

Elizabeth M. Smith-Pryor

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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Ph.D. (2001) Rutgers University
American History, Women's History

J.D. (1987) Stanford Law School

B.A. (1984) Harvard University
Cum laude in Government

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kent State University
Tenured Assistant Professor, Department of History, August 2008-present
Assistant Professor, Department of History, August 2001-May 2008

Rutgers University
Instructor, Department of History, Summer 1997
Teaching Assistant, Fall 1995, Spring 1996

New York City Office of the Corporation Counsel
Assistant Corporation Counsel, Legal Counsel Division, August 1989-August 1993

Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, New York City
Associate, Litigation Department, September 1987-July 1989

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph:
Property Rites: The Rhinelander Trial, Passing, and the Protection of Whiteness (May 2009 University of North Carolina Press)

Encyclopedia Entries:
"Freeman v. Pitts," "Georgia v. McCollum," and "Powers v. Ohio" in John F. Marszalek and Charles Lowery (eds.), *Encyclopedia of African American Civil Rights* (2003)

Book Reviews:

Review of Charles T. Clotfelter, *After Brown: The Rise and Retreat of Segregation* (2004) in *History: Reviews of New Books* 33 (winter 2005): 58.

Review of Kevin Boyle, *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age* (2004) in *Journal of African American History* 91 (winter 2006): 95-96.

Review of W. Fitzhugh Brundage, *The Southern Past: A Clash of Race and Memory* (2005) in *History: Reviews of New Books* 34 (summer 2006): 108-110.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Center for Afroamerican and African Studies (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor), February 2009

“Race and Property in the Rhinelander Trial: Why Race Is Property and Why That Matters”

American Literature Association Annual Conference (Boston, MA), May 2005

“The Secrets that End Up In Court: Racial Passing and Marital Annulment in the 1920s”

Ohio Academy of History Annual Meeting (Wittenberg University), April 2005

“Marriage in an Age of Anxiety: Interracial Marriage and Annulment Law in 1920s New York”

American Historical Association Annual Meeting (Seattle, WA), January 2005, comment, “Race, Gender, and the Law”

Brown at Fifty: Perspectives from Ohio and Beyond (Kent State University), April 2004
Panel Participant, “Policy Directions for a Renewed Social Justice Agenda”

Sixth Southern Conference on Women’s History (Athens, GA), June 2003

“At the Essence of Marriage Relations: Race, Gender and the Law of Annulment in the Early Twentieth Century North”

Fifth U.S. Senator Rush D. Holt History Conference (West Virginia University), March 2003

“Moving Across the Color Line? Migrations of the 1920s and the Reconstruction of Racial Identity”

Ebony Speaker Series (Center of Pan-African Culture, Kent State University), January 2003

“Of the Essence of Marriage Relations: Race, Gender and the Law of Annulment in Early Twentieth Century New York”

Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting (Toronto), April 1999
“The Disappearing ‘Mulatto’: The United States Census Construction of Race in the 1920s”

Social Moves Interdisciplinary Conference (Tulane University), November 1997
“Crossing Over: Racial Passing and the Mason-Dixon Line”

Social History Workshop (Princeton University), April 1996
“‘Sort of a Dusky Cinderella’” The Rhinelander Case, Passing and the Indeterminacy of Race in the 1920s”

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Kent State University Academic Year Research and Creative Activity Appointment, Fall 2004

Ford Foundation Doctoral Fellowship for Minorities, 1997-1998

Rutgers University Excellence Fellowship, 1993-1994, 1994-1995, 1996-1997

COURSES TAUGHT

Kent State University

History 12071: History of the United States: The Modern Period

History 31078: African American History

History 32050: The Historian’s Craft

History 4/5/78897: Colloquium in African American History Since 1877 (The Civil Rights Movement and the Black Freedom Struggle)

History 4/5/78797 Colloquium in African American History to 1877 (Slavery in America)

History 4/51082: Constitutional History of the United States

Special Topics Colloquium: The History of Race, Gender, and Sexuality in America

Special Topics Colloquium: The History of Race and the Law

Individual Investigation (Spring 2004): The History of the American Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Movement

Doctoral Dissertation Committees

Kim Carey (major advisor)

Timothy Mieyal (committee member)

Monika Flashka (committee member)

Rachel Oley (committee member)

KrisAnn Norby-Jahner (English Department outside field committee member)

Master’s Thesis Committees

Eric Weinberg (2003)

Monika Flashka (2004)

Daniel Spillman (2004)
Randall Gnant (2004)
Jeffrey Fuller (2006)
Denise Jenison (2008)

Doctoral Candidacy Examinations

Melissa Steinmetz, African American History (minor field examiner 2007)
Kim Carey, African American History (major field examiner 2006)
Monika Flashka, American Women's/Gender History (minor field examiner 2006)
Rachel Oley, African American History (minor field examiner 2006)
Nathan Fry, African American History (minor field examiner 2006)
John Walker, U.S. 20th Century History (second reader 2004)

SERVICE AND CITIZENSHIP

Council Representative, American Association of University Professors, Kent Chapter (2002- 2006)
History Department Faculty Advisory Committee (2002-2004, 2005-2007, fall 2008)
History Department Graduate Program Committee (2001-present)
History Department Curriculum Committee (2004-2008)
History Department Undergraduate Program Committee (2001-2005, 2006-present);
Interim Chair of Undergraduate Program Committee (spring 2005)
Chair, Undergraduate Program Committee (2007-present)
History Department American History Committee (2001-present)