

TALIA SHIFF

taliashiff@tauex.tau.ac.il

Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

EMPLOYMENT

2021- Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology and Labor Studies, Tel Aviv University

EDUCATION

2004-09 Tel Aviv University, The Adi Lautman Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students, Tel Aviv University, no degree

2007-09 Tel Aviv University, Sociology and Anthropology, M.A., 2009, *magna cum laude*, July 2009. Supervisors: Yehuda Shenhav, Ronen Shamir

2009-11 Northwestern University, IL, USA, Sociology, M.A., 2011

2011-18 Northwestern Prtizker School of Law, J.D., September 2018

2009-18 Northwestern University, Sociology, PhD, September 2018
Title: *Reconfiguring the Deserving Refugee: Moral Boundary Work and Decision-Making in US Asylum Policy*

Master's thesis: *Sex Persecution: Rethinking Refugee Law in the Context of Gender Asylum Claims.*

Supervisors: Ann S. Orloff and John L. Hagan

Doctoral dissertation: *Reconfiguring the Deserving Refugee: Moral Boundary Work and Decision-Making in US Asylum Policy*

Supervisors: Ann Orloff (chair), Bruce Carruthers, Erin Delaney, John Hagan, Laura Beth Nielsen.

FURTHER STUDIES

2018-19 Raphael Morrison Dorman Memorial Postdoctoral Fellow, Weatherhead Scholars Program, Harvard University

2019-2021 Postdoctoral fellow in the Weatherhead Scholars Program, Weatherhead center for International Affairs, Harvard University

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2008-09	Tel Aviv University; Adi Lautman Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students; Co-Editor of the Journal of the Adi Lautman Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students
2011	Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA; Sociology Department; Graduate Affairs Committee.
2012	Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA; Sociology Department; Co-President of Graduate Student Affairs
2013-14	Editorial Board of Northwestern Journal of Law and Social Policy, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law
2018-19	American Sociological Association, USA; Graduate student member of Council of ASA's Section on the Sociology of Law.
2018-19	Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA; Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; Coordinator of the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion.
2018-23	Social Science Historical Association, USA; Crime, Justice and the Law Representative & Panel Organizer.
2019-20	American Sociological Association, USA; Nominations Committee, Theory Section.
2019-20	Lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Harvard University
2021	Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the Department of Labor Studies, Tel Aviv University
2023	American Sociological Association, USA, Culture Section Geertz Prize Committee
2022-25	Editorial Board member of <i>Law & Society Review</i>
2022-25	Co-editor of <i>Israeli Sociology</i>

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

2013	Annual Meeting of the Social Science Historical Association, Chicago, USA, "Feminists in Power: Rethinking the Meanings of Gender Equality After the Second Wave," lecture.
2014	Refugee Protection Outside of the International Legal Framework: Expanding Cross-National and Cross-Disciplinary Collaborations, oral presentation, Evanston, IL, USA, lecture.
2014	Annual Meeting of the Social Science Historical Association, Toronto, Canada, "The Reconstruction of Immigrant Illegality," lecture.

2014	Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, USA, "Taking the Political out of Asylum: A Reconstruction of the "True Asylum Seeker," lecture.
2014	Revisioning Gender Workshop, Stockholm, Sweden, "Feminists in Power: Rethinking Gender Equality After the Second Wave," lecture.
2015	Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Seattle, USA, A Critical History of Deportation Reliefs: Competing Notions of Membership and Illegality, lecture.
2016	Conference for Junior Researchers in Law & Society, Stanford Law School, "Standardizing Persecution in US Asylum Adjudications," lecture.
2016	Conference for Junior Researchers in Law & Society, Stanford Law School, USA, "Standardizing Persecution in US Asylum Adjudications," lecture.
2016	Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association; New Orleans, USA, "Standardizing Individual Narratives of Harm: The Case of US Asylum Status Determinations," lecture.
2016	Law and Society Graduate Student Workshop; Seattle, USA, lecture.
2017	Annual Meeting of the Social Science Historical Association, Montreal, Canada, "Framing the Case: Bureaucratic Efficiency Pressures in the Humanitarian Politicization, Legitimation, and Adjudication of Refugee Claims," lecture.
2018-19	Harvard University, Coordinator of the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion.
2018-19	Graduate student member of Council of ASA's Section on the Sociology of Law
2018	Weatherhead Forum, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, Evaluating the Case: Encounters of Schematic Accordance and Schematic Discordance in US Asylum Adjudications," lecture.
2018	Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, USA, "The Role of Moral Deliberation in the bureaucratic setting of the U.S. Asylum Office," lecture.
2018	Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada, Reconfiguring the Deserving Refugee: Cultural Categories of Worth and the Making of Refugee Policy," lecture.
2018-20	Social Science Historical Association, Crime, Justice and the Law Representative & Panel Organizer
2019	Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York City, USA, "Legal Standards and Moral Worth in Frontline Decision-Making: Evaluations of Victimization in U.S. Asylum Determinations," lecture.
2019	Weatherhead Forum, WCFIA, Harvard University, "Citizenship, Migration, Deportation," lecture.

2019	Michigan Law Junior Scholars Conference, University of Michigan Law School, “Legal Standards and Moral Worth in Frontline DecisionMaking: Evaluations of Victimization in US Asylum Determinations,” lecture.
2019	Harvard University, Co-organizer of Conference “ <i>Law, Inequality and Moral Worth.</i> ”
2019-20	Harvard University, Co-coordinator of the Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion.
2019-20	American Sociological Association, US, Nominations Committee, Theory Section.
2020	Harvard Migration Workshop, Department of Sociology, Harvard University, “A Sociology of Discordance,” lecture.
2020	Harvard Empirical Legal Studies, Harvard Law School, “Legal Standards and Moral Worth in Frontline Decision-Making: Evaluations of Victimization in US Asylum Determinations,” lecture.
2021	Annual Meeting of the Social Science Historical Association, Philadelphia, US, “Moral Bricolage: Negotiating Deservingness, Gender and Law in the Context of Asylum Status Determinations,” lecture.
2022	School of Social Science, Lecture Series: “Celebrating Excellence in Research,” Tel Aviv University “Schemas of Worth and Codified Law in Asylum Status Determinations,” lecture.
2022	Annual Meeting of the Social Science Historical Association, Chicago, US, “Moral Dissonance in Asylum Adjudications,” lecture.
2023	Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, USA, “Moral Decision Making During Legal Crisis: How US Asylum Officers Managed Change in Asylum Policies,” Lecture
2023	Gender, Theory and Power, Princeton University, USA, “Asylum Decision-Making under Trump: Shared Aspirations for Moral Realignment as Mechanisms of Moral Boundary Work in Times of Crisis,” Lecture
2024	Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Alumni Conference
2024	Rubinstein Center for Constitutional Challenges, Reichman University, “The Loyalty Trap: An Israeli Perspective,” Lecture
2025	RC28, University of Milan, Milan, Italy, “Does the Motherhood Penalty Drive the Gender Wage Gap?” Lecture with Efrat Druker-Herzberg
2025	ASA, Chicago, US, “Asylum Decision-Making under Trump: Shared Aspirations for Moral Realignment as Mechanisms of Moral Boundary Work,” lecture

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

University-Based Awards, Grants, Scholarships

2008	Tel Aviv University, Provost's Teaching Award: Best Teacher among Junior Teaching Staff, Faculty of Social Sciences.
2008	Tel Aviv University, Dean of Social Sciences Scholarship for Distinctive Scholarly Achievements.
2008	Tel Aviv University, Department of Sociology's Scholarship for Scholarly Achievements, Tel Aviv University.
2008	Tel Aviv University, Department of Sociology, Department of Sociology's Scholarship for Scholarly Achievements.
2009	Tel Aviv University, Department of Sociology, Jonathan Shapira Scholarship for M.A. Thesis (\$1,000)
2011	Northwestern University, USA, The Robert F. Winch Award 2010-2011 Outstanding Teaching Assistant, Honorable Mention.
2011	Buffett Center's Crown Family Middle East Research Travel Awards Program, Northwestern University (\$1,800)
2011	Northwestern University, USA, MacArthur Foundation Collaborative Summer Research Grant (\$2,500).
2014	MacArthur Foundation Collaborative Summer Research Grant, Northwestern University (\$2,500)
2014	Buffett Center Graduate Student Dissertation Award, Northwestern University (\$2,500)
2013-14	Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Northwestern Law Dean's list.
2015	Northwestern University, USA, The Maurice J. and Fay B. Karpf Peace Award, (\$5,000)
2015	Northwestern University, USA, Buffett Institute Dissertation Research Travel Award (\$2,500)
2016	Northwestern University, USA, Robert F. Winch Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Assistant.
2017	Northwestern University, USA, Robert F. Winch Award for Best Published or Presented Paper.

National Awards, Grants, Scholarships:

2017-18	Josephine De Karman Fellowship Trust, sole researcher, (\$22,000).
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2017-18	Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy, sole researcher (\$7,500).
2017-18	National Science Foundation (NSF), USA, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, sole researcher (\$11,718).
2018	American Sociological Association, US, Shils-Coleman prize for the best graduate student paper in Theory, Theory Section of the American Sociological Association (\$500).
2018	American Sociological Association, Richard A. Peterson Award for the best student paper, Cultural Section of the American Sociological Association, Honorable Mention.
2018-19	Harvard University, Raphael Morrison Dorman Memorial Postdoctoral Fellowship, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, (\$50,000).
2019	Harvard University, Certificate of Teaching Excellence by the Office of Undergraduate Education.
2020	Harvard University, Certificate of Teaching Excellence by the Office of Undergraduate Education.
2021	Harvard University, Certificate of Teaching Excellence by the Office of Undergraduate Education.
2022	Alon Scholarship for the Integration of Outstanding Faculty, 50,000 (NIS)
2022	American Sociological Association, US, Recipient of 2022 of the Clifford Geertz Award for Best Article, Sociology of Culture Section of the American Sociological Association.
2022	American Sociological Association, Honorable Mention for the 2022 Sociology of Law Distinguished Article Award.
2022	Tel Aviv University, Department of Sociology, 15,000 (NIS), Yonatan Shapira Scholarship for Young Scholars.
2024	Awarded (with Ron Levi) the Performance and Future of Democratic Societies Faculty Exchange Program between the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy and Tel Aviv University's Gershon H. Gordon Faculty of Social Sciences, (\$5,000)
2023-2026	Israel Science Foundation Grant for <i>Multidimensional Aspects of Gender Inequality: The Case of the Israeli Hi-Tech Industry</i> (with Efrat Herzberg-Druker), 471,000 (NIS).

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

2011-2025, American Sociological Association

2011-2025, Social Science History Association

2011, 2022, Law and Society Association

Reviewer for: *American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, Social Problems, Law and Social Inquiry, Social Politics.*

STUDENTS SUPERVISED

M.A. Students

2025, Tomer Maron, Tel Aviv University

2024-25, Maya Levin, Tel Aviv University

2024-25, Smadar Silverberg, Tel Aviv University (with Erez Marantz).

2023-25, Keren Abrahams, Tel Aviv University (with Efrat Herzberger).

2023-25, Paz Eliav Sadon, Ben Gurion University.

2023-24, Yuli Saito, Tel Aviv University.

2023, Bashar Khateeb, Tel Aviv University.

2023-24, Adva Regev, Tel Aviv University

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK

Shiff, Talia (forthcoming). *Morality Within the State: Frontline Decision-Making in US Asylum Adjudications*, Princeton University Press (under contract).

REFEREED ARTICLES

1. **טליה שיף (2010)**, "בין מינוריות למז'וריות: ז'קלין כהנוב ופרויקט ה"ישראליות" של הלבנטיניות", *תאוריה וביקורת* 37, 125-149.

2. **Shiff, Talia** (equal author) and *Orloff, Ann. 2016. "Feminism/s in Power: Rethinking Gender Equality after the Second Wave." *Political Power and Social Theory*, 30: 109-134.
3. **Shiff, Talia**. 2019. "Regulating organizational ambiguity: unsettled screening categories and the making of US asylum policy." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*: 1-19.
4. **Shiff, Talia**. 2020. "Reconfiguring the Deserving Refugee: Cultural Categories of Worth and the Making of Refugee Policy." *Law & Society Review* 54, no. 1: 102-132.

5. **Shiff, Talia.** 2020. "Revisiting Immutability as the New Standard for Defining Membership in a Particular Social Group and Its Impact on Asylum Claims Related to Gender." *University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform* 53, p. 567-596.
6. **Shiff, Talia.** 2021. "A Sociology of Discordance: Negotiating Schemas of Worth and Codified Law in US Asylum Status Determinations," *American Journal of Sociology* 127 no.2: 337-375.
 - Recipient of 2022 of the Clifford Geertz Award for Best Article, Sociology of Culture Section of the American Sociological Association.
 - Honorable Mention for the 2022 Sociology of Law Distinguished Article Award, American Sociological Association.
7. **Talia Shiff.** 2024. "Moral Logics of Bureaucratic Indifference." *Annual Review of Law and Social Science* 20, no. 1: 1-15.
8. **Shiff, Talia.** 2025. "Shared Aspirations for Moral Realignment as Mechanisms of Moral Boundary Work in Times of Crisis: Asylum Decision-Making under Trump." Manuscript Accepted, *American Journal of Sociology*.

SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION

1. **Shiff, Talia,** "Seeking Meaning in U.S. Asylum Adjudications: Aspirations, Affect, and Morality on the Frontlines of the State." Revise and Resubmit at *Social Forces*.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

1. **Shiff, Talia** (equal author) and *Orloff, Ann. 2015. "The Critics of Feminisms in Power: Rethinking Feminism after the Second Wave." *Emerging Trends*, edited by Robert Scott and Stephen Kosslyn, Wiley.
2. **Shiff Talia** and Ron Levi (equal author). 2024. Connecting Law and Legal Institutions with Legality and Legal Stakes, *Oxford Handbook of Comparative Historical Sociology*, (**peer review**).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

1. **Shiff, Talia.** 2012. Review of "Mongrels and Marvels: The Levantine Writing of Jacqueline Shohet." *Israeli Sociology*, [Hebrew], 15 (1): 220-222.
2. **Shiff, Talia.** 2018. "A Sociology of Schematic Discordance: Changing Relations Between Moral Worth and Legal Scripts in Asylum Adjudications." *Perspectives, Newsletter of the ASA Theory Section*, Volume 40(2).
3. **Shiff, Talia** (equal author), Yurdakul Gökce and Atshan Sa'ed, 2019. Review comment on "Getting Respect: Responding to Stigma and Discrimination in the United States, Brazil and Israel," by

Michèle Lamont, Graziella Moraes Silva, Jessica S. Welburn, Joshua Guetzkow, Nissim Mizrachi, Hanna Herzog and Elisa Reis, *Contemporary Sociology*.

4. **Shiff, Talia.** 2020. Review of “Refugee Beyond Reach: How Rich Democracies Repel Asylum Seekers,” by David Scott FitzGerald, *Social Forces*.
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