

**EMPLOYMENT:**

Assistant Professor, International Peace and Conflict Resolution, School of International Service,  
American University, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington DC 20016

**EDUCATION:**

Ph.D., University of California Berkeley, Social and Cultural Studies in Education 2005  
*Dissertation:* “Conflicted Childhoods: Fighting Over Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone”  
*Committee:* Professors Jean Lave (chair), Gillian Hart, and Carol Stack

M.A., University of California Berkeley, Mathematics. 1992

B.A. (honors), University of California Santa Cruz, Mathematics. 1987

**AWARDS AND HONORS:**

- Winner (with Sharyn Routh), Jackie Kirk Commemorative Competition 2009  
2009, Interagency Network for Education in Emergencies
- American University Faculty Research Support Award 2007
- Outstanding Dissertation in Comparative Education – Gail P. Kelly Award 2006  
from the Comparative and International Education Society.
- Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation dissertation year fellowship. 2004
- Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation dissertation fellowship. 2003,  
2004
- American Association of University Women, American Dissertation  
Fellowship. 2003
- Rocca Memorial Fellowship for doctoral research in African Studies, 1999,  
University of California Berkeley, Center for African Studies. 2000
- Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grant for study of Mende (a  
Sierra Leonean language.) 1996

**PUBLICATIONS:**

**Book Manuscripts in Preparation:**

*Childhood Deployed: remaking child soldiers in Sierra Leone.*

**Refereed Journal Articles:**

“Effects in post-conflict West Africa of teacher training for refugee women” co-authored with  
Sharyn Routh. Under review at *Gender and Education*.

“The Real and Symbolic Importance of Food in War: Hunger Pains and Big Men’s Bellies in  
Sierra Leone.” Under review at *Africa Today*.

- “Youth Music and Politics in Postwar Sierra Leone.” *Journal of Modern African Studies*. 48(4): 627-642. December 2010.
- “Child labour and youth enterprise: Post-war urban infrastructure and the bearing boys of Freetown.” *Anthropology Today*. 26(6): 19-22. December 2010.
- “The Rites of the Child: Global Discourses of Youth and Reintegrating Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone” *Journal of Human Rights* 4(2): 197-211. June 2005.
- “Les Filles-Soldats: Trajectoires d’après-guerre en Sierra Leone.” *Politique Africaine* 88: 49-62. December 2002.
- “Education as a Site of Political Struggle in Sierra Leone.” *Antropológicas* Vol. 2. 1998.

### **Chapters in Edited Volumes:**

- “The Rites of the Child: Global Discourses of Youth and Reintegrating Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone” reprinted in the volume *Childhoods at the Intersection of the Local and the Global*. Afua Twum-Danso, editor. Palgrave. Expected publication, 2012.
- “‘Helping our children will help in the reconstruction of our country’: Repatriated refugee teachers in post-conflict Sierra Leone and Liberia” in *Education in Conflict: A Tribute to Jackie Kirk*. Karen Mundy and Sarah Dryden-Peterson, Eds. Teachers College Press, in press. Expected publication, August 2011.
- “Transnational Fosterage: The Novel Care Arrangements between Guinean Caregivers and Ivorian and Liberian Children Fleeing War” in *Everyday Ruptures: Children, Youth, and Migration in Global Perspective*. Cati Coe, Rachel Reynolds, Deborah Boehm, Julia Hess, and Heather Rae-Espinoza, Eds. Vanderbilt University Press. 2011.
- “Are child soldiers in Sierra Leone a new phenomenon?” in *The Powerful Presence of the Past: Integration and Conflict along the Upper Guinea Coast*. Jacqueline Knörr and Wilson Trajano Filho, Eds. Brill Publishers: Leiden, the Netherlands. 2010.
- “Post-war trajectories for girls associated with the fighting forces in Sierra Leone” *Gender, War, and Militarism*. Laura Sjoberg and Sandra Via, Eds. Praeger Security International Series: Santa Barbara. 2010.
- “Shifting priorities in child protection in Sierra Leone since Lomé” in *Sierra Leone Beyond Lomé: Challenges and Possibilities for a Post-War Nation*, Marda Mustapha and Joseph Bangura, Eds. Palgrave. 2010.
- “Documenting Human Rights Abuses among the Diaspora: Lessons Learned from the Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Commission.” (co-authored with Patricia Minikon). In *Human Rights after the Cold War: Assessing Challenges and Opportunities*. Noha Shawki and Michaelene Cox, editors. Ashgate Publishers. 2009.
- “Youth and Conflict” in *Peace, Justice, and Security Studies: A Curriculum Guide (Seventh Edition)*. Timothy A. McElwee, B. Welling Hall, Joseph Liechty, and Julie Garber, editors. Lynne Rienner Publishers: Boulder, CO. 2009.
- “Globalizing Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone” in *Youthscapes: The Popular, The National, The Global*. Sunaina Maira and Elisabeth Soep, Eds. University of Pennsylvania Press. December 2004.
- “Educated in War: The Rehabilitation of Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone” in *Conflict Resolution and Peace Education in Africa*. Ernest E. Uwazie, Ed. Lexington Books. August 2003.

### **Monographs:**

- Sourcebook on International Agreements Related to Youth*. Open Society Institute, Youth Initiative. New York. Expected Publication, August 2011.

*Does Teacher Training for Refugees Contribute to Post-conflict Reconstruction of Educational Systems? Evidence from West Africa.* The International Rescue Committee, LEGACY Initiative. New York. July 2010.

*Effects of teacher training for refugee women in West Africa: Fostering agents of change in schools and society?* Co-authored with Sharyn Routh. Winner of the Jackie Kirk Commemorative Competition 2009, sponsored by Interagency Network on Education and Emergencies

*Evaluation of Search for Common Ground Programming in Liberia.* Search for Common Ground. Washington D.C. December 2006.

*Transnational Fosterage of War-affected Children in West Africa: Immediate Coping Capacities Across Borders.* UNICEF, West and Central Africa Region. Dakar, Senegal. January 2006.

*Evaluation of Talking Drum Studio – Sierra Leone.* (co-authored with Amr Abdalla and Suleiman Hussein). Search for Common Ground. Washington D.C. March 2002.

### **Book Reviews:**

Book Review of *Religion, Violence, Memory, and Place*. Oren Baruch Stier and J. Shawn Landres, eds. Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 2006 in *Journal of Religion, Conflict, and Peace*, 1(1). (2007).

Book Review of *Armies of the Young: Child Soldiers in War and Terrorism* by David M. Rosen. (2005). Rutgers University Press. In *Children, Youth and Environments*, 17(3). (2007).

Book Review of *Desire and Decline: Schooling amid Crisis in Tanzania*. By Frances Vavrus, Peter Lang Publishing (2003). In *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*, 35(3). (2004).

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

“Child Protection Expertise as a Traveling Model” to be presented at “Translations of travelling legal, organisational, and technological models in African contexts” part of the international collaborative research project “Travelling Models in Conflict Management.” Dakar, Senegal. December 2011

“The real and symbolic importance of food in the Sierra Leone war and its aftermath” to be presented at *Food in Zones of Conflict*, conference of The International Commission on the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition. Leiden, The Netherlands. August 2011.

“Repatriated refugee teachers in post-conflict Sierra Leone and Liberia” part of a panel honoring Jackie Kirk, at the Comparative and International Education Society meetings. Montreal, Canada. May 2011.

“Sierra Leone, child soldiers, and global flows of child protection expertise” presented at *The Upper Guinea Coast in Transnational Perspective*, sponsored by the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology. Halle, Germany, December 2010.

“Hunger Pains and Big Men’s Bellies: the real and symbolic importance of food in war” African Studies Association Meetings, San Francisco, CA. November 2010.

“Guinea Tracer Study report.” *Washington DC Area Comparative and International Education Researcher Colloquium*. AED, Washington D.C. July 2, 2010.

“Effects of teacher training for refugee women in West Africa: Fostering agents of change in schools and society.” *Engendering Empowerment: Education and Equality (E4)* Conference, Sponsored by UN Girls’ Education Initiative. Dakar, Senegal. 17 May 2010.

“What can ethnography about war-affected children tell us that randomized evaluations cannot?” at the American Anthropological Association Childhood Interest Group (AAACIG) joint

- meeting with The Society for Anthropological Sciences (SASci) and The Society for Cross-Cultural Research (SCCR), Albuquerque, New Mexico. February 19, 2010.
- “Teacher training for refugees in Guinea and reconstruction of national education systems in Liberia and Sierra Leone” at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, New Orleans. November 21, 2009.
- “Innovations in Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration programs for children and youth.” In *Falling Through the Cracks: Engaging Youth in Conflict Zones*. Panel Discussion sponsored by American University Peacebuilding and Development Institute. October 14, 2009.
- “Social Reproduction in Post-war Sierra Leone” in a panel (co-organized with Dr. Raymond June) entitled “Theory in Practice: Reflecting on the Transdisciplinary and Transnational Impact of the Work of Jean Lave.” American Anthropological Association meetings, San Francisco, California. November 21, 2008.
- “The Anthropology of Childhood and Comparing Local Contexts” at a Research Seminar on Root Causes of Child Soldiering, hosted by Radhika Coomaraswamy, UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children Affected by Armed Conflict. UN Headquarters, New York City. November 10, 2008.
- “Youth, Conflict, and Peacebuilding.” Co-presented with Mark Hamilton, at the *Washington Network on Children and Armed Conflict* meeting. September 26, 2008.
- “Trends in Understanding Child Soldiers in Local Contexts.” *Policy Forum on Children and Armed Conflict: Child Soldiers as Combatants, Victims, and Survivors*. A public event jointly sponsored by the United States Institute of Peace and the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor. Washington DC. September 17, 2008.
- “Law and Human Rights.” Workshop Facilitator at *Sierra Leone Youth Empowerment Conference*. Washington DC, September 13, 2008
- “‘Now di Pa de Pack for Go’: Young Sierra Leoneans’ Musical Interventions in Post-War Politics” at the conference entitled “Shake, Rattle: Music, Conflict, and Change” April 10-13, 2008 at the Experience Music Project, Seattle, Washington.
- “Child Fosterage and Well-Being in Sierra Leone: A Research Proposal on Foster Care Practices and Potential for Change.” Co-presented with Dr. Lacey Gale, Tufts University at Wenner Gren sponsored Workshop on Childhood and Migration, New York, January 3-5, 2008.
- “Youth In Post-Conflict Societies: What Are Their Situations And Needs?” at the conference “Healing the War: Psychosocial Experiences and Perspectives,” sponsored by The Psychosocial and Cultural Integration Unit of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva, 10-12 December 2007.
- “Sierra Leone’s Adult Intermediaries in the Production and Circulation of Child Soldier Narratives,” at the panel “Modern Reformers and the Politics of ‘Doing Good,’” American Anthropological Association Meetings, Washington, D.C., November 2007.
- “Post-War Trajectories for Girls Associated with the Fighting Forces in Sierra Leone” presented at the conference entitled “Gender, War, and Militarism” at University of Pennsylvania, October 2007.
- “In the Care of Strangers? Migrant and Refugee Children and Adult Caregivers.” At Drexel University, Philadelphia. Sponsored by International and Area Studies and the Working Group on Childhood and Migration. April 24, 2007.

- “Transnational Fosterage of War Affected Children in West Africa” at the American Anthropological Association meetings in San Jose on November 16, 2006 and at the African Studies Association meetings in San Francisco on November 17, 2006.
- “Continuity and change in intergenerational relations and conflict in Sierra Leone, from the pre-colonial era to the present” presented at “The Powerful Presence of the Past: Historical Dimensions of Integration and Conflict in the Upper Guinea Coast” sponsored by the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle Germany. 19-21 October 2006.
- “Can the Child Soldier Speak?” presented at “Humanitarian Responses to Narratives of Inflicted Suffering” sponsored by the Human Rights Institute at the University of Connecticut. October 13-15, 2006.
- “Children in school, children at war: education and recruitment of child soldiers in West Africa” presented at the conference “Building Knowledge About Children in Armed Conflict” sponsored by the Child Soldiers Initiative of the Ford Institute for Human Security at the University of Pittsburgh and the International Peace Research Institute of Oslo (PRIO). Pittsburgh, PA. September 15-16, 2006
- “‘War Boys,’ Youngmen, and Child Soldiers: Patterns of Children’s Participation in Armed Conflict in Sierra Leone, 1860- present” presented at the Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis’ Spring Conference, “Children and War.” April 7-9, 2005.
- “Formal and Non-Formal Education in the Rehabilitation of Former Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone: A Dichotomy Resolved in Practice” presented at the Comparative and International Education Society 2005 Conference “Beyond Dichotomies” at Stanford University, March 24.
- “Made Bulletproof by Magic, Armed with an AK: The Politics of Traditional Warriors and Modern Warfare in Sierra Leone” presented at the 2004 American Anthropological Association meetings in Atlanta, GA. December 15, 2004.
- “The Social and Cultural Context of Child Soldiering in Sierra Leone” presented at a Workshop on Techniques of Violence in Civil War, Centre for the Study of Civil War, International Peace Research Institute in Oslo, Norway. August 20, 2004.
- “The Rites of the Child: Global Discourses of Youth and Reintegrating Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone” presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings, Chicago, IL. November 20, 2003.
- “Child Soldiers and the Ambivalent Effectiveness of Discourses of Abdicated Responsibility in Sierra Leone” presented at the African Studies Association meetings. Boston, MA. October 30, 2003.
- “Combatants into Innocents: Remaking Child Soldiers” presented at the Ethnography in Education Forum at the University of Pennsylvania. February 28, 2003.
- “Forgiving Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone.” The Townsend Center for the Humanities Working Group on Reconstructing Communities in Crisis. September, 2002.
- “Globalizing Child Soldiers.” Rethinking Globalization from an African Perspective, Joint Berkeley-Stanford Center for Africa Studies Annual Spring Conference. April 27, 2002
- “Post-war trajectories for girls associated with the fighting forces in Sierra Leone.” Conference : “Boundaries in Question – Women and War.” Berkeley, California. April 5, 2002.
- Participant in “Endangered Childhoods,” an interdisciplinary workshop on violence and childhood in Africa, sponsored by the Center for African Studies at U.C. Berkeley. December 2001.
- “Educated in War: The Rehabilitation of Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone.” *Conflict Resolution & Peace Education in Africa: Lessons and Opportunities* sponsored by the Center for

African Peace and Conflict Resolution at California State University at Sacramento. May 1, 1999.

“Education and War: The Rehabilitation of Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone.” Brown-bag talk for the Anthropology of Childhood Working Group at U.C. Berkeley. March 9, 1999.

“The Circulation of Representations of the Educated African.” Berkeley Stanford Joint Center for African Studies Conference, South Africa in Comparative Perspective. Spring 1998.

“Bo School in Sierra Leone: a Site for Political Struggles over Futures.” American Anthropological Association Meetings in San Francisco, California. Fall 1996.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

- *Assistant Professor* for Masters level students at American University. 2006-present.  
Courses taught: Theories of Conflict, Violence and War; Youth and Conflict; Conflict in Africa; Qualitative Research Methods in Peace and Conflict Resolution; Peace Paradigms
- Received American University Curriculum Development Award (with Rachel Robinson) for review of School of International Service Masters level methods instruction. 2009.
- *Lecturer*, Milton Margai College of Education, Sierra Leone. 2000-2001.
- *Graduate Student Instructor*, U.C. Berkeley, 1990-1998.
  - Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor award, 1998.
- *Peace Corps Volunteer*, Secondary School math teacher, Sierra Leone, West Africa. 1987-1989.

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

American Anthropological Association  
African Studies Association  
Comparative and International Education Society

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:**

*Co-chair and co-founder,*

Anthropology of Childhood Interest Group of the American Anthropological Association.

*Book Reviewer*

Anthropology and Education Quarterly  
Children Youth and Environments  
Journal of Religion, Conflict, and Peace

*Peer Reviewer (journal articles):*

Journal of Peace Research  
Peace and Change  
African Studies Review  
Ethnos  
Childhood  
Feminist Studies  
International Studies Perspectives  
Ethics and International Affairs  
Journal of Peacebuilding and Development

*Peer Reviewer (book manuscripts):*

Berghahn Books

Guilford Press

*Board member*

Youth Advocate Program International, Washington D.C. (Senior Advisor)  
Washington Network on Children and Armed Conflict (Advisory Board member)  
Interdisciplinary Genocide Studies Center, Kigali, Rwanda  
Sierra Leone Book Trust, Freetown, Sierra Leone

*Panel Member*

American Association of University Women (AAUW) International Fellowships (2008, 2010)  
US Department of Labor; International Labor Affairs Bureau; Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking (reviewed proposals for programs to remove children from the worst forms of child labor and place them into schools) (2008)

*Reviewer*

BEFORE Conflict & Peace Monitoring project, West Africa expert (2010)  
Economic and Social Research Council, research proposal peer reviewer (2010)  
Global Integrity. Sierra Leone and Liberia Integrity Indicators Scorecard (2007, 2009)  
US Institute of Peace. Reviewed final report of grant recipient. (2008).  
Small Arms Survey. Reviewed chapter of Small Arms Report on children and youth. (2008).

*At American University:*

Member, Academic Technology Steering Committee, 2010-present  
Unit Representative, Institutional Review Board for Protection of Human Subjects, School of International Service, Summer 2009  
Member, International Development Program Hiring Committee, 2007  
Member, School of International Service Graduate Studies Committee, 2007-2009  
Co-Chair, Africa Council, 2006-2007