

# OUTREACH

Women's Law & Public Policy Fellowship Program  
at Georgetown Law

# 2022

# SPRING | SUMMER



**Jill Morrison**  
(US 1998-1999)  
Executive Director

I just celebrated my 10th year as the Executive Director of the Women's Law & Public Policy and Leadership & Advocacy for Women in Africa Fellowship Programs. It is WAY past time that I dedicate an issue of the Newsletter to the work of our Amazing Alumnae! If you are familiar with the Newsletter, this is the section that is usually towards the back. Instead, for this issue, I've "flipped it and reversed it" and have made it all about the wonderful WLPPFPs and LAWAs who are changing the world for the better. Thank you for all you're doing to defend and advance justice. You provide a needed burst of hope to me every single day, and I trust that this newsletter will do the same for all of our Alumnae and supporters.

## Fighting for Reproductive Health Rights and Justice

By the time this reaches you, *Roe v. Wade* may be overturned, but many of our Alumnae are working to advance reproductive health, rights and justice. I know we will continue this fight, not only in our "day jobs," but as board members of organizations, in scholarship, marching in the streets, and as volunteers in our communities. This is just a snapshot of some of this work.



**Lourdes Rivera (US 1990-1991)** (second from right), Senior Vice President of U.S. Programs at the Center for Reproductive Rights, was featured in the *Ms. Magazine* podcast *On the Issues With Michele Goodwin* in *Beyond Roe: The Fight for Our Future*.

**MiQuel Davies (US 2017-2018)** who is the Assistant Director of Public Policy at Physicians for Reproductive Health wrote two pieces: *Utahns should care deeply about the fall of Roe v. Wade* in the *Salt Lake Tribune*, and *Harassment at Abortion Clinics Is Already Bad. It's Worse When You're Black*, for *Rewire News*.

**Amanda Allen (US 2009-2010)** wrote a candid and beautifully heartbreaking article on the impact of abortion bans for *Elle Magazine* in April, titled: *I Was Hospitalized for Postpartum Anxiety. Abortion Bans Mean More People Will End Up Like Me*.



**Rachel Rebouché (US 2007-2008)** co-authored an op-ed published in the *New York Times* on the potential impact of the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*

decision. Rachel is also the Interim Dean of Temple University Beasley School of Law and the James E. Beasley Professor of Law.

**Tristan Sullivan-Wilson (US 2018-2019)** is now at Planned Parenthood Federation of America as Associate Policy Counsel on the State Policy team. At PPFA she joins **Hailey Flynn (US 2016-2017)**, **Juliana Shulman-Laniel (US 2017-2018)** and **Marya Torrez (US 2007-2008)**. Tristan also co-authored a forthcoming article, *End of Life, Elder Abuse, and Guardianship: An Exploration of New York's Surrogate Decision-making Framework*, for the *Touro Law Review*.

**Natasha Chabria (US 2018-2019)** is now the Campaign Director at All\* Above All: Catalyst for Abortion Justice. She will be managing their immigrant justice and medication abortion campaigns.

**Lynn Paltrow (US 1984-1985)**, is taking a well-deserved sabbatical as Executive Director from National Advocates for Pregnant Women until November 2022, but in January, she moderated a fascinating discussion *Fiction or Reality: The Future of Reproductive Justice*, including Leni Zumas, author of *Red Clocks*. In case you haven't read the book, spoiler alert, it involves severe restrictions on reproductive rights.

**Michelle Liu (US 2018-2019)** co-authored an article for the University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law, *Between a Rock and a Hard Place: The Global Gag Rule's*

*Impacts on Women's Reproductive Health and Abortion Law in Malawi*. She will leave her position as the Dash-Muse Fellow and become the Deputy Director of Georgetown's Human Rights Institute starting in July 2022.

**Jenny Hunter (US 2004-2005)** wrote an insightful piece for *Balls & Strikes*, *The Supreme Court That Guts Roe v. Wade Could Have Been Very Different*, which examines the impact of the failure to call corroborating witnesses during the respective confirmations of Justices Thomas in 1991 and Kavanaugh in 2018. Jenny also reports, "I left my job in the Legal Department at SEIU, where I had been for 11 years, in Spring 2021. I am now working as a writer and consultant, writing on labor law, the courts and judicial nominations, and other progressive policy issues."

**Jill Morrison (US 1998-1999)** moderated a post-Dobbs conversation with Laurie Bertram Roberts, Co-Founder of the Mississippi Reproductive Freedom Fund and Executive Director of the Yellowhammer Fund and Hillary Schneller, Attorney at the Center for Reproductive Rights and co-counsel for Jackson Women's Health Organization. The event was sponsored by Georgetown's Human Rights Institute, as a part of its "Small Places, Close to Home": Human Rights in the United States Conversation Series. Jill's article *Resuscitating the Black Body: Reproductive Justice as Resistance to the State's Property Interest in Black Women's Reproductive Capacity*, published in the *Yale Journal of Law & Feminism*, was cited in an Amicus Brief in support of JWHO submitted by the Howard University School of Law Human and Civil Rights Clinic.

Our LAWAs are also active in this critically important movement. **Beverly Mumbo (LAWA 2019-2020)** joined Forum for African Women Educationalists as Programme Lead

of the Sexual Reproductive Health Education program. At FAWHE, she will work with **Teresa Omondi-Adeitan (LAWA 2016-2017)**, who is Deputy Executive Director and Head of Programmes.

## Supporting the Next Generation of Justice Warriors



We have another tenured WLPPFP Alumna! Congratulations to **Gillian Chadwick (US 2014-2015)**, who received tenure at Washburn University School of Law, where she is Director of the Washburn Law Clinic and Associate Director of the Children and Family Law Center. Check out her brilliant articles, which are all linked on her faculty page. Gillian also received the local chapter YWCA Women of Excellence Award. And ever the renaissance woman, she donated a paint and sip event to Washburn's public interest auction. (Gillian is pictured far left)

**Andy Budzinski (US 2016-2017)** is now an Assistant Professor of Law and Co-Director of the General Practice Clinic at the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law.

In what must be a crushing loss to Northeastern University School of Law, **Aziza Ahmed (US 2007-2008)** is now on the faculty at UC Irvine. She also has a forthcoming book, *Feminism's Medicine: Law, Science, and Social Movements in the AIDS Response*, and is co-ed-

itor of the forthcoming *Race, Racism, and the Law*. Aziza was also featured in Ms. Magazine's *On the Issues With Michele Goodwin* podcast, *Supreme Court Rundown: Will Roe Survive?*



**Janel George (US 2005-2006)** celebrated her first graduation as a faculty member at Georgetown University Law Center, where she is the founding Director of the Racial Equity in Education Law and Policy Clinic.

**Deborah Epstein (US 1990-1991)**, Director of the Georgetown Domestic Violence Clinic, and WLPPFP Advisor Board Member interviewed author Deborah Tuerkheimer about her book, *Credible: Why We Doubt Accusers and Protect Abusers*. Check out their captivating conversation on the Georgetown Gender Justice Initiative's website. [Spoiler alert: it's the patriarchy].



**Laurie S. Kohn (US 1998-1999)** Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs & Associate Professor of Law at George Washington Law School was

interviewed by the podcast *Nothing But Dicta* on the connection between the Clinics and Professional Identity Formation. Laurie has also led a Social Impact Showcase, celebrating the 50th anniversary of clinical education at GW, and its impact on expanding access to justice.

## Advancing Global Human Rights

**Hilary Gbedemah (LAWA 1995-1996)** was a featured speaker at the 53rd annual Lara D. Gass Symposium at the Washington and Lee University School of Law. The theme was *Centering Intersectionality in Human Rights Discourse*, and the event was organized by **Johanna Bond (US 1998-1999)**, the Sydney and Frances Lewis Professor of Law.

**Tosin Oke, Eunice Ndingo, and Ngenarr-Yassin Jeng (LAWAs 2021-2022)** were featured on the DC Bar's *Brief Encounters* podcast discussing their theses, which all addressed gender-based violence. The title is "Why Should we Trust You": *Survivor-Centered Legal Action in Africa*.



**Beverline Anyango Wairimu (LAWA 2012-2013)** and **Elsy Chemurgor Sainna (LAWA 2013-2014)** spent International Women's Day doing what

else? In a strategy session on overcoming barriers to human rights protections for women and girls.

**Twasiima (Tricia) Bigirwa (LAWA 2019-2020)** was elected Board Co-chair of Womankind Worldwide, a UK based charity that supports organizations throughout Africa and in some parts of Asia. Also connect with her on LinkedIn to check out her podcast.



**Tina Alai (LAWA 2012-2013)** is now a Council Member of the International Commission of Jurists-Kenya. Tina also joined with other leaders and

survivors from the African region to call on States to provide reparations to those impacted by sexual and gender-based violence. As Tina eloquently put, "Today, as we face a rising spate of SGBV against women and girls, as well as men and boys, I challenge and encourage us all not to be bystanders when violations occur. Lend a helping hand, blow the whistle, call for help, assist a survivor to get healthcare or to report to the police, provide safety, challenge the status quo! Together, we can achieve the change we all desire."



**Gladys Fri Mbuya (LAWA 2010-2011)** contributed a chapter to Equality Now's *Litigating the Maputo Protocol: A Compendium of Strategies and Approaches for*

*Defending the Rights of Women and Girls in Africa*. Gladys's chapter is titled: *An Appraisal of the Legal Framework on Sexual Harassment at the Place of Work and Schools in Cameroon*.

**Tzili Mor (US 2006-2007)** provides this update "I have recently joined the National Democratic Institute (NDI) as its Senior Advisor on Gender and Democracy; I was drawn to this new post, motivated to seek ways to counter the meteoric rise in authoritarian and oppressive regimes, staggering hostility against rights of minorities and those with any 'perceived difference', progressive values and abuse against women in politics and media. I joined NDI last month after a stint with Care International where I was fortunate to facilitate the launch of a global accountability-driven campaign, *SheLeadsInCrisis* to shift the humanitarian structural paradigm to ensure women affected by crisis are the ones funded and steering prevention and response efforts based on a first-of-its kind assessment of the top ten humanitarian aid partners and donors."

**Linda Bongekile Nxumalo (LAWA 2005-2006)** is now a Governance Programme Specialist, and Team Lead for the United Nations Development Programme, focusing on effective governance and human rights with gender as the cross-cutting issue.

**Rehim Baharu (LAWA 2020-2021)** has been working as a Resettlement Associate in the UNHCR Sub-Office in Gambella, Ethiopia since December 2021. He says "My duties include interviewing families selected for the process, drafting resettlement referral forms, assessing resettlement needs, processing persons identified for resettlement, and undertaking field missions as required. I am in love with the work as I am helping mainly Women at Risk and women headed households to benefit from the process and change their lives in a safe third country."



**Asees Bhasin (US 2020-2021)** is now a Senior Research Fellow at the Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy at Yale Law School. She has two

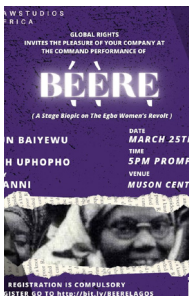
recent publications *Love in the Time of ICE: How Parents Without Papers are Stripped of the Right to Raise Their Children in Safe and Healthy Environments* in the Georgetown Immigration Law Journal, and *The Telehealth "Revolution": How Telehealth Fails to Transform Care for Undocumented Immigrants* in the North Carolina Journal of Law and Technology. In April, Asees also presented at the 13th Feminist Legal Theory Conference: Applied Feminism and "THE BIG IDEA." Her panel was on Big Ideas in Human Rights. And did I mention this conference is the brainchild of our very own **Margaret E. Johnson (US 1995-1996)** Professor of Law, Associate Dean for Experiential Education, and Co-Director, Center on Applied Feminism at the University of Baltimore School of Law?

**Catherine Cooper (US 2020-2021)** will transition from the Georgetown International Women's Human Rights Clinical Teaching Fellow to the Dash-Muse Senior Teaching Fellow at Georgetown University Law Center's Human Rights Institute at the beginning of July. She joins **Michelle Liu (2018-2019)** at HRI.

**Shana Tabak (US 2010-2011)** started a new role as the Director of Immigration at Emerson Collective. There, she will focus on regional approaches to migration across the Americas and climate displacement. Shana is also an affiliated scholar at Georgetown's Institute for the Study of International Migration and teaches International Human Rights Law at Georgetown University Law Center. This fall, her publication *Refugee Detention as Constructive Refoulement* will be published in the Yale Journal of International Law.

**Tamar Ezer (US 2004-2005)**, the Faculty Director at the University of Miami School of Law and the Acting Director of the Human Rights Clinic, hosted a virtual screening and panel discussion on *Nothing Without Us: The Women Who Will End AIDS*. The film features the story of women's leadership in the movement to address AIDS in both sub-Saharan Africa and the United States.

## Alumnae on Stage and Screen and in Print

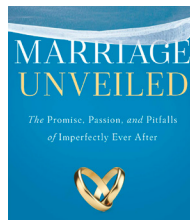


**Abiodun Baiyewu (LAWA 2007-2008)** wrote a play about the Egba Women's Revolt entitled *Beere*. Her effort was supported by the Ford Foundation.



**Margaret Johnson (US 1995-1996)** co-authored an article in *Ms. Magazine* on line urging states to support menstrual education as a means to advance gender equality as the nation celebrates the 50th anniversary of Title IX and faces unrelenting attacks on abortion access.

Check out **Leah Kiguatha Muteru's (LAWA 2007-2008)** article on LinkedIn, *Judicial Separation under the Marriage Act 2014 (Kenya): Myths vs Reality*.



**Sherry Cassedy (US 1983-1984)** published *Marriage Unveiled: The Promise, Passion, and Pitfalls of Imperfectly Ever After*. Sherry provides this summary: "The book is part memoir of my 40+ year marriage, and part-guidance and marriage support based on my work as a divorce lawyer/mediator and marriage teacher and advocate. I am hopeful that the book will be inspiring and helpful to couples across the spectrum of love."



Be sure to read the really impactful piece that **Kavinya Makau (LAWA 2011-2012)** wrote for the Eyala blog, *I am Unapologetically Owning and Politicizing My Feminist Identity*. Although it was published in 2020, it still strongly resonates.

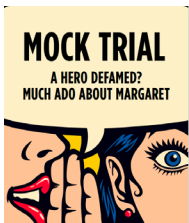
Network for Victim Recovery of DC interviewed **Megan Challender (US 2015-2016)** about teen dating violence for its blog, covering topics such as the importance of education on health relationships, effective interventions and the impact of social media on unhealthy dating behaviors

University of Baltimore Law Professor and Faculty Director of the Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts, **Shanta Trivedi (US 2020-2021)** is a regular in the pages of *Ms. Magazine* on line. She recently published thought-provoking pieces with a spot-on Reproductive Justice lens on the Texas abortion ban and the state's general neglect of children, the infant formula crisis, and the unique challenges of Black motherhood as highlighted in the confirmation hearing of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. Shanta also moderated *Preserving Families Through Primary Prevention*, a discussion on community-based efforts to prevent the placement of children in foster care by providing support to vulnerable families. Finally (whew!) Shanta interviewed our Favorite Feminist Public Intellectual Brittney Cooper for the Baltimore Enoch Pratt Free Library's Brown Lecture Series. They covered a broad range of serious subjects with a surprising amount of laughter.

The Daily Show Podcast *Beyond the Scenes* featured the 2019 study, *Child Custody Outcomes in Cases Involving Parental Alienation and Abuse Allegations* co-authored by **Joan Meier (US 1985-1986)**.

**Dunia Mekonnen (LAWA 2015-2016)** had two media interviews recently. One was with Voice of America commenting on the nomination of now-Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, and another on rule of law matters for the EBS. Dunia is now the Penn Kemble Fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy. The Fellowship utilizes

Dunia's growing expertise in the fields of foreign policy, human rights, democracy, and national security. Dunia reports "I have been contributing to the improvement of human rights in my country by being a member of the NGO Initiative for Peace in Ethiopia/New Year Call for Peace. So far I have provided my input to the National Dialogue Commission on civic space and fair trial matters." Dunia also wrote a piece for *AfricLaw* titled: *Inclusive National Dialogue and Accountability for Rights Violations can heal Ethiopia from a Culture of Impunity*.



Our own **Debra Katz (US 1985-1986)** took to the stage with Second Gentleman Douglass Emhoff at the Shakespeare Theater. She argued a case based

on *Much Ado About Nothing*, and (to no WLPPFPs' surprise) she won. Justice Stephen Breyer presided. Debra is also now on the Board of Directors of Americans for Peace Now.

## And more to Celebrate!



We are proud to report that **Ngenarr Yassin Jeng (LAWA 2021-2022)** was selected to be one of the graduation speakers for the

international LL.M. ceremony. In her own words: "This is the best law school... not only because we have such amazing faculty, [but] because of us, the amazing students that come here. It's students from Ethiopia thriving despite a civil war happening at home, students organizing for Ukraine, demanding climate action, brainstorming health policy," she said. "This gives me hope for the future."

Happy anniversary to **Rebecca Epstein (US 1996-1997)**, who is celebrating the 10th year of the Initiative on Gender Justice & Opportunity where she is the Executive Director. The Initiative also announced the support of the Archwell Foundation, co-founded by Prince Harry & Meghan, The Duke and Duchess of Sussex, who recognized the Initiative as a "leading organization working to advance gender equity."

**Katie Filous Malka (US 2015-2016)** is now a partner with Ferguson Hill Filous, PLLC, a Tucson based law firm, where she will focus her practice on state and federal felony criminal defense. Wishing Katie the very best in her new venture!



**Karin Raye (US 1998-1999)** (pictured on right) is on to new adventures after making her mark at Lasell University. Karin launched innovative programs to address sexual and domestic violence, and has left an infrastructure in place that will improve the lives of generations of students.

Congratulations to **Christine E. Webber (US 1993-1994)**, who is now the co-Chair of Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC's Civil Rights and Employment group.

Exciting news for **Priscilla Huang (US 2006-2007)**. She is the Founding Executive Director of the Center for Asian Americans in Action. The policy organization will assist community organizations in their effort to advance equity for Asian Americans.

Wishing a wonderful retirement to **Mary Whisner (US 1984-1985)**, after 34 years at the University of Washington as the Public Services Librarian. Good luck with the office purge Mary!

**Naomi M. Mann (US 2001-2002)** will be deployed to the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights as Special Counsel for the new Title IX Rule in Fall 2022. After that, she will return to her position as Clinical Associate Professor and Executive Director of the Civil Litigation and Justice Program at Boston University, where she is also the Founding Director of the Access to Justice Clinic.



**Lucy Koh (US 1993-1994)** was confirmed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in December 2021. We are so proud of you Your Honor!

**Gloria Ngumi (LAWA 2021-2022)** was named a Gender+ Justice Initiative Graduate Student Fellow.

Sending best wishes to **Regan Ralph (US 1992-1993)** in her next chapter as she departs the Global Fund for Human Rights as its founding Executive Director.



**Ahadi Bugg-Levine (US 2000-2001)** is thrilled to share that the New Jersey General Assembly honored her work as

Board President at JESPY House, which helps adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities live independently. Ahadi also wrote a great piece on the importance of diversity on non-profit boards of directors on LinkedIn. Congratulations Ahadi (pictured on left)!

Of course, the 2021-2022 US fellows are also making an impact at their placement organizations...

**Bridget Winkler** at the National Women's Law Center has taken the lead on the organization's work on Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, which prohibits discrimination in the provision of healthcare. **Lily Milwit**, at the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, and **Anna Reed**, at The O'Neill Institute and HIPS, are collaborating to conduct trainings on what harm reduction means in the context of homelessness. **Naomi Rodriguez** at the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs is developing a "Know your Rights" training for those employed as sex workers. And **Lauren Birzon Harriman** is diving into her scholarship after completing a successful year as the Teaching Fellow for Georgetown's Domestic Violence Clinic.

And kudos to the 2021-2022 class on the successful completion of their LL.M. theses!

**Semhal Gebrekirstos**—Pro bono Clearinghouses: A Missing Piece in the Puzzle in Providing Access to Justice for Ethiopian Women

**Ngenarr-Yassin Jeng**—Truth & Dare: The Gambia's Path Towards Effective Implementation of Laws Against Sexual Violence

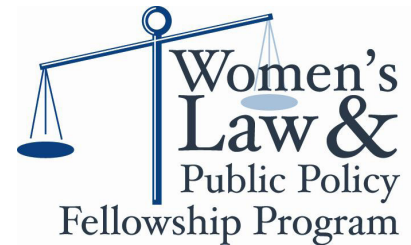
**Eunice Nabakwa**—For richer or poorer, in cash or kind: Accounting for women's contributions to property upon divorce in Uganda

**Eunice Ndingo**—A Place of Their Own: Making the Case for Specialized Domestic Violence Courts in Malawi

**Gloria Ngumi**—Second Class Consumers: Improving Kenyan Women's Access to Safe Menstrual Products Through Trade Agreements

**Tosin Yemi Oke**—"Police is Your Friend": Moving from Cliche to Action Through Survivor Centered Policing of GBV Cases in Nigeria

**Julia Zabbu**—"Ekuba Omunaku Tekya": Advancing a Policy Framework to Protect Ugandan Women Displaced by Climate Induced Disasters from GBV



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