*, May 23, 2016:
<http://www.newyorker.com/culture/culture-desk/bitch-magazine-turns-twenty>
- 2010 Story Consultant, “Willie McGee and the Traveling Electric Chair,” *Radio Diaries on All Things Considered*, National Public Radio, May 7, 2010:
<http://www.radiodiaries.org/willie-mcgee-and-the-traveling-electric-chair/>