



Speaker Bios
13th Annual Feminist Legal Theory Conference
Applied Feminism & The Big Idea 2022

Lisa Avalos:

Lisa Avalos is Associate Professor at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center. Her teaching and research interests are in the areas of criminal law and procedure with an emphasis on sexual offenses and gender-based violence. She also teaches in the area of legal ethics. Professor Avalos's articles have appeared or are forthcoming in the *University of Illinois Law Review*, *Brooklyn Law Review*, *Nevada Law Journal*, *Michigan Journal of Gender & Law*, *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law*, and others. She also provides training for law enforcement through End Violence Against Women International and serves as an expert witness in sexual assault cases.

Asees Bhasin:

Asees Bhasin is the Senior Research Fellow at the Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy. Prior to joining the Center, Asees worked as the Georgetown Women's Law and Public Policy Fellow at the National Partnership for Women & Families in Washington, D.C. During her fellowship, she worked on reproductive health and justice issues, as well as on maternal and infant health policy. Her research interests include access to healthcare, Reproductive Justice, immigration, movement lawyering, and international human rights law. Her scholarship is forthcoming in the *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal*. Asees graduated with a Dual LL.B.-J.D. from King's College London and Georgetown University Law Center in May 2020. During law school, Asees participated in the International Women's Human Rights Clinic where she advocated for greater abortion laws in Malawi, and volunteered at the Dilley Family Detention Center in Texas. She credits both these experiences for influencing her advocacy, activism, and research. She holds a Bachelor's in Political Science from Lady Shri Ram College for Women located in Delhi, India which is where she was born and raised.

Julie Dahlstrom:

Julie Dahlstrom joined the Boston University School of Law faculty in 2017 and directs the Immigrants' Rights and Human Trafficking Program. In 2012, she founded the BU Law Human Trafficking Clinic, the second law school clinic in the United States to represent trafficking victims, and in 2014, the clinic was recognized by *preLaw* magazine as one of the nation's top 25 most innovative clinical programs. She teaches in the areas of immigration, human trafficking, public interest, and gender-based violence. Professor

Dahlstrom's scholarship has appeared in numerous journals and law reviews, including the *California Law Review*, *UC Irvine Law Review*, and *UC Davis Law Review*. She regularly presents at academic conferences and has published opinion pieces in *The Hill*, *Cognoscenti*, and *The Los Angeles Times*. She also has been quoted in news articles from a range of sources, including *VICE News*, *NBC News*, *The Boston Globe*, *Radio Boston*, *WBUR*, and *The Washington Post*. Professor Dahlstrom is a member of the Massachusetts and District of Massachusetts bars.

Ariël (Mattias) Decoster:

Ariël Decoster (they/them) studies the law's involvement in upholding certain social hierarchies based on sex/gender, race, sexual orientation and bodily ability. Grounded within critical strands of legal theory, such as Feminist and Queer Legal Theory as well as Critical Race Theory, Ariël's writing aims to challenge the cisheteropatriarchy, racism and ableism (amongst other isms) from a legal theoretical perspective. After their Fulbright student experience at UCLA, they started their PhD research at the University of Antwerp and Ghent University, Belgium, as an FWO (Research Foundation - Flanders) fellow. Their project is titled "Masculinity as Property" and aims to produce a new legal theory on the relationship between gender, law and power.

Greer Donley:

Greer Donley is an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Pittsburgh Law School. Her scholarship focuses on issues surrounding pregnancy, abortion, and reproductive justice.

Dr. Alesha Durfee:

Dr. Alesha Durfee is Professor of Sociology and Faculty Affiliate of Women & Gender Studies and the Center of Gender-Based Violence at Arizona State University. Her research, teaching, and service focus on intersectionality, structural intersectionality, social justice, policy and domestic violence, including mandatory arrest policies and protection orders, using quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods. Her work has been published in journals such as *Gender & Society*, *Violence Against Women*, *Feminist Criminology*, *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *Journal of Family Violence*, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Politics & Society*, *Global Public Health*, and *Feminist Teacher*. She is currently working on a book manuscript, *Domestic Violence and Structural Intersectionality: The Unintended and Collateral Consequences of "Victim-Friendly" U.S. Law and Policy*. She received a writing fellowship (2019) from the Women's International Study Center in Santa Fe, New Mexico to work on the manuscript, and has presented parts of the book at the European Domestic Violence Conference, the University of New Mexico, and the University of California - Irvine School of Law. The framework for the book was recently published in *Violence Against Women* (2020) as an article: "The use of structural intersectionality as a method to analyze how the domestic violence civil

protective order process replicates inequality"
(<https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801220958495>).

She has had two federal Researcher-Practitioner Partnership grants - one from the National Institute of Justice (2016-2018; with Mesa Municipal Court and the National Center for State Courts) to study institutional and contextual factors that influence protection order filing and issuance rates using both quantitative and qualitative data, and a second from the Center for Victim Research (2018-2019; with Mesa Municipal Court) to estimate victimization rates and the need for victimization services for Community Court defendants. Her passion is working with community partners to create practitioner-informed, policy-relevant research using mixed methods. She previously had a National Science Foundation (2012-2014; with Dr. Jill Theresa Messing) to analyze legal mobilization among domestic violence survivors, including the decision to file for a protection order, how the legal system is perceived by domestic violence survivors, and the costs and benefits of filing for an order for survivors.

Elizabeth Isaacs:

Elizabeth Isaacs (she/her) is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Brooklyn Law School, where she co-teaches the Criminal Defense & Advocacy Clinic with Prof. Kate Mogulescu. The clinic works in collaboration with survivors of domestic violence who are currently incarcerated in New York State prisons, focusing on resentencing under the Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act ("DVSJA"), as well as other forms of post-conviction advocacy. Professor Isaacs is also a Training and Policy Fellow with the Survivors Justice Project, an interdisciplinary collective supporting incarcerated survivors, providing technical assistance and training, tracking statewide implementation of the DVSJA, and organizing legislative reform focused on the decarceration for survivors of domestic violence. Before joining Brooklyn Law School, Professor Isaacs was a post-conviction public defender and Supervising Attorney with the Legal Aid Society of NYC, and she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Jonathan Lippman on the New York State Court of Appeals. Elizabeth graduated from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and Wesleyan University.

Leigh Goodmark:

Leigh Goodmark (she/hers) is the Marjorie Cook Professor of Law at the University of Maryland Frances King Carey School of Law. Professor Goodmark co-directs the Clinical Law Program, teaches Family Law, Gender and the Law, and Gender Violence and the Law, and directs the Gender Violence Clinic, a clinic providing direct representation in matters involving intimate partner abuse, sexual assault, trafficking, and other forms of gender violence. Professor Goodmark's scholarship focuses on intimate partner violence. She is the author of *Imperfect Victims: Criminalized Survivors and the Promise of Abolition Feminism* (University of California Press forthcoming), *Decriminalizing Domestic Violence: A Balanced Policy Approach to Intimate Partner Violence* (University of California Press 2018) and *A Troubled Marriage: Domestic Violence and the Legal System* (New York University 2012), which was named a *CHOICE* Outstanding Academic

Title of 2012. She is the co-editor of *Comparative Perspectives on Gender Violence: Lessons from Efforts Worldwide* (Oxford 2015). Professor Goodmark's work on intimate partner violence has also appeared in numerous journals, law reviews, and publications, including *Violence Against Women*, the *New York Times*, the *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*, the *Harvard Journal on Gender and the Law*, and the *Yale Journal on Law and Feminism*. From 2003 to 2014, Professor Goodmark was on the faculty at the University of Baltimore School of Law, where she served as Director of Clinical Education and Co-director of the Center on Applied Feminism. From 2000 to 2003, Professor Goodmark was the Director of the Children and Domestic Violence Project at the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law. Before joining the Center on Children and the Law, Professor Goodmark represented clients in the District of Columbia in custody, visitation, child support, restraining order, and other civil matters. Professor Goodmark is a graduate of Yale University and Stanford Law School.

Marcy Karin:

Marcy L. Karin is the Jack and Lovell Olender Professor of Law and Director of the Legislation/Civil Rights Clinic at UDC David A. Clarke School of Law. The Clinic represents community groups on systemic reform projects to improve economic, gender, racial, and disability justice. Recent work includes helping clients: address the impact of climate change on gender-based violence; create a paid family and medical leave insurance program, advocate for laws that support trauma-informed training; eliminate (and then fund) the tampon tax; improve menstrual education and product access in schools (including colleges and universities), shelters, and carceral spaces; and remove menstruation-related barriers to entering the legal profession. In addition to directing the clinic, Professor Karin teaches Employment Law, Employment Discrimination, Gender / Sexual Orientation Under the Law, Disability Law, and Service Learning. Professor Karin's recent scholarship focuses on menstrual justice at work, during the bar exam, and in immigration detention; workplace protections for menstruators, breastfeeding workers, domestic violence survivors, the military community, and people with disabilities; and legislative lawyering pedagogy. Professor Karin is the 2023 Fulbright-Scotland Distinguished Scholar at the University of Edinburgh, where she will study the impact of Scotland's Period Products Act on menstrual justice at work and school. She has degrees from Georgetown University Law Center, Stanford Law School, and American University. She is on Twitter [@ProfessorMLK](https://twitter.com/ProfessorMLK).

Elizabeth Keyes:

Elizabeth Keyes directs the Immigrant Rights Clinic at the University of Baltimore School of Law, where she also teaches Immigration Law and Professional Responsibility. She has been practicing immigration law and, especially, asylum law for almost twenty years. Her scholarship explores gaps and inequities in refugee protection regimes, especially the gaps facing migrants displaced by climate change. Professor Keyes received her J.D.

magna cum laude from Georgetown University Law Center and also holds a master degree in Public Administration from Princeton University.

Laura Lane-Steele:

Laura Lane-Steele has been a Forrester Fellow at Tulane Law School since 2020. In the Fall of 2022, she will join the faculty at the University of South Carolina School of Law as an Assistant Professor. Her research and teaching focus on sex and sexuality in anti-discrimination law and family law. Prior to joining Tulane Law School, she clerked for the Honorable Jane R. Roth of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. She earned her JD from Harvard Law School in 2016 and her BA from Washington University in St. Louis in 2010.

Natalie Nanasi:

Natalie Nanasi is an Associate Professor of Law at SMU Dedman School of Law. As the Director of SMU's Judge Elmo B. Hunter Legal Center for Victims of Crimes Against Women, she supervises students' representation of survivors of gender-based violence in a broad range of legal matters and their engagement in systemic advocacy and policy work. Professor Nanasi's research explores the intersection of gender and feminist theory with immigration and firearms. Her scholarship has appeared in numerous journals and law reviews, including the *Ohio State Law Review*, *Yale Journal of Law and Feminism*, *Temple Law Review*, *Harvard Law & Policy Review*, *NYU Review of Law & Social Change*, and *Columbia Journal of Gender and Law*. Prior to arriving at SMU, Professor Nanasi was a Practitioner-in-Residence and the Director of the Domestic Violence Clinic at American University, Washington College of Law and served as the Senior Immigration Attorney and Pro Bono Coordinator at the Tahirih Justice Center. Professor Nanasi received her J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center.

Emily Stolzenberg:

Emily Stolzenberg is an Assistant Professor of Law at the Charles Widger School of Law at Villanova University. Her research focuses on conflicts between autonomy and obligation in the fields of family law and property, and her work has appeared or is forthcoming in the *Boston College Law Review*, *BYU Law Review*, and *Maryland Law Review*.

Stolzenberg graduated from Yale Law School, having previously earned a master's in political theory from the University of Oxford. After law school, she worked for the Legal Aid Justice Center in Charlottesville, VA, and served as a law clerk to the Honorable Robert D. Sack of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Stolzenberg then practiced family law at Feldesman Tucker Leifer Fidell LLP in Washington, DC. Before starting at Villanova, Stolzenberg was an Associate in Law at Columbia Law School and a Visiting Assistant Professor of Law at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University. Stolzenberg is a member of the New York and Washington, DC, bars.

JoAnne Sweeny:

JoAnne Sweeny is a Professor of Law and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law where she teaches Lawyering Skills, Writing for Practice, Freedom of Expression, and Comparative Human Rights. Professor Sweeny's current scholarly interests include freedom of expression, feminist jurisprudence, and comparative constitutional law.