

**DENISE L. GILMAN**  
The University of Texas School of Law  
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## EDUCATION

**Georgetown University Law Center**, Washington, D.C.  
Master of Laws with distinction, 2007.

**Columbia University School of Law**, New York, NY  
Juris Doctor, June 1994. Parker School Certificate in Foreign Law with honors.

- Columbia Law Review
- Stone Scholar; Rosenmann Award for leadership and public interest scholarship
- Participation in Fair Housing Clinic
- President, Student Senate

**Northwestern University**, Evanston, IL  
Bachelor of Arts with honors in Political Science, May 1990.

- Honors Thesis: A Comparison of the Contemporary Revolutions in Nicaragua and El Salvador
- Dean's List
- Study in Sevilla, Spain

## EXPERIENCE

**The University of Texas at Austin School of Law**, Austin, TX *2007-Present*  
Clinical Professor of Law and Director, Immigration Clinic

- Teach immigration law clinic, including through designing and implementing the classroom component of the course, which covers substantive and procedural immigration law and theory as well as practical skills.
- Supervise students handling asylum, removal, Violence Against Women Act, and other immigration cases and engage in regular critique of students' legal writing and oral advocacy.
- Manage the operation of the clinic, including selection of students, selection of cases and budget decision-making.
- Directly represent clients in proceedings before the Department of Homeland Security and in immigration court.
- Participate in advocacy projects, in representation of the clinic and independently, seeking to improve human rights protections for immigrants in the United States.
- Periodically teach courses outside the clinic, particularly a Refugee Law and Policy writing seminar.

**Georgetown University Law Center**, Washington, D.C. *2005-2007*  
Teaching Fellow, Center for Applied Legal Studies –

- Co-taught asylum clinic, including by designing and teaching classes, critiquing students' legal writing and oral advocacy, grading, and selecting law students and fellows for the clinic.
- Supervised students representing asylum seekers in immigration court.
- Represented the clinic in interactions with community organizations and government and court personnel.

**Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs**, Washington, D.C. *2000-2005*  
Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project Director –

- Provided representation to political asylum seekers, directly and through the coordination of work by pro bono attorneys from area law firms.
- Litigated cases of law enforcement abuses and discrimination against immigrants in federal court and before administrative agencies.
- Advocated on immigrants' rights issues of national, regional and local significance with Congress, the Department of Homeland Security, the D.C. City Council and other policymakers.
- Played a leadership role in coordinating the advocacy of grassroots immigrant groups on local immigrants' civil rights issues and provided legal support and advice to these groups.

- Provided comprehensive political asylum training to pro bono attorneys through the D.C. Bar.
- Conducted outreach on the civil rights of immigrants through the press and through presentations to diverse audiences, ranging from local community organizations to governmental and international entities, including the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, the Department of Justice, the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the D.C. Office of Human Rights.
- Prepared grant proposals and conducted fundraising efforts with foundations and other donors.

**Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (now Human Rights First), Washington, D.C.** 1999-2000

Mexico Project Coordinator –

- Designed and implemented a project to combat the use of torture to obtain confessions in criminal proceedings in Mexico. Engaged in extensive contact with private and public defense attorneys, governmental authorities, non-governmental organizations and the press to identify, analyze and report problems in the Mexican criminal justice system.
- Advocated with Mexican and United States officials to seek the changes in law and practice necessary to improve the criminal justice system in Mexico.
- Litigated cases challenging aspects of the Mexican criminal justice system before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.
- Analyzed and reported on limitations to freedom of expression affecting non-governmental human rights organizations in Mexico.

**Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, O.A.S., Washington, D.C.** 1995-1998

Human Rights Specialist/Staff Attorney –

- Served as attorney for Guatemala and Colombia; prepared Commission decisions in cases brought against these member states of the Organization of American States by individuals asserting violations of their human rights.
- Coordinated on-site and working visits to O.A.S. member states and prepared reports on the general situation of human rights in those countries.
- Engaged in regular interactions with the leadership of non-governmental organizations and with high-level governmental officials in O.A.S. member states.
- Managed the litigation of select cases before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, including preparation of complaints and motions, marshalling of evidence, and conduct of hearings and trials.
- Recommended appropriate action on requests that the Commission adopt emergency precautionary measures or that the Commission petition the Court for such measures.
- Conducted training and outreach regarding the inter-American human rights system.

**United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, Austin, TX** 1994-1995

Law clerk to the Honorable Judge Thomas M. Reavley.

## SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

*Barricading the Border: COVID-19 and the Exclusion of Asylum Seekers at the U.S. Southern Border*, Front. Hum. Dyn. (Dec. 2020) (peer-reviewed; open source - <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fhumd.2020.595814/full>)

*Immigration Detention, Inc.*, 6 J. Migration & Hum. Sec. 145 (2018) (peer-reviewed) (co-authored with Luis A. Romero)

*The Unending Floods: Disaster Recovery and Immigration Policy*, 96 Tex. L. Rev. Online 91 (2018) (co-authored with Elissa Steglich)

*To Loose the Bonds: The Deceptive Promise of Freedom from Pretrial Immigration Detention*, 92 Indiana L.J. 157 (2016)

*Realizing Liberty: The Use Of International Human Rights Law To Realign Immigration Detention In The United States*, 36 Fordham Int'l L.J. 243 (2013)

*A “Bilingual” Approach to Language Rights: How Dialogue between U.S. and International Human Rights Law May Improve the Language Rights Framework*, 24 Harv. Hum. Rts. J. 1 (2011)

*El choque de Arizona con los derechos humanos: el Proyecto de Ley 1070*, 7 Anuario de Derechos Humanos 87 (2011)

*Seeking Breaches in the Wall: An International Human Rights Law Challenge to the Texas-Mexico Border Wall*, 46 Tex. Int'l L.J. 257 (2011)

*Calling the United States' Bluff: How Sovereign Immunity Undermines the United States' Claim to an Effective Domestic Human Rights System*, 95 Geo. L.J. 591 (2007)

Consultant/Principal Editor – *Género y Derecho* (Spanish-language legal textbook prepared through “Transforming Women's Legal Status in Latin America: Integrating Gender into Legal Doctrine and Education” initiative at Washington College of Law, American University) (1999).

*Confidentiality in the Proceedings as a Topic in the Discussion of Reform*, in *El Futuro del Sistema Interamericano de Protección de los Derechos Humanos* (Inter-American Institute for Human Rights 1998).

*La Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos y Su Informe Especial en Derechos de la Mujer: Una Nueva Iniciativa para Examinar el Estatus de la Mujer en las Américas* (co-authored with Elizabeth Abi-Mershed), in *Protección Internacional de los Derechos Humanos de las Mujeres* (Inter-American Institute for Human Rights 1997).

## **SERVICE, AWARDS AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- 2019 University of Texas Tower Awards-Outstanding Community Based Learning Professor
- 2018-present Member of the University of Texas at Austin Faculty Council
- 2007-present Service on Rules, Teaching, Experiential Learning, Standards and Rules, Dean Review Faculty Committees of the University of Texas School of Law
- 2016 Federal Bar Association Immigration Law Section “Attorney of the Year”
- 2012-2017 American Bar Association Commission on Immigration and Section on Civil Rights and Social Justice
- 2005 D.C. Court of Appeals Community Outreach Recognition and Opportunity (“CORO”) Award
- 2003 MALDEF Excellence in the Legal Profession Award Recipient.
- 2005-2007 Board of Directors, D.C. Central American Resource Center (CARECEN).
- Volunteer for AYUDA, United Nations Truth Commission on El Salvador, Political Asylum Project of Austin, Texas Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, D.C. Bar Advice and Referral Clinic.
- Member of the District of Columbia Bar and the State Bar of Texas.
- Member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, American Bar Association and the National Lawyers Guild Immigration Project.

## **LANGUAGE**

Fluent in written and oral Spanish.

## **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

American Bar Association Webinar, *Access to Counsel in Immigration Detention in the Time of COVID-19* (August 2020)

Texas A&M School of Law Webinar, *Requesting Bond, Parole, and Custody Review During COVID-19* (July 2020)

American Bar Association Mid-Year Meeting (Austin, TX), *Fight to Preserve Safe Haven in the United States* (February 2020)

Doctors without Borders (Austin, TX), *Defending Humanity: Caring for Refugees and migrants Trapped in Danger* (December 2019)

Metropolis North America Migration Policy Forum (San Diego, CA), *Restrictive Asylum Policies, Mobility Control and Stranded Refugees on North America's Borders* (November 2019)

American Bar Association, Webinar, *Remain in Mexico* (October 2019)

American Immigration Lawyers Association Fall Continuing Legal Education (Park City, Utah), *Contesting Detention in Immigration Court and Beyond* (October 2019)

Refugee Law Initiative, University of London School of Advanced Study Fourth Annual Conference (London, England), *The Multiplying Immigration Mechanisms for Legal and Physical Exclusion from the U.S. Asylum Process* (June 2019)

ASISTA Continuing Legal Education (Austin, TX), *Preventing Removal of Survivors* (May 2019)

Boston College Global Migration Conference (Boston, MA), *Admission and Exclusion* (April 2019)

Rational Middle, *Immigration* (Austin, TX) (March 2019)

Columbia Legal Services, Continuing Legal Education Webinar, *The Heavy Hand of Immigration Enforcement* (January 2019)

AALS Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA), *Within their Grasp: Admitting, Financing and Supporting DREAMERS and DACA Students* (January 2019)

American Constitution Society / Austin (Austin, TX), *Immigration in the Trump Era* (November 2018)

University of Gothenburg Law Clinic and Center for Global Migration (Gothenburg, Sweden), *Asylum and Refugee Law in the USA – What is Happening Nationally and at the Texas/Mexico Border?* (October 2018)

University of Texas, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, Mexico's Political Earthquake: The 2018 Elections, Democracy and Binational Relations (Austin, TX), *Migration in United States-Mexico Relations Moving Forward* (September 2018)

University of Texas, Center for Mexican-American Studies (Austin, TX), *Aftershocks: Border Separations, Trauma, and People of Color* (September 2018)

American Immigration Lawyers Association, Webinar, *Asylum Law Updates on Particular Social Groups* (September 2018)

Austin Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Seminar (Austin, TX), *Representing Separated Families* (June 2018)

AALS Clinical Conference (Chicago, IL), *Lawyering in a Hostile Environment* (May 2018)

American Association for the Advancement of Science 2018 Annual Meeting (Austin, TX), *Migration: A case for Science Diplomacy?* (Feb. 2018)

9th Worldwide Global Alliance for Justice Conference (Puebla, Mexico), *Cross-Border Clinical Collaboration to Provide Legal Aid and Advocacy for Asylum Seekers* (December 2017)

University of Texas, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (Austin, TX), *Discussant: Alejandro Solalinde on the Migrants' Path*

Levin Center at Wayne Law, Symposium: Current Issues in Immigration Policy (Detroit, MI), *Immigration Detention* (November 2017)

University of Texas LBJ School of Public Affairs, Texas in a Changing World Economy (Austin, TX) *Chair, Detention and Deportation Policy Choices* (October 2017)

University of Texas Institute for Historical Studies (Austin, TX), *DACA: Past, Present, and Future*” Panel Discussion (Oct. 2017)

University of Texas School of Law, Community Conversations (Austin, TX), *Dreams Deferred: A Panel Discussion on DACA* (Sept. 2017)

Law and Society 2017 International Meeting (Mexico City), *Immigration Detention, Inc.* (June 2017)

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Professional Development Session (via video from Austin, TX), *U.S. Asylum Law and Procedure* (May 2017)

Texas A&M Law Review Symposium, American Immigration Law: The New Colossus (Forth Worth, TX) *What Do New Policies Mean for Immigrants and Refugees* (April 2017)

University of Texas, The First Decade of the US-Mexico Border Wall (Austin, TX), *More Walls: Carceral Formations & Shifting Migrations* (April 2017)

USC Gould School of Law, Immigration Detention in the Age of Migration and Control (Los Angeles, CA), *Detention and Inequality* (April 2017)

University of Texas School of Law (Austin, TX), *Sanctuary City Panel* (Feb. 2017)

Texas Federalist Society Debate (Austin, TX), *Presidential Power over Immigration* (Feb. 2017)

University of Texas, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (Austin, Texas), *Foro Urgente: Trump, Mexico and the Border* (Feb. 2017)

American University, Country Conditions in Central America and Asylum Decision-Making (Washington, DC), *Evolving Jurisprudence and Current Evidentiary Needs* (Jan. 2017)

AALS Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA), *Discussion Group - The Central American Refugee Crisis: A Discussion of the Current Response and Evaluation of U.S. Legal Obligations under Domestic and International Law* (Jan. 2017)

Jones Day, The Unaccompanied Children Crisis: Historical Perspectives, the Rule of Law, and the Path Forward (Dallas, TX), *Legal Rights and Remedies* (Nov. 2016)

UT CLE, Conference on Immigration and Nationality Law (Austin, TX), *Protecting Children* (Oct. 2016)

American Bar Association Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA), *Controversy Delays Progress: Prospects for Immigration Initiatives in the Next Administration* (Aug. 2016)

Center for Migration Studies, Rethinking the Global Refugee Protection System (New York, NY), *Refugee and Unaccompanied Children: Family Detention* (June 2016)

Immigration Law Professors Workshop (Michigan State University), *International Norms and Immigration Detention* (May 2016)

AALS Clinical Conference (Baltimore, MD), *Reimagining Advocacy: Adapting Clinical Models to Meet Community Needs* (May 2016)

Rapoport Human Rights Center Annual Conference: Inequality and Human Rights (Austin, TX), *Detention, Inc.* (April 2016)

Thurgood Marshall Legal Society’s (TMLS) Biennial Symposium (Austin, TX), *The New Political Landscape: The Role Diversity Will Play in the 2016 Election* (Feb. 2016)

American Bar Association Commission on Immigration Program (Washington, DC), *Family Detention at a Crossroads: Will the U.S. Government Persist or Desist?* (Nov. 2015)

University of Texas School of Law, Immigration and Nationality Law Conference (Austin, Texas), *Minors and Removal* (October 2015)

UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center, Central American Refugees in Detention: Rethinking U.S. Immigration (Los Angeles, CA), *Opening Keynote – UnFAMILIAR Policies? The Detention of Central American Refugee Families* (Sept. 2015)

American Bar Association Commission on Immigration Program (Los Angeles, CA), *Family Detention at a Crossroads: Will the U.S. Government Persist or Desist?* (Sept. 2015)

American Bar Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL), *Women and Children First: Is Family Detention Really Justified and Necessary?* (July 2015)

Columbia Law School Human Rights Institute, Bringing Human Rights Home Lawyers' Network Annual Human Rights in the U.S. Symposium/CLE: Engaging with the Inter-American Human Rights System for U.S. Advocacy (New York, New York), *Strategies for Effective Engagement* (June 2015)

Texas International Law Journal, Symposium: Immigration and Freedom of Movement (Austin, Texas), *Conference Chair, Moderator for Panel on Immigration Detention and Other Restrictions on Movement in an Age of Heightened Migration Control* (Feb. 2015)

New York University School of Law Journal of International Law and Politics, International Law Symposium, The Human Rights of Migrants: From Treaty to Reality (New York, New York), *Towards a Rights Respecting Immigration Enforcement System* (Nov. 2014)

University of Leiden & Crimmigration Control International Net of Studies, The Borders of Crimmigration (Leiden, Netherlands), *Bond Proceedings: The Elusive Promise Of Freedom From Immigration Detention* (Nov. 2014)

Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (Austin, Texas), *Foro Urgente: Humanitarian Crisis on the Border* (September 2014)

Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine 2014 Annual Meeting (Austin, Texas), *Hot Topics: How Immigration Policy and International Human Rights Effects the Lives of Adolescents and Young Adults* (March 2014)

University of Texas School of Law CLE, Immigration and Nationality Law (Austin, Texas), *Asylum: Basic to Advanced* (2012, 2014)

Human Rights First, Dialogues on Detention (Austin, Texas), *Finding Effective Counsel from Jail: Models of Legal Representation in Texas* (Sept. 2012)

2012 International Conference on Law and Society (Honolulu, Hawaii), *Realizing Liberty: The Use of International Human Rights Law to Reform Immigration Detention in the United States* (June 2012)

Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. National Convening (Austin, Texas): *Asylum Law: Particular Social Group* (May 2012)

National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild (Denver, Colorado): *"Particularly Serious" Crimes and Refugee Protection* (April 2012)

Universidad de San Andres Law School Global Law Seminar (Buenos Aires, Argentina): *A "Bilingual" Approach to Language Rights* (June 2011)

National Black Law Students Association Annual National Convention (Houston, Texas): *Racial Profiling in 2011: Immigration Law and the Rise of Legalized Discrimination* (March 2011)

American Immigration Lawyers Association, Texas/Oklahoma/New Mexico Chapter's Spring Conference (Austin, Texas): *"Hot Topics" in Removal and Detention – Expedited Removal and Claims to United States Citizenship* (April 2010)

Texas International Law Journal and Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice Conference, Walls: What They Make and What They Break (Austin, Texas): *Brick by Brick: Using a Human Rights Challenge to Build Momentum against Construction of the Texas/Mexico Border Wall* (February 2010)

American Immigration Law Foundation/American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILF/AILA) Annual Litigation Institute (Dallas, Texas): *Faculty for Litigation Training Program* (October 2009)

Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (Buenos Aires, Argentina): *Immigration and Detention in the United States* (July 2009)

American Immigration Lawyers Association Annual Conference (Las Vegas, Nevada): *Cutting Edge Issues in Asylum – Gang Violence Asylum Cases and the Definition of "Particular Social Group"* (June 2009)

Western Social Science Association (Albuquerque, New Mexico): *Indigenous Peoples and the U.S.-Mexico Border - Militarization, Resistance, and Rights: Law & Rights* (April 2009)

National Farmworker Conference (San Antonio, Texas): *The Border Wall! What are We Doing About It!* (March 2009)

Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice, Conference on Human Rights at the University of Texas: A Dialogue at the Intersection of Academics and Advocacy (Austin, Texas): *The T. Don Hutto Family Prison and Human Rights Challenges to the Detention of Immigrant Children and Asylum Seekers* (March 2009)

Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales – Working Meeting (Buenos Aires, Argentina): *Impact Litigation in the United States* (July 2008)

US Human Rights Network National Human Rights Conference (Chicago, IL): *Introduction to the Inter-American Commission* (April 2008)

Symposium, NYU (New York, NY): *The Economic and Social Rights of Non-Citizens: Human Rights Principles and the Development of U.S. Policy* (2005)

Annual Asylum Law Training, D.C. Bar, Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs and Capital Area Immigrants Rights Coalition (Washington, D.C.): *Overview of Asylum Law and Procedure* (2002-2006)

Hearings, District of Columbia Council (Washington, D.C.): *Testimony on the Language Access Act and its Implementation* (2003-2005)

Lecture Series, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (Washington, D.C.): *Immigrants and Fair Housing* (2004)

Annual Fair Housing Symposium, D.C. Office of Human Rights and Department of Housing and Community Development (Washington, D.C.): *National Origin Discrimination in Housing* (2003)

Latino Civil Rights Ten Years after the Mount Pleasant Disturbances, United States Civil Rights Commission (Washington, D.C.): *Testimony on the Findings of the Civil Rights Review Panel* (2002)

Annual Conference, National Community Reinvestment Coalition (Washington, D.C.): *Gentrification and its Impact on Immigrants* (2002)

Annual Conference and Training, United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Housing Section (Washington, D.C.): *Language Access and National Origin Discrimination* (2001).

Training for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Washington, D.C.): *The Inter-American Human Rights System and its Relation to Refugee Protection* (2000)

Hearing on Human Rights in Mexico, Congressional Human Rights Caucus (Washington, D.C.): *Elements of the Criminal Justice System in Mexico Leading to Human Rights Violations* (2000).

Crime and Criminal Justice in Mexico, DePaul University College of Law (Chicago, IL): *Systemic Problems in the Criminal Justice System in Mexico* (1999).

Forum on Freedom of Association, Movimiento Ciudadano por la Democracia (Mexico City, Mexico): *Restrictions on Human Rights NGOs in Mexico* (1999)

Lecture Series, Harvard Law School Human Rights Program (Cambridge, MA): *Armed Conflict and the Human Rights Crisis in Colombia* (1998)

Regional Conference on International Protection of Women's Rights, Inter-American Institute for Human Rights (San Jose, Costa Rica): *The Work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on Issues of Gender* (1997).

Law in the Americas Lecture Series, St. Mary's University School of Law (San Antonio, TX): *Protecting Human Rights in the Americas* (1996)