

## **RACHEL NOLAN**

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### **EMPLOYMENT**

2019- Assistant Professor, Boston University Pardee School of Global Studies

2018-2019 Postdoctoral Fellow, Columbia Society of Fellows

### **EDUCATION**

2018 Ph.D., History, New York University  
Dissertation Title: “‘Children for Export’: A History of International Adoption from Guatemala”

2014 M.A., History, New York University

2007 A.B., History and Literature, Harvard University

### **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

#### *Academic*

2019 NYU Outstanding Dissertation Award for the Humanities

2019 NYU Dean’s Outstanding Dissertation Award

2018 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Columbia Society of Fellows in the Humanities at Columbia University

2017 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship

2017 Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Fellowship in Women’s Studies

2015 Fulbright-III

2015 Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship

2015 Pre-Dissertation Summer Research Grant, New York University

2014 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Grant for Brazil

#### *Journalism*

2017 Overseas Press Club, Joe and Laurie Dine Citation for Human Rights Reporting for “Innocents,” *Harper’s Magazine*

2015 French-American Foundation Immigration Journalism Award for “Displaced in the D.R.,” *Harper’s Magazine* (honorable mention)

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Refereed Articles and Book Chapters*

- 2019 Co-editor of special journal issue, "Rumors, Falsified Documents, and Other Interpretative Challenges in the Latin American Archive" (forthcoming)
- 2019 "Guatemala's 'Evidas': Counter-Revolutionary Welfare," in ed. James Shrader, *Little Nations: Childhood, Family, and the State in Cold War Latin America* (under review with University of New Mexico Press)

### *Translations*

- 2018 Lucio Vásquez, *Siete Gorriones* (San Salvador: Museo de la Palabra y la Imagen, 2012) (in progress)
- 2017 Translations for Heather Vrana, ed. *Anti-Colonial Texts from Central American Student Movements, 1929-1983* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2017)

### *Selected Articles and Reviews*

- 2019 "A Jagged Scrap of History: On the Shining Path," *Harper's Magazine*, July 2019: 87-94; review essay on Orin Starn and Miguel La Serna's *The Shining Path: Love, Madness, and Revolution in the Andes*
- 2019 "It is very easy to die here," *London Review of Books*, April 2019: 19-21; review essay on two new books about the disappeared students of Ayotzinapa, Mexico
- 2019 "Destined for Export," *Harper's Magazine*, April 2019: 47-54; reporting on adoptees searching for their birth parents in Guatemala
- 2017 "La Mega-Iglesia de Cash Luna," *El Faro Académico*; invited contribution to special project of essays on economic power in Central America funded by the Ford Foundation (Spanish)
- 2016 "Innocents," *Harper's Magazine*, October 2016: 55-68; reporting on the abortion ban in El Salvador
- 2016 "Complicated Situation," *Harper's Magazine* (online), October 6, 2016; reporting on fighting Zika in gang-controlled neighborhoods in El Salvador
- 2015 "Guatemala's Civil Hangover," *NACLA* (online), November 11, 2015; on Guatemala's presidential election
- 2015 "Displaced in the D.R.," *Harper's Magazine*, May 2015: 38-47; reporting on mass denationalizations of Dominican citizens of Haitian descent

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

### *Invited Talks*

- 2019 "Jaladoras, Criminality, and Consent in Private Adoptions" Columbia University Seminar on American Studies, New York, NY March 5
- 2019 "Ethics of International Adoption," Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto, Toronto Canada, January 28

- 2018 “Human Rights in Latin America,” Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, New York, December 13
- 2017 Panelist, “Evidence, Methods, and Narrative: Writing History as Journalism,” History in Action Conference, Columbia University, New York NY, March 3
- 2016 Panelist, “Aftermath of Mass Denationalization in the Dominican Republic,” Rendering Stateless Symposium, Bowdoin College, Brunswick ME, November 3-4

*Conference Participation*

- 2019 Presenter, “Adopciones forzadas en los años 80,” Guatemala Scholars Network, Antigua Guatemala, July 11-13
- 2019 Organizer and Presenter, “Forced Adoptions of Indigenous Children from Guatemala (1981-1986),” Society for the History of Children and Youth, Sydney Australia, June 26-28
- 2019 Presenter, “Ponente sustituta—de la tesis al libro: sobre la publicación y otros desafíos del inicio de la carrera profesional,” Latin American Studies Association, Boston MA, May 24-27
- 2019 Chair, “Journalists at Risk,” at “Politics of the Present: Crisis of Democracy,” Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University, New York NY, April 11
- 2019 Organizer and Chair, “Katherine Marino Book Presentation—*Feminism for the Americas: The Making of an International Human Rights Movement*,” Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University, New York NY, April 9
- 2019 Presenter, “Indigenous Migrants from Guatemala and Deportation as Mass Migration,” at “Central American Migration in North America: Economies and Political Productivity” at Institute of Latin American Studies and Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race at Columbia University, New York NY, April 4-5
- 2019 Chair, “New Books in the Society of Fellows: *Who Owns the News: A History of Copyright* by Will Slauter,” Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University, New York NY, March 12
- 2018 Commenter, “Neoliberalism and Right-Wing Theories of Progress,” at “Transnational Counterrevolution: Ideas and Practices of the Right in Latin America’s Cold War” at Institute of Latin American Studies at Columbia University, New York NY, November 9-10
- 2018 Co-Organizer and Presenter, “Moral Panic over Adoptions in Guatemala, 1988-1996,” Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies, Reno NV April 4-7
- 2018 Presenter, “Politics of the Welfare State and Adoptions in Guatemala,” American Historical Association (Conference on Latin American History), Washington D.C., January 4-7
- 2017 Presenter, “Civil War Era Adoptions in Guatemala: From Humanitarianism to Commerce,” American Historical Association (Conference on Latin American History), Denver CO, January 5-7

- 2016      Presenter, “‘The Sentence’: Towards a History of Mass Denationalization in the Dominican Republic,” American Society for Legal History, Toronto Canada, October 27-30
- 2016      Presenter, “Adoption during Guatemala’s Civil War,” Tepoztlán Institute, Tepoztlán Mexico, July 20-27
- 2016      Presenter, “An International Adoption Boom in 1970s Guatemala: Family Law, Biological Mothers, and Adoption Facilitators,” Latin American Studies Association, New York NY, May 27-30
- 2015      Presenter, “‘Bad Seed’: The Politics of Adoption during the Guatemalan Civil War,” Latin American Studies Association, San Juan Puerto Rico, March 20-23

*Conferences Organized*

- 2019      Co-organized with Sarah Foss (Oklahoma State) and Vanessa Freije (University of Washington), “Rumors, Falsified Documents, and Other Interpretative Challenges in the Latin American Archive,” Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University, May 17-18

**COURSES OFFERED**

- 2019      Introduction to Latin American Politics and International Relations, Boston University
- 2019      Drugs and Security in the Americas, Boston University
- 2018      History of Deportation to Latin America, Columbia University
- 2018      Contemporary Civilization, Columbia University
- 2014      Teaching Assistant and Recitation Instructor, “Culture and Contexts: Brazil,” New York University

**LANGUAGES**

- Spanish (near-native)
- German (proficient)
- Italian (reading)
- Portuguese (reading)