

Priscilla A. Ocen

Loyola Law School ♦ 919 Albany Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015 ♦ priscilla.ocen@lls.edu ♦ (213) 736-1186

EDUCATION

UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, CA

Juris Doctor with a Concentration in Critical Race Studies, May 2007

Co-Editor-in-Chief, UCLA National Black Law Journal

San Diego State University, San Diego, CA

Bachelor of Arts in Africana Studies and Political Science, May 2003

Honors: Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Professor of Law, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, CA

2012-present

Courses taught: Criminal Law; Race, Gender, and the Law; Critical Race Theory; Family Law; and Race and Law Colloquium

Visiting Professor of Law, University of California, Irvine School of Law, Irvine, CA

Spring 2021

Courses taught: Statutory Analysis

Critical Race Studies Law Teaching Fellow, UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, CA

2010-2012

Courses taught: Seminar on Race, Gender, and Mass Incarceration; and Critical Race Theory

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Special Assistant Attorney General, California Department of Justice, Los Angeles, CA
2023

January 2022-July

Served as a senior advisor to California Attorney General Rob Bonta on criminal justice reform policy, including legislation, legal positions on matters before the California Court of Appeals and the California Supreme Court. Led engagement efforts with external stakeholders. Co-led the development of the first-ever statewide conviction review unit and the California Reentry Roundtable. Provided training for lawyers in Criminal Division regarding racial bias and the scope of the Racial Justice Reform Act.

Thurgood Marshall Fellow, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, San Francisco, CA

2008-2010

Spearheaded the development of a reentry project designed to meet the needs of formerly incarcerated Black women through policy advocacy, direct services, community education and impact litigation. Served on legal team representing class of Black Section 8 voucher holders in Antioch, California. Drafted declarations, second chaired client and witness depositions, reviewed documents, assisted in development of motion practice, acted as client liaison. Member of legal team representing intervenors in defending race-conscious contracting goals in the state of California. Investigated potential violations of the California Voting Rights Act on behalf of Latino/a voters in the Central Valley.

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

Law Clerk, The Honorable Eric L. Clay, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Detroit, MI *2007-2008*

FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

Fulbright Research and Teaching Fellow, Makerere University School of Law, Kampala, Uganda

2019-2020

Writing for Justice Fellow, PEN America Literary Foundation

2018-2019

PUBLICATIONS

Priscilla A. Ocen, *Imprisoning Family Law* forthcoming in CENTERING FAMILIES OF COLOR: IDENTIFYING SYSTEMIC INEQUALITIES AND SOCIAL CHANGE LEADERSHIP (ROBIN LENHARDT AND NANCY DOWD, EDS 2024).

Report of the International Commission of Inquiry on Systemic Police Violence Against People of African Descent in the United States (co-authored with Horace Campbell, Marjorie Cohen, and Rita Julien 2021).

Wyman v. James Rewritten, REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE REWRITTEN (Kimberly Mucherson, ed. 2020).

The Story of Ferguson v. City of Charleston in REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS AND JUSTICE STORIES (Melissa Murray, Reva Siegel and Kate Shaw eds. 2019)

Incapacitating Motherhood, 51 U.C. DAVIS L. REV. 2191 (2018).

Birthng Injustice: Pregnancy as a Status Offense, 85 GEO. WASH. L. REV. 1163 (2017)

Beyond Ferguson: Integrating the Social Psychology of Criminal Procedure and Critical Race Theory to Understand the Persistence of Police Violence, in A THEORY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE: LAW AND SOCIOLOGY IN CONVERSATION (Sharon Dolovich and Alexandra Natapoff eds., 2017)

(E)racing Childhood: Examining the Racialized Construction of "Childhood" and "Innocence" in the Treatment of Sexually Exploited Minors, 62 UCLA L. REV. 1586 (2015)

Beyond Shackling: Prisons, Pregnancy and the Struggle for Birth Justice (co-authored with J. Chinyere Oparah), in BIRTHING JUSTICE: BLACK WOMEN, PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH (J. Chinyere Oparah, Alicia Bonaparte and Shanelle Matthews eds. 2015)

Black Girls Matter: Overpoliced and Underprotected (co-written with Kimberlé Crenshaw and Jyoti Nanda 2015)

Unshackling Intersectionality, 10 DU BOIS REVIEW 471 (2013)

The New Racially Restrictive Covenant: Race, Welfare and the Policing of Black Women in Public Housing, 59 UCLA L. REV. 1540 (2012).

Punishing Pregnancy: Race, Incarceration and the Shackling of Pregnant Prisoners, 100 CAL. L. REV. 1239 (2012).

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS

Care Not Cages: A Reproductive Justice Perspective on Policing, Prisons, and Abolition (draft book proposal)

Policing Abortion: Abortion, Criminalization, and Abolition as a New Path Forward

Resisting Police Reform

At Home and Under Siege: Black Women, the Home and Criminal Law (co-authored with Devon Carbado)

Under Control: Women and the Expansion of Community Supervision

MEDIA/OP-EDS

White Supremacy is a Feature, Not a Bug, of American Policing, Just Security, Mar. 23, 2021

Black Women Like Breonna Taylor are Not Safer at Home, Equilibrium Online Magazine, Sept. 21, 2020

Awakening to a Mass Supervision Crisis, THE ATLANTIC, Dec. 27, 2019

Who Will Police the Police?, LOS ANGELES DAILY JOURNAL, Sept. 22, 2014

Marissa Alexander and the Overpolicing and Underprotection of Black Women, EBONY MAG., Mar. 24, 2104 (with Kimberlé Crenshaw)

Whose Version of Diversity Did the Oscars Celebrate?, AL JAZEERA ENGLISH, Mar. 5, 2014 (with Khaled Beydoun)

Baltimore and the Emergence of a Black Spring, AL JAZEERA ENGLISH, May 20, 2015 (with Khaled Beydoun)

Why We Must Do More than Repeal Stand Your Ground Laws, AL JAZEERA ENGLISH, Aug. 3, 2013 (with Addie Rolnick)

Paula Deen and the US's Subservience Fantasy, AL JAZEERA ENGLISH, Jul. 1, 2013

Taking Affirmative Action Off of the Table, AL JAZEERA ENGLISH, Mar. 30, 2013 (with Khaled Beydoun)

Interviewed on matters related to race, gender and criminal law by several media outlets including *the Intercept*, *the Washington Post*, *KPCC*, *Time Magazine*, *the Los Angeles Times*, and *the Huffington Post Live*.

SERVICE

Co-Director, Loyola Anti-Racism Center 2021-present

Member, California Committee on the Revision of the Penal Code 2022-present

Board member, Center for Constitutional Rights 2022-2023

Rapporteur, International Commission of Inquiry on Systemic Police Violence Against People of African Descent in the United States (co-convened by the National Lawyers' Guild, National Council of Black Lawyers and other NGOs)

Member, Los Angeles County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission 2017-2022

Member, Board of Directors, John M. Lloyd Foundation 2018-2022

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Panelist, **The Future of the Criminal Legal System**, Pepperdine Law Review Annual Symposium, Pepperdine Law School, Malibu, CA, March 29, 2024

Panelist, **Youth, Race, and Wrongful Convictions**, Innocence Network Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, March 22, 2024

Panelist, **The Criminalization of Care**, Utah Law Review Symposium, November 23, 2023

Featured Presenter, **Mass Incarceration and the Incapacitation of Motherhood: Reproductive Justice and Prison Abolition as Ways Forward**, November Rapport Center for Human Rights Speaker Series, University of Texas, Austin School of Law, November 17, 2023

Panelist, **Reckoning and Reconciliation: Art, Architecture, and Culture in Contested Sites and Bodies**, A Symposium co-sponsored by the University of Connecticut Law School and the Center for Biotechnology and Global Health Policy at the University of California, Irvine School of Law, February 19, 2021

Panelist, **Racial Health Disparities: Police Violence as an Underlying Health Condition**, University of California, Hastings, School of Law, January, 13, 2021

Presenter, **Intersectionality & the Policing of Black Bodies in the United States**, AmeriCorps National Training, September 23, 2020

Panelist, **Policing in America**, Harvard Law School, September 18, 2020

Panelist, **Reflections on Economic and Racial Justice**, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, September 8, 2020

Panelist, **Reporting and Supporting Survivors of Gender-based Violence**, U.S. Embassy, Kampala, Uganda, December 3, 2019

Panelist, **A Question of Justice**, PEN America World Voices Festival, May 2019, New York, New York.

Panelist, **Doing Justice: Race, Reform and New Strategies for Criminal Law**, UNLV School of Law, April 2019

Panelist, **Moderator/Respondent, Intersectionality and the Law**, International Intersectionalities Conference, USC, March 2019

Participant, **Prison Law Project Workshop**, UCLA School of Law, February 2019

Panelist, **Divesting From State Violence: Decriminalizing the Social Safety Net**, Sparer Symposium, University of Pennsylvania, February 2019

Moderator, **New Directions in Prison Law Advocacy, Prisoners' Rights Advocates Conference**, University of Denver School of Law, November 2018

Critical Race Studies/Williams Institute Lecture, **Incapacitating Motherhood**, UCLA School of Law, October 2018.

Panelist, **Policing in the United States**, Western People of Color Conference, UNLV School of Law, October 2018

Panelist, **Race and Childhood**, Law and Society Annual Conference, June 2018

Incapacitating Motherhood, **Faculty Workshop at University of Hawaii School of Law**, May 2018

Panelist, **Symposium on Women, Law and Technology**, UC Irvine School of Law, April 2018

Incapacitating Motherhood, **Faculty Workshop at the University of Miami School of Law**, March 2018

Moderator, **Criminal Justice in the Trump Era**, National Black Law Journal Symposium, March 2018

Incapacitating Motherhood, **Faculty Workshop at Seattle University School of Law**, January 2018

Incapacitating Motherhood, **Workshop on Intersectionality and Capitalism**, UC San Diego Black Studies Department, January 2018.

Invited panelist, **Behind Bars: Ethics and Human Rights in US Prisons** (co-sponsored by the Harvard Medical School Center for Bioethics and the Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School), December 2017

Invited Participant, **Reproductive Rights and Justice Stories Workshop**, Yale Law School, December 2017

Panelist, **Charlottesville and Beyond**, UCLA School of Law, September 2017

Participant, **Criminal Justice Junior Scholar Workshop**, Brooklyn Law School, July 2017

Participant, **Workshop for the 20th Anniversary Issue of the Journal of Punishment and Society**, University of California, Irvine, April 2017

Panelist, **The Changing Face of the War on Drugs: A Symposium**, Wayne State University School of Law, March 2017

Participant, **Workshop on the Law, Practice and Policy of Incarceration**, University of Michigan Law School, March 2017

Panelist, **Damaging Minds and Bodies: A Symposium on Trauma, Violence and the Criminal Justice System**, UCLA Law Review Symposium, UCLA School of Law February 2017

Panelist, **The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society: Fifty Years Later**, Association of American Law Schools Annual Conference, Criminal Justice Section Plenary Panel, January 2017

Participant, **Junior Faculty Works-In-Progress Conference**, Marquette University School of Law, September 2016

Keynote, **Evolution of a Movement: Jenesse Domestic Violence Center Inaugural Symposium and Fundraiser**, September 2016

Moderator, **Pushout: A Discussion about the Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools**, The California Endowment, June 2016

Moderator, **Trauma Informed Lawyering and Social Change**, Law and Society, June 2016

Panelist, **Deconstructing the Carceral/Police State**, Law and Society, June 2016

Panelist, **Birthing Injustice, From Macro to Micro: Experiences of Punishment and Theorizing Penalty, Penal Boundaries Workshop**, University of Toronto, April 14-15, 2016

Panelist, **Incapacitating Motherhood, Race, Gender and Intersectionality**, Yale Critical Race Theory Conference, April 9, 2016

Panelist, **Incapacitating Motherhood, Black Women Matter: Black Women's Bodies and Sites of Mass Surveillance, The Present and Future of Civil Rights Movements: Race and Reform in 21st Century America**, Duke Law School, Nov., 2015

Panelist, **Reproductive Rights of Incarcerated Women, Locked Out and Silenced: Reclaiming Women's Reproductive and Healthcare Rights**, National Press Club, Washington, D.C., November 2015

Panelist, **Black Girls Matter**, Carter G. Woodson Institute for African American and African Studies, University of Virginia, November 2015

Panelist, **Next Generation Issues of Sex, Gender, and Law**, American Association of Law Schools Workshop on Next Generation Issues on Gender and Sexuality, June 2015

Panelist, Reframing the Welfare Queen: Feminist and CRT Alternatives to Existing Poverty Discourse, **USC School of Law, April 2015**

Plenary Panelist, **Historical, Social & Legal Dimensions of Exploitation, Prostitution & Slavery**, UCLA Law Review Symposium on the Roots of Human Trafficking, January 2015

Invited Expert, **Hearing before the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Racial Profiling in the United States**, UCLA School of Law, November 2014

Workshop Participant, **Reproductive Profiling of Women of Color**, Culp Junior Faculty Colloquium on Race and the Law, Duke University, May 2014

Panelist, **Looking Ahead**, Religious Accommodation in the Age of Civil Rights, Harvard Law School, April 2014

Presenter, **Reproductive Profiling of Women of Color**, Faculty Workshop, Ohio State University School of Law, April 2014

Panelist, **Critical Analyses of Race, Crime, and Intersectional Identities**, The Interplay of Race, Gender, Class, Crime and Justice Conference, UC Irvine School of Law, April 2014

Panelist, **Prisoners Access to Medical Care**, Symposium on Prisoners Access to Justice, UC Irvine School of Law, February 2014

Panelist, **The Coming Decarceration**, AALS Criminal Law Section Plenary Panel, New York, NY, January 2014

Panelist, **Racial Profiling and the New Security State**, LatCrit, Chicago, IL, October 2013

Keynote, **Clyde Woods Memorial Lecture** at the University of California, Santa Barbara, May 6, 2013

Participant, **Theorizing the Modern Criminal Law**, New York University Law School, New York, NY, April 2013

Presenter, Interest Convergence in Mass Incarceration, **Critical Race Studies 10th Anniversary Symposium**, UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, CA, March 2013

Moderator and Presenter, Critical Race Theory in the Community, Critical Race Theory Conference, Yale Law School, New Haven, CT, February 2013

Presenter, Reproductive Profiling, Equality/Liberty Conference sponsored by the Williams Institute and the American Constitution Society, UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, CA, January 2013

Moderator, Opening Plenary, Social Justice Feminism Conference, University of Cincinnati School of Law, Cincinnati, OH, October 2012

Discussant, Panel on Racialized and Gendered Punishment and Reentry, American Sociological Association, August 18, 2012

Panelist, The New Racially Restrictive Covenant, Intersecting Relations of Domination, University of Paris, June 2011

Panelist, African American Girls and the Intersection of Race, Gender, Class, Age and Place, African-American Girls and the Criminal Justice System: A Call to Action, Thelton Henderson Center for Social Justice at UC Berkeley School of Law, April 2011

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

Admitted to practice law in the state of California.