

KIM THUY SEELINGER

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EXPERIENCE

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Research Associate Professor, Brown School of Social Work, Public Health, and Social Policy (August 2019 to present)

Visiting Professor of Law, School of Law (August 2019 to present)

Director, Center for Gender, Migration, and Human Rights (forthcoming)

HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, SCHOOL OF LAW

Lecturer in Law, UC Berkeley School of Law

Director, Sexual Violence Program, Human Rights Center (September 2010 – August 2019)

- Design and conduct interdisciplinary, multi-country research and reporting on human rights violations, including sexual violence related to armed conflict and forced displacement.
- Teach courses including “Refugee Law and Processes” and “Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict,” for law, public health, and other graduate students and serve as visiting instructor in International Human Rights Law Clinic, to consistently stellar student evaluations.
- Provide technical assistance on international crimes cases, including the authoring of influential *amicus curiae* briefs (eg, prosecution of former Chadian President Hissène Habré, Extraordinary African Chambers, Senegal, 2016; prosecution of LRA commander Thomas Kwoyelo, International Crimes Division, Uganda, 2017), trainings of local prosecutors, investigators, judges (eg, Liberia, Uganda, Central African Republic).
- Serve as expert on gender violence legislation and global guidance to improve the investigation and prosecution of crimes of sexual violence and access to refugee protection (eg, International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict, UNHCR GBV strategy development, etc.)
- Serve as founding Supervising Attorney of law students’ International Human Rights Workshop (training 1L and LLM students in international law research, interviewing skills, working with victims of trauma, etc.)
- Manage Program administration, budget, research, logistics, and communications.
- Fundraise substantial support for Program activities and staff. Raised \$2m in first 3 years.
- Sexual Violence Program work led to a nomination for the MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions, which was awarded to the Human Rights Center in 2015.

INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE & DEMOCRACY IN HAITI / BUREAU DES AVOCATS INTERNATIONAUX

PORT AU PRINCE, HAITI

Volunteer Attorney: Rape & Accountability Project, August 2010 (sabbatical with ongoing consultation)

- Provided on-site technical assistance to Haitian human rights lawyers launching Rape & Accountability project in Port au Prince.
- Interviewed rape survivors and drafted affidavits for litigation and advocacy efforts.

CENTER FOR GENDER AND REFUGEE STUDIES (CGRS) / UC HASTINGS REFUGEE AND HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Clinical Fellow, Clinical Instructor / Staff Attorney, July 2007 – July 2010

- Co-taught Refugee and Human Rights Clinic with Professor Karen Musalo, directly supervising law students on gender-based violence fieldwork and asylum cases.
- Developed clinic curriculum, project assignments, evaluation criteria, and budget.
- Contributed to CGRS's national advocacy efforts and appellate asylum litigation in gender-based asylum cases before the Board of Immigration Appeals and federal courts.
- Published academic, practical, and advocacy materials concerning gender-based asylum and international human rights violations.
- Collaborated with UCSF medical and psychiatric experts on asylum and human rights advocacy.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF SAN MATEO COUNTY, SAN MATEO, CA

Senior Advocates Attorney, October 2006 – July 2007

- Represented low-income senior citizens in public benefits, elder abuse, and consumer law cases.

YALE-CHINA ASSOCIATION CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP, New Haven, CT

Yunnan University Law School Visiting Scholar, Yunnan Province, China, September 2005 – July 2006

- Lectured about the United States legal system and helped develop clinical legal education program.
- Researched national and provincial legislation regarding rights of persons infected with HIV, to assist in legal advocacy for HIV+ persons in Southwest China.

LUTHERAN FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES IMMIGRATION PROGRAM, New York, NY

Kirkland & Ellis New York City Public Interest Law Fellow, Staff Attorney, September 2002 – July 2005

- Represented clients in post-9/11 deportation defense, asylum, *Violence Against Women Act* cases.
- Enjoyed 100% grant rate on asylum cases, both affirmative and defensive.
- Conducted community outreach to low-income immigrant communities regarding current immigration, labor, anti-trafficking laws.

EDUCATION

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY

JD, May 2002

Writing: *Controlling the Trafficking of Women and Children in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam*

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, Charlottesville, VA

BA, May 1996

Graduated *cum laude* as Echols Honors Scholar (Government, French, English)

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE

February 2015

Short course: Gender-based Violence Research Methodologies

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

- 2019 Women of Berkeley Law's "Women Advancing the Law - Practitioner of the Year" Award
- 2017 International Association for Gender Equity and the Law "Human Rights and Leadership Award"
- 2016 Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Residency
- 2016 UN Assoc. of the East Bay "Global Citizen Award"
- 2015 Kathi Pugh Award for Exceptional Mentorship of Berkeley Law Students
- 2015 STAR Achievement Award, University of California, Berkeley
- 2015 Program nominated for MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions (awarded to HRC)
- 2002 Kirkland & Ellis NYC Public Interest Fellow (2 awarded each year, full salary award for public service work in New York City)

BOOKS, ARTICLES, AND POLICY BRIEFS

“First hope, last hope, false hope? Prosecuting sexual violence as an international crime in national courts,” *Journal of International Criminal Justice*, forthcoming October 2019.

Weill, Sharon, Kim Thuy Seelinger, and Kerstin Bree Carlson (co-eds.), *Prosecuting a President: The Trial of Hissène Habré and Implications for International Criminal Justice*. Oxford University Press. Forthcoming, 2020.

Seelinger, Kim Thuy and Elisabeth Wood. “Wartime Sexual Violence as Practice, not Policy,” *Oxford Handbook on Atrocity Crimes*. Holsa, Brehm, Weerdesteijn (eds.), Oxford University Press. Forthcoming, 2019.

Freccero J, Biswas D, Whiting A, Alrabe K, Seelinger KT. “Sexual exploitation of unaccompanied migrant and refugee boys in Greece: Approaches to prevention,” *PLOS Medicine* 14(11): e1002438 (2017).

“Rape and the President: The remarkable trial and (partial) acquittal of Hissène Habré,” *World Policy Journal*, 34(2), 16-22 (2017).

“Three (Surprise) Gifts: The Unexpected Emergence of Sexual Violence in the Trial of Hissène Habré.” *Africa Legal Aid Quarterly*, April 2017.

“Uganda’s Case of Thomas Kwoyelo: Customary International Law on Trial,” 8 *Cal. L. Rev. Online* 19 (2017).

“The Landmark Trial Against Dictator Hissène Habré: Serving Justice in Chad, Making History in Senegal,” *Foreign Affairs*, 16 June 2016.

“Improving Accountability for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in Africa,” United States Institute for Peace, Peace Brief No. 206 (2016). (With Ketty Anyeko and Julie Freccero.)

“Building the Base: Local Accountability for Conflict-Period Sexual Violence,” *Africa and the International Criminal Court: One Decade On*, Intersentia Press (2016). (With Julie Freccero.)

“Domestic accountability for sexual violence: The potential of specialized units in Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Uganda,” 96 *Int. Rev. Red Cross* 539 (2014).

“Forced Marriage and Asylum: Perceiving the Invisible Harm,” 42 *Colum. Hum. Rts. L. Rev.* 55 (2010).

“Violence Against Women and HIV Control in Uganda: A Paradox of Protection?” 33 *Hastings Int’l & Comp. L. Rev.* 345 (2010).

“Kasinga’s Protection Undermined? Recent Developments in Female Genital Cutting Jurisprudence,” 13 *Bender’s Immigration Bulletin*, No. 1073 (2008). (With Lisa Frydman)

REPORTS

“Intimate Partner Violence and Asylum: Eligibility for and Access to Protection in the Americas,” Human Rights Center and UNHCR – Americas Region (with Julia Uyttewaal, Daniela Huerta-Garcia and Daisy Franco). Forthcoming, 2019.

“The Silence I Carry: Disclosing Gender-based Violence during Central American Migration,” Human Rights Center and UNHCR – Americas Region, 2018. (With Julia Uyttewaal)

“The Long Road: Accountability for Sexual Violence in Conflict and Post-Conflict Settings,” Human Rights Center, August 2015. (With Julie Freccero)

“Safe Haven: Sheltering Displaced Persons from Sexual and Gender-Based Violence. Comparative Report,” Human Rights Center, May 2013. (With Julie Freccero)

“Safe Haven: Sheltering Displaced Persons from Sexual and Gender-Based Violence. Case Study: Haiti,” Human Rights Center, May 2013. (With Dr. Laura Rose Wagner)

“Safe Haven: Sheltering Displaced Persons from Sexual and Gender-Based Violence. Case Study: Kenya,” Human Rights Center, May 2013. (With Dr. Rebecca Horn)

“Kenya’s 2006 Sexual Offences Act: Implementation Workshop Report,” *Human Rights Center*, April, 2012.

“Sexual Violence: Investigations and Prosecutions,” *Human Rights Center Working Paper Series*, May, 2011. (With Drs. Helene Silverberg and Robin Mejia)

NEWSMEDIA AND BLOGPOSTS

“Hissène Habré’s rape acquittal must not be quietly airbrushed from history.” Opinion, *The Guardian*, 10 May 2017. <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2017/may/10/hissene-habre-acquittal-not-airbrushed-from-history-khadidja-zidane-kim-thuy-seelinger>

“A 12-year-old rape victim was detained and allowed to die on the way to a Liberian hospital. Here’s why.” Opinion, *Washington Post*, 16 February 2015. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2015/02/16/a-12-year-old-rape-victim-was-detained-and-allowed-to-die-on-the-way-to-a-liberian-hospital-heres-why/>

“An Open Letter to UK Foreign Secretary William Hague and UNHCR Special Envoy Angelia Jolie,” *Huffington Post*, 17 June 2014. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/kim-thuy-seelinger-jd/sexual-violence-initiative_b_5490235.html

“Sexual violence in war: ‘Not a second-class crime’.” Berkeley Blog, 26 February 2014. <http://blogs.berkeley.edu/2014/02/26/sexual-violence-is-everyones-problem/>

“Ending ‘Female Circumcision’ in Practice and Name,” *Huffington Post*, 28 August 2013 (with Dr. Hernan Reyes). http://www.huffingtonpost.com/kim-thuy-seelinger-jd/female-circumcision_b_3829467.html

“Conflict-related Sexual Violence: Room for Nuance?” *IntLawGrrls*, 11 March 2013. <http://ilg2.org/2013/03/11/conflict-related-sexual-violence-room-for-nuance/>

“Temporary Protection for Refugees Fleeing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.” IntLawGrrls, 20 June 2012. <http://www.intlawgrrls.com/2012/06/temporary-protection-for-refugees.html>

EXPERT CONSULTATION, TECHNICAL SUPPORT, EDITORIAL REVIEW

Expert consultation and editorial review roles:

- Nobel Committee, advisor for 2018 Peace Prize deliberation process.
- European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, expert advisor on conflict-related sexual violence litigation strategies, 2018 to present.
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees’ Advisory Group on Gender, Forced Displacement, and Protection, Member (2016 to present).
- UN Area of Responsibility for Gender-based Violence Task Force on Research and Information Management, Member (2016 to present).
- Contributing expert, International Criminal Court Forum (iccforum.org).
- Reviewer for Journal of Human Rights Practice, Social Politics, UC Press, and PLOS Medicine.

Technical support: trial and policy input

- “Sexual and Gender-based Violence Disclosure Toolkit for Practitioners,” developed for UNHCR Americas bureau (included in Regional Safe Spaces Network Handbook Americas region), December 2018.
- “Customary international law and its potential applicability to the Ugandan legal order,” *amicus curiae* brief drafted for submission in *Uganda v. Thomas Kwoyelo*, 2010 No. 02 of the International Crimes Division of the High Court of Uganda, Kampala, Uganda. (Co-authored with Dannielle Antone, Sarah Hunter, Jenna Klein for Ugandan amici), April, 2017.
- “Rape and other forms of sexual violence as crimes against humanity, war crimes, and torture under customary international law,” *amicus curiae* brief submitted in case against Hissène Habré, Extraordinary Chambers of Africa, Dakar, Senegal. (Co-authored with Khaled Alrabe, Natasha Fain, and Naomi Fenwick), December, 2015.
- Investigation Guidelines for the Investigation of Sexual Violence Against Men and Boys. Member of the Group of Experts for the International Institute for Criminal Investigations, the Hague, the Netherlands, 2014.
- International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict. Expert Commentator for the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 2014 / 2017 (revision).
- Draft legislation on Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences. Commentator for the Liberian Law Reform Commission, 2013.
- Handbook for Expert Witnesses in Criminal Cases. Commentator for the Liberian civil society coalition and Ministry of Justice, 2013.
- Amendment to the Sexual Offences Act. Commentator for Kenyan civil society partners and Attorney General’s office, 2012.

RELEVANT PRESENTATIONS AND TRAININGS

- 2/2019 “The Use of Technology in Addressing Mass Atrocity and Crimes of Sexual Violence: A Historical Review”, presented, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 1/2019 “Sexual violence in armed conflict and forced displacement: litigation and policy opportunities,” speaker, European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights, Berlin, Germany.
- 12/2018 “Sexual Violence as a Weapon of War: Reflections on the 2018 Peace Prize,” Panelist, Nobel Peace Week event hosted by Peace Research Institute of Oslo in Oslo, Norway.
- 12/2018 “How to Combat Sexual Violence in Conflict?” Panelist, Nobel Peace Week event hosted by Peace Research Institute of Oslo, FOKUS, and Norwegian Church Aid in Oslo, Norway.
- 12/2018 “The Disclosure of Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Central American Migration,” speaker, UNHCR Regional Legal Unit meeting, Costa Rica.
- 5/2018 “Terrorism+: Charging Boko Haram with underlying crimes of sexual violence under domestic and international law,” training for Nigerian prosecutors and investigators at request of Nigerian Office of the Director of Public Prosecution and the Wayamo Foundation, Abuja, Nigeria.
- 2/2018 “Domestic prosecution of sexual violence as an international crime: Lessons learned in Senegal, Uganda,” training for francophone magistrates, for the Cassese Initiative / Asser Institute, the Hague, Netherlands (in French.)
- 7/2017 “Incorporating a Gender Perspective in International Criminal Trials: Lessons from the Habré Trial,” panelist, side event at the 29th Summit of the African Union, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- 6/2017 “Investigating International Crimes of Sexual Violence: Coordinating investigation units of the CAR national police and the Special Criminal Court,” trainer, at request of the UN Division of Peacekeeping Operations and UN SRSG Team of Experts. Bangui, Central African Republic (in French).
- 5/2017 “Thoughts on mainstreaming Sexual and Gender-based Violence into UNHCR Operations” Speaker, by invitation of Assistant High Commissioner for Refugees Volker Turk, UNHCR Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 4/2017 “Habré: Après le verdict, quelles leçons en tirer?” presenter, by invitation of the Extraordinary African Chambers office of outreach, l’Université de Dakar, Senegal (in French).
- 11/2016 “Sexual Violence in the case of Hissène Habré,” presenter, Africa Legal Aid side event, annual meeting of the Assembly of States Parties to the International Criminal Court.
- 5/2016 “Fast Friends, Quiet Friends: Reflections on Submitting an Amicus Brief in the Case Against Hissène Habré,” presenter, Symposium on Complementarity, the Habré Trial, and the Evolution of Universal Jurisdiction, Dakar, Senegal.
- 3/2016 “Conflict and Conviction: Sexual Violence and the Courts of North and South Kivu,” presenter, International Studies Association.
- 3/2016 “Accountability for Sexual Violence in Conflict and Post-Conflict Settings: One example of putting

- research into practice,” presenter, International Studies Association.
- 6/2015 “The ICC Prosecutor’s Panel on Sexual and Gender-based Crimes,” moderator, by invitation of ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda, Universalizing the Rome Statute, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 5/2015 “Justice for Victims of Sexual Violence in Eastern DRC: A conversation with Dr. Denis Mukwege,” moderator and host, University of California, Berkeley.
- 12/2014 “Accountability for Sexual Violence in Conflict and Post-Conflict Settings: The Role of Healthcare Providers,” panelist, Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Settings, Inter-Agency Working Group, Berkeley, California.
- 9/2014 “A Fork in the Long Road: Accountability for Conflict-related Sexual Violence,” presenter, Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict Working Group, Harvard University.
- 6/2014 “Closing the Impunity Gap,” panelist, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict, London.
- 5/2014 “Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict,” Moderator, Missing Peace Young Scholars Conference, United States Institute for Peace, Washington, D.C.
- 5/2014 “Courts, Huts, Motorbikes: Improving Accountability for Sexual Violence in Post-Conflict States,” panelist, Law and Society Association, Minneapolis.
- 2/2014 “Sexual Violence in Conflict: A Conversation with SRSZ Zainab Bangura,” discussant, Berkeley School of Law.
- 7/2013 “Arguing the Implementation Gap: Case Study of Kenya’s Sexual Offences Act,” presenter, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights, San Francisco.
- 6/2013 “Safe Haven: New research on safe shelters for refugees fleeing sexual violence,” presenter, UN High Commission for Refugees – Division of International Protection and Policy Development and Evaluation Service, Geneva.
- 5/2013 “Impact of Sexual Violence in Emergencies,” presenter, UN High Commission for Refugees NGO Consultation, Geneva.
- 3/2013 “Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict,” panelist, Gender and International Development Recentered, Stanford University.
- 2/2013 “Missing Peace Symposium: Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict,” moderator, panelist, co-organizer, United States Institute for Peace, Washington, D.C.
- 5/2012 “Safe Shelter from Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Forced Displacement Settings,” presenter, World Victimology Conference, The Hague, Netherlands.
- 2/2012 “GBV Safe Shelters in Humanitarian Aid Contexts,” presenter, World Shelters Conference, Washington, DC.
- 4/2012 “De Jure v. De Facto Protections from Sexual Violence,” presenter, RIT Conable Conference, Rochester, NY.

- 5/2011 “Anatomy of the Sexual Offences Act,” presenter, State Implementation Workshop, Nairobi, Kenya.
- 4/2011 “Response and Support for Sexual Violence in Kenya,” presenter, 2nd Hague Colloquium on Systematic Sexual Violence, The Hague, Netherlands.
- 2/2011 “Sexual Violence in Kenya,” presenter, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights, San Francisco.
- 7/2010 “Gender-based Violence and HIV Control: Lessons from Uganda,” poster presentation, International AIDS Society annual conference, Vienna, Austria.
- 5/2010 “LGBTIs Under International Human Rights Law & US Asylum Law,” presenter, ORAM International, San Francisco.
- 5/2010 “Lawyering and Language Minorities,” panelist, Assoc. of American Law Schools Clinical Conference.
- 1/2010 “Overview of LGBT Asylum Law,” panelist, UC Hastings LGBT Asylum Symposium, San Francisco.
- 1/2010 “HIV and Women’s Rights in Uganda,” presenter, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights, San Francisco.
- 10/2009 “Human Trafficking Panel,” moderator, Hastings Race and Poverty Law Journal, San Francisco.
- 9/2009 “Mrs. Goundo’s Daughter: A discussion about FGM and Asylum,” presenter, Roxie Theatre, San Francisco.
- 3/2009 Clinical Education Simulation for *Ecole Catholique de Droit de Jeremie* (Catholic Law School of Jeremie), co-creator (with Professor Kate Bloch) and presenter (in French), Jeremie, Haiti.
- 9/2008 “Asylum Adjudicatory Process,” panelist, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Pro Bono Training, San Francisco.
- 6/2008 “Hot Topics in Gender Asylum,” panelist, National Organization of Women Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
- 1/2008 “The Immigrant Rights Movement,” panelist, National Lawyers Guild symposium on Immigration and Civil Rights, UC Davis Law School, Davis, California.
- 8/2007 “Introduction to Gender-based Asylum,” panelist, ABA Mid-Year Conference, San Francisco.
- 2004 “NSEERS Special Registration Defense Strategies,” panelist, NY Immigration Coalition Training, New York City.

ADDITIONAL SERVICE, CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS

Founding supervising attorney, Berkeley Law *International Human Rights Workshop* (2012 to present).
Civitas Maxima (international war crimes investigations team) - Advisory Board Member, (2013-2016), UK Trustee (2015-present), President of Executive Committee (2016-present).
Refugee Law Clinics Germany (first network of university-based legal aid clinics for refugees in Germany) – Advisory Board member (2017 to present).

Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (refugee rights coalition in the US), executive committee and board member (2009-2012).

Pro bono attorney / mentor for Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti, Asian Law Caucus, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights – Asylum Program, Sanctuary Covenant of the East Bay, and Vietnamese Bar Association of Northern California. (Various terms, 2005-2012).

Admitted to New York State Bar, Second Appellate Division (2003 to present).

Languages: French (non-native fluency); Japanese (proficient); Spanish (basic).