

SALINA ABJI

Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Carleton University

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2017 – 2019 **Postdoctoral Fellow, SSHRC, Carleton University**
Supervisor: Daiva Stasiulis

EDUCATION

2017 **Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Toronto**
Dissertation: “Emerging Logics of Citizenship: Activism in Response to Precarious Migration and Gendered Violence in an Era of Securitization”
Committee: Anna C. Korteweg (supervisor), Patricia Landolt, Judith Taylor

2000 **Master of Studies in Women’s Studies, Oxford University**

1997 **Honours BA in English & Women’s Studies, York University**

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Migration and Borders; Transnationalism and Postnationalism; Gender; Race; Social Activism

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Abji, Salina, Anna C. Korteweg and Lawrence Williams. 2019. “Culture Talk and the Politics of the New Right: Navigating Gendered Racism in Attempts to Address Violence against Women in Immigrant Communities.” *Signs: Women in Culture and Society*. 44(3): 797-822.

Abji, Salina. 2018. “Postnational Acts of Citizenship: How an Anti-Border Politics is Shaping Feminist Spaces of Service Provision in Toronto, Canada.” *International Feminist Journal of Politics*. DOI: 10.1080/14616742.2018.1480901.

Abji, Salina. 2016. “‘Because Deportation is Violence Against Women’: on the Politics of State Responsibility and Women’s Human Rights.” *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State & Society*, 23 (4): 483-507.

Abji, Salina. 2013. “Post-nationalism re-considered: a case study of the ‘No One Is Illegal’ movement in Canada.” *Citizenship Studies*, 17 (3-4): 322-338.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Abji, Salina. 2017. “On the Role of Race and Gender in the Study of Migrant Adaptation in Canada” in *Immigration and the Future of Canadian Society*. Robert Brym (ed). University of Toronto.

Abji, Salina. 2007. “Springing Up a Revolution: media education for tweens” in *Re-Thinking Media Education: critical pedagogy and identity politics*. Hampton Press: 113-130.

POLICY REPORTS

Korteweg, Anna C., **Salina Abji**, Lisa Barnoff, and Deepa Mattoo. 2013. "Citizenship, Culture, and Violence Against Women: social service provision in the South Asian communities of the Greater Toronto Area." *CERIS Research Report*. [Access on-line](#).

BOOK REVIEWS

Abji, Salina. 2018. "In the Name of Women's Rights: The Rise of Femonationalism" by Sara R. Farris. *Contemporary Sociology* 47(6): 704-706.

Abji, Salina. 2006. "Performing Femininity: Rewriting Gender Identity" reviewed in *Canadian Woman Studies/Les cahiers de la femme*. Volume 25, Numbers 3, 4, Summer/ Fall p. 211.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Abji, Salina. "Punishing Survivorship and Criminalizing Survivors: A feminist intersectional approach to migrant justice in the crimmigration system" Manuscript submitted on April 5, 2019 to *Studies in Social Justice* for special issue on Migration and Intersectionality.

Bergen, Heather and **Salina Abji**. "Facilitating the carceral pipeline: Social work's role in funnelling newcomer children from the child welfare system to jail and deportation." Manuscript submitted on March 15, 2019 to *Affilia Journal of Women and Social Work* for special issue on Anti-Carceral Feminisms.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Abji, Salina. "Postnational Feminism: How activists against borders are shaping the feminist politics of migration" *Book Prospectus*.

Abji, Salina. "Detention Avoidance or Detention Abolition? Analyzing the Politics of Immigration Detention for Pregnant Women and Vulnerable Groups." Abstract accepted for *Citizenship Studies* special issue on Decarceral Futures.

Abji, Salina and Daiva Stasiulis. "Shades of Postnationalism and Transnationalism: Revisiting an Old Debate." In preparation for *International Migration Review*.

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

Molnar, Petra, Stephanie J. Silverman, and **Salina Abji**. 2017. "Toronto Can Easily Do More for Non-Status Children" *Huffington Post*, op. ed. June 22.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS (Total \$168,397)

2017 – 2019 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Postdoctoral Fellowship: \$84,375
2016 Dennis William Magill Research Award for Best Dissertation: \$1,000

2016	Dissertation Success Award: \$500
2016	Conference Travel Grant: \$1,000
2015	S. D. Clarke Conference Travel Grant: \$300
2014	Daniel G. Hill Prize for Best Graduate Paper in Sociology: \$1,500
2014	Conference Travel Grant: \$500
2013 – 2014	Ontario Graduate Scholarship: \$10,000
2013	Conference Travel Grant: \$500
2012 – 2013	Doctoral Award: \$8,222
2011 – 2012	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Doctoral Fellowship: \$20,000
2011	Centre for Research on Immigration & Settlement, Graduate Research Award: \$500
2010 – 2011	Doctoral Fellowship: \$10,000
2009 – 2010	Ontario Graduate Scholarship: \$15,000
2008 – 2009	Ontario Graduate Scholarship: \$15,000

INVITED TALKS

- 2019 “Growing Our Impact: Sharing Best Practices on Community-Based Education to End Gendered Violence in Immigrant and Refugee Communities” Panelist at public event organized by the *Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)*. March 16.
- 2018 “Access without Fear” Panelist at public event *From the Ground Up: Building a Sanctuary City Together* organized by the Ottawa Sanctuary City Network. May 26.
- 2017 “Let’s Talk Refugees, Borders, Sanctuaries.” Panelist at public event organized by *Mobility and Politics: A Transnational Research Collective*. Ottawa. November 17.
- “Addressing Gender-Based Violence in a context of Islamophobia and Precarious Migration.” Presenter at public symposium on *Muslim Women: Identities, Labels, and Lived Experiences* organized by the Joint Chair in Women’s Studies at the University of Ottawa. November 14.
- “Fear in the Shelter: Gender, Illegality, and the Securitization of Women’s Shelters in Canada.” Invited conference presentation at the *American Sociological Association conference*. Regional Spotlight Session on Social Categories, Inequality and the State: A View from Canada to the United States and Beyond. August 12-15 Montreal.
- “Gender, Islamophobia and Resistance: Tracing the Impact of Islamophobia on Muslim Women’s Integration and Access to Social Services in Canadian Cities.” Panelist at public event organized by University of Toronto Faculty of Social Work. May 26.
- “‘Because Deportation is Violence Against Women!’: Activism in Response to Precarious Migration and the Securitization of Women’s Shelters in Canada.” Public lecture for *Emerging Scholars Series*. Carleton University. March 28.

- “Are Refugees Welcome Here? Canadian Responses to Trump.” Panelist at public event organized by The Canadian Association of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS) and the International Human Rights Program (IHRP), University of Toronto. February 3.
- 2016 “‘Out of our Shelters! Out of our Lives!’: Feminist efforts to address violence against women with precarious immigration status in Canada.” Public lecture at the *Feminist Lunch Hour Series*. University of Toronto Mississauga. January 28.
- 2013 “The role of Religion & Culture: a cautionary tale.” Panelist for the *Religion in the Public Sphere Symposium, Sexual and Gender-based Violence Workshop*. University of Toronto Mississauga. Sept 27.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell: The Gendered Politics of Service Provision for Women with Precarious Immigration Status.” *American Sociological Association* conference, panel on Sexual Violence & Intersectional Inequalities. New York. August 10-13.
- University of Lethbridge workshop on “The Line Crossed Us: New Directions in Critical Border Studies”. Lethbridge. June 14-15.
- “Detention Avoidance or Detention Abolition? Analyzing the Politics of Immigration Detention for Pregnant Women and Vulnerable Groups” *Canadian Sociological Association* conference, panel on Decolonization and Intersectionality in Gender & Sexuality Studies. Vancouver. June 3-6.
- University of Toronto Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies workshop on “Detention practices, criminalization of migrants and border control in Canada.” Toronto. May 12-13.
- Queens University Law workshop on “De-Carceral Futures: Bridging Prison and Immigration Justice.” Kingston. May 9-10.
- Laval University workshop on “Migration & Security.” Quebec City. March 25-26.
- 2018 “Between Help and Harm: On the Gendered and Racialized Politics of Social Activism in Response to Immigration Detention.” *Canadian Association of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies*. Ottawa. May 22-25.
- 2017 “From Sanctuary to Solidarity: The Gendered and Racialized Politics of Designing a City Without Borders.” *Canadian Sociological Association conference*. Toronto. May 29 – June 2.
- 2016 “Unjust Detentions: How do Social Movements and the State produce Borders of Belonging and Exclusion?” *CINETs Crimmigration conference*. Baltimore, Oct 6-7.
- “‘Because Deportation is Violence Against Women’: on the Politics of State Responsibility and Women’s Human Rights.” *American Sociological Association*

- conference*. Session on Gendered Racism, Vulnerability, and State-Sanctioned Violence. Seattle, August 22.
- 2015 “State Responsibility & Gendered Violence: a case study of Toronto’s Shelter, Sanctuary, Status campaign.” *American Sociological Association conference*. Roundtable on Human Rights. Chicago, August 20.
- “State Responsibility, gendered violence, and the right to have rights.” *Congress: Women and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes (WGSRF)* conference. Ottawa, May 30.
- “Criminalizing International Marriage Migration: consequences and implications for immigrants and refugees in Canada.” *Canadian Association for Refugees and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS) conference*. Roundtable. Ryerson University, Toronto, May 13.
- 2014 “Emerging conceptions of State Responsibility: feminist efforts to address violence against non-status women in Toronto.” *Social Sciences History Association (SSHA) conference*. Toronto, Nov 6.
- “State Responsibility and Gendered Violence: a case study of efforts to address violence against non-status women in Toronto. *Canadian Sociological Association (CSA)*. St. Catharines, Ontario, May 26.
- 2013 “State Responsibility or State Complicity? Postnational Approaches to Violence Against Women with Precarious Immigration Statuses in Toronto.” *Social Sciences History Association (SSHA)*. Chicago, November.
- “Addressing Violence Against Women: Reflections on the politics of culture and ‘honour’-based violence in Aruna Papp’s memoir *Unworthy Creatures*” (with Anna C. Korteweg). *American Sociological Association (ASA)*. Roundtable. New York, August.
- “Recent Immigration Changes in Canada: implications for addressing gendered violence.” *American Sociological Association (ASA)*. Roundtable. New York, August.
- “Reading Aruna Papp: Honour, Culture, and the Everyday Politics of Naming and Shaming.” *‘Honour’/Shame Violence conference, Ryerson University* (with Anna C. Korteweg). Toronto, September.
- “Emerging Logics of Citizenship: efforts to address violence against non-status women in Toronto.” *Precarious Futures conference, Ryerson University*. Toronto, May.
- “Emerging Logics of Citizenship: efforts to address violence against non-status women in Toronto.” *Canadian Sociological Association (CSA)*. Toronto, May.
- 2012 “Citizenship and Social Services: Violence Against Women in South Asian communities of the GTA.” *CERIS Research Seminar Series, York University* (with Anna C. Korteweg). Toronto, November.

“Two Logics of Citizenship: approaches to addressing gendered violence among women with precarious immigration statuses.” *Social Sciences and History Association (SSHA)*. Toronto, November.

“Turning Ourselves Inside Out: A Game of Strategy and Skill.” *Canadian Association for the Study of Language and Learning (CASLL)*, University of Toronto (with Freedman, Leora, Deborah Knott, Margaret Procter, Andrea Williams, and Erin Vearncombe). Toronto, June.

ORGANIZER & DISCUSSANT

- 2019 **Co-Organizer and Co-Chair** for five panels for the Gender and Sexuality Research Cluster at the *Canadian Sociological Association* conference. Vancouver. June 3-6.
- 2018 “No Ban, No Wall, No Borders’: Migrant Solidarities and Political Imaginaries of Resistance.” *World Congress of Sociology*. **Session co-organizer and co-chair** with Ethel Tungohan, York University. July 15-21.
- 2017 “Addressing Risk and Uncertainty in Migration: Theory, Processes, and Policy Responses.” **Research workshop co-organizer** with Can Aybek, Visiting Scholar, Munk School, University of Toronto. May 18.
- 2016 “A Note on Race and Gender in the Study of Migrant Adaptation in Canada.” **Discussant**. *S.D. Clarke Symposium*. Immigration and Social Inequality in Canada, University of Toronto, November 5.
- 2016 “Immigrant Communities and the Boundaries of Membership: Canadian Perspectives on Conditional Settlement in Canada.” *Canadian Sociological Association conference*. **Session co-organizer and Chair** with Rupaleem Bhuyan, University of Toronto, and Bronwyn Bragg, University of British Columbia.
- 2014 “Acts of Bordering, Boundaries of Exclusion: Canadian Perspectives on Illegality, Invisibility and Precarious Legal Status.” *Canadian Sociological Association conference*. **Session co-organizer and co-chair** with Paloma Villegas, University of Toronto.
- “Bound to Protect? Perspectives on State Responsibility in addressing Gendered Violence and Protecting Women’s Human Rights.” *Canadian Sociological Association conference*. **Session co-organizer and co-chair** with Paulina García-Del Moral, University of Toronto.
- “Acts of Bordering, Boundaries of Exclusion: Canadian Perspectives on Illegality, Invisibility and Precarious Legal Status.” **Discussant**. *Canadian Sociological Association conference*, May 24.
- 2013 “Dis-Organizing Powers: Perspectives on State Responsibility in addressing Gendered Violence and protecting Women’s Human Rights.” *Social Sciences and History Association conference*. **Session co-organizer** with Paulina García-Del Moral, University of Toronto.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 – 2019 **Status of Women Canada project on Gender-Based Violence Against Non-Status, Refugee and Immigrant Women**
Project Lead: Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)
Wrote the grant proposal that was awarded \$1M over 5 years. Lead the proposal development process including: conducting stakeholder consultations with service providers and civil society leaders across five regions in Canada, coordinating and liaising with five project partners.
- 2015 – 2016 **SSHRC-funded project on Precarious Immigration Status**
Project Investigators: Rupaleem Bhuyan and Anna C. Korteweg, University of Toronto
Conducted qualitative interviews, participated in data analysis.
- 2011 – 2016 **Book Manuscripts: Copy Editing for Publication**
Maghbouleh, Neda. *The Limits of Whiteness*. Stanford University Press, forthcoming.
Korteweg, Anna and Gökçe Yurdakul. *The Headscarf Debates: Conflicts of National Belonging*. University of Toronto Press, 2013.
Korteweg, Anna and Jennifer Shelby, eds. *Debating Sharia: Islam, Gender Politics, and Family Law Arbitration*. Stanford University Press, 2012.
- 2014 **CIC-funded project on Citizenship Integration**
Project Investigator: Anna C. Korteweg, University of Toronto
Researched secondary data; co-wrote content for literature review.
- 2011 – 2012 **CERIS-funded project on Violence Against Women**
Project Co-Investigators: Anna C. Korteweg, University of Toronto and
Lisa Barnoff, Ryerson University, Community Partner: Deepa Mattoo, South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario
Conducted qualitative interviews; analyzed data; drafted content for publications, presentations, and funding grant application.

GRADUATE TEACHING

Course Instructor (Principal) Race and Migration: Power, Place & Politics

Carleton University, Department of Sociology & Anthropology

Fall 2018

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

2013 – 2016 **Course Instructor (Principal), University of Toronto, Sociology, Tri-Campus**

Qualitative Analysis

Sessions: Winter 2013, Summer 2013, Winter 2015, Winter 2016

Course Evaluations: 4.75 average on a 5-point scale

Race and Ethnicity

Session: Winter 2016

Course Evaluation: 4.5 on a 5-point scale

Sociology of Race, Class, Gender

Sessions: Summer 2015, Fall 2014, Summer 2014

Course Evaluations: 4.5 average on a 5-point scale

Gender, Politics and Society

Session: Summer 2015

Course Evaluation: 4.9 on a 5-point scale

SPECIALIZED TEACHER TRAINING & CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

2015 – 2016 **TA Trainer for Social Sciences**

University of Toronto, Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation

Designed and delivered pedagogical workshops and provided 1:1 support for Teaching Assistants and Course Instructors across the social sciences.

2014 – 2015 **Curriculum Design Consultant**

University of Toronto, Department of Sociology – Scarborough Campus

Supported departmental implementation of tutorials across all 2nd-year courses: conducted needs assessments, designed tutorials, delivered TA training, performed program evaluation, and presented program at faculty meeting.

2013 – 2015 **Lead TA for all Writing Intensive courses**

University of Toronto, Women & Gender Studies Institute and Faculty of Arts & Science Writing Program

Produced curriculum snapshot for departmental planning, supported faculty with course and assignment design, delivered TA training, co-designed tutorial lesson plans and materials, and made presentations at faculty meetings.

2014 **TA Trainer**

University of Toronto, Department of Sociology, Tri-Campus

Recruited by the Department to design and deliver TA training for all three campuses on tutorial design and delivery. Collaborated with University-wide TA trainers to implement the training.

2011 – 2012 **Lead TA for all Writing Intensive courses**

University of Toronto, Department of Sociology and Arts & Science Writing Program

SPECIALIZED WORKSHOPS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

2016

“De-Mystifying the Dissertation” 3-hour peer-led workshop on dissertation writing, co-developed and co-facilitated with Cristian Rangel for the Sociology Department, University of Toronto. November 15.

- 2015 “Effective Documentation for Writing Instruction” pedagogical presentation for the Faculty of Arts & Science, Lead Writing TA training week, University of Toronto, June 10.
- “Writing Techniques for Graduate Students” for the Women & Gender Studies Institute, Major Research Paper workshop, Alissa Trotz, University of Toronto, April 21.

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

2008 – 2016

Classical Sociology I & II	Race, Class, Gender
Ethnicity & Immigration	Social Inequality
International Migration	Sociology of the Family
Introduction to Sociology	Sociology of Gender
Logic of Social Inquiry	Women and Work
Qualitative Analysis I	Women, Justice & the Media

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

- 2019 – Present **Assistant Editor**, Citizenship Studies
- 2017 – Present **Co-Chair, Gender & Sexuality Research Cluster**, Canadian Sociological Association
- 2017 – 2019 **Manuscript Reviewer**: Citizenship Studies; Gender & Society; International Labour Review (ILR) Journal; Refuge: Canada’s Journal on Refugees
- 2017 **Award Committee Member**, American Sociological Association, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities
- 2015 – 2016 **Communications Officer**, Graduate Sociology Students Association (GSSA)
- 2013 – 2015 **Graduate Student Training & Recruitment**, University of Toronto
Invited by department to deliver presentations to graduate students on Navigating the PhD program (2013, 2014, 2015) and Publishing Research (2015).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association
Canadian Sociological Association
Migration and Diaspora Studies Initiative, Carleton University
Researchers and Academics of Colour for Equity (RACE) Network, Canada
Social Sciences and History Association
Sociologists for Women in Society
Women’s and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes (WGSRF) Association

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

- 2012 – Present **Organizing Member**, Rights of Non-Status Women’s Network (RNSWN)
- 2018 **Community-Based Research and Education Consultant**, Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)
Working as part of a team to launch an on-line legal training course for service providers on race, gender and the rights of non-status women.
- 2017 – 2018 **Community Advisory Member**, Law Foundation of Ontario, Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship on Race, Gender, and Immigration Status. Principal Investigator: Deepa Mattoo, LL.B., M.B.A.
- 2013 – 2014 **Community-Based Research Consultant**, Outburst! Project for young Muslim women, Barbra Schlifer Clinic
- 2011 – 2013 **Member**, Network of Agencies Against Forced Marriage (NAAFAM), South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario (SALCO)

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2012 – Present **Academic Editor and Grant Writer**, Freelance, Toronto
- 2004 – 2009 **Management Consultant**, York University
Held progressive positions with the Faculty of Health, Faculty of Environmental Studies, and the York University Career Centre.
Developed co-curricular and experiential education programs; provided management coaching and strategic organizational support; supervised and motivated teams.
- 2000 – 2004 **HR Consultant**, Goodwill Industries (NGO)
Developed and delivered transitional employment programs for unemployed and under-employed participants from marginalized communities.

REFERENCES

Daiva Stasiulis (post-doctoral research supervisor)
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Patricia Landolt (dissertation committee member)
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Judith Taylor (dissertation committee member)
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology and Women & Gender Studies Institute
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