

## Caitlin Reed Wiesner, Ph.D.

Mercy College  
Department of Humanities  
Maher Hall, Room 205  
555 Broadway  
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522  
[cwiesner@mercy.edu](mailto:cwiesner@mercy.edu)  
(914)-888-5134

### EDUCATION

**Ph.D.**, History, Rutgers University- New Brunswick, 2021

Major Field: Women's & Gender History

Minor Field: African American History

Advisor: Dr. Johanna Schoen, Professor of History

Dissertation: "Controlling Rape: Black Women, the Feminist Movement Against Sexual Violence, and the State, 1974-1994"

Readers: Dr. Donna Murch, Associate Professor of History (Rutgers University); Dr. Rachel Devlin, Professor of History (Rutgers University); Dr. Lisa Levenstein, Professor of History (University of North Carolina Greensboro)

**B.A.**, History and Women's & Gender Studies, summa cum laude The College of New Jersey, 2015

### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

**Assistant Professor of History**, Mercy College, September 2021- Present

**Instructor**, The College of New Jersey, August 2020-May 2021

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Book

*Between the Street and the State: Black Women's Anti-Rape Activism Amid the War on Crime*, under advance contract with the University of Pennsylvania Press for the Politics and Culture in Modern America Series

## Journal Articles

“‘The first thing we cry about is violence’: The National Black Women’s Health Project and the Fight Against Rape and Battering,” *Journal of Women’s History* 34, no. 1 (Spring 2022): 71-92.

## Book Chapters

“In the Shadow of Old Queens: African American Life and Labors in New Brunswick from the End of Slavery to the Industrial Era” in *Scarlet and Black: Slavery and Dispossession in Rutgers History, Volume II*, New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2020.

“‘An’ I A Poor Slave Yet’: The Precarity of Black Life in New Brunswick, 1766-1835” in *Scarlet and Black: Slavery and Dispossession in Rutgers History, Volume I*, New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2016.

## Book Reviews

Review of *The Feminist War on Crime: The Unexpected Role of Women’s Liberation in Mass Incarceration* by Aya Gruber, *Feminist Formations* 33, no. 1 (Spring 2021): 279-282.

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2022 Research Support Grant, Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University
- Legacies of American Slavery Seminar, Council of Independent Colleges and Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition at the MacMillan Center at Yale University
- Faculty Development Grant, Mercy College
- 2020 Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship, Coordinating Council for Women’s History, finalist
- Warren and Beatrice Susman Dissertation Fellowship, Rutgers University
- Summer Research Fellowship, Black Metropolis Research Consortium, (declined due to COVID-19 travel restrictions)
- 2019 Andrew W. Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship in Women’s History, New-York Historical Society
- P.E.O. Scholar Award, P.E.O. Sisterhood International
- John Whiteclay Chambers II Oral History Fellowship, Rutgers Oral History Archives
- Madeleine L’Engle Research Fellowship, Smith College Libraries

- 2018 Graduate Fellowship, Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis  
Neal Ira Rosenthal History Travel Award, Department of History, Rutgers University  
Off-Campus Dissertation Development Award, Graduate School of New Brunswick, Rutgers University
- 2017 Teaching Assistant and Graduate Assistant Professional Development Fund Award, Rutgers University
- 2016 Pre-Dissertation Research Travel Grant, Graduate School of New Brunswick, Rutgers University
- 2015 Daniel W. Crofts Senior Thesis Award, Department of History, The College of New Jersey  
Dean's Award for Excellence in the Liberal Arts, Laureate for History, The College of New Jersey  
Emerging Scholar Award, New Jersey Women and Gender Studies Undergraduate Research Colloquium

## **CONFERENCES**

### **Panels Organized**

- 2022 "Black Challenges to Containment and the Carceral State in the Twentieth Century," Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Meeting, Montgomery, AL, September 30, 2022
- 2021 "Women Confront the 20th Century U.S. Carceral State," National Women's Studies Association Annual Meeting, virtual, September 17, 2021  
"For Whose Protection?: African American Women and Gender Violence in the 19th and 20th Centuries," Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, virtual, April 16, 2021
- 2019 "Anti-Violence Organizing and State Power in the 20th-Century United States," National Women's Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 16, 2019

### **Papers Presented**

- 2023 "Subverting the War on Crime: Black Women Anti-Rape Activists in Philadelphia, 1971-1981," Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, Santa Clara, CA, June 2023
- 2022 "I see police now and I get as far away as I can?: Bay Area Black Women Debate Police Power Over Rape," Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Meeting, Montgomery, AL, September 30, 2022

- 2021 “‘Jail won’t do anything’: Black Women Respond to Rape in the Bay Area, 1978-1979,” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Meeting, virtual, September 17-18, 2021
- “The National Black Women’s Health Project and the Fight Against Rape and Battering,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, virtual, April 16, 2021
- 2019 “Deserving Victims: Black Women’s Anti-Rape Advocacy in 1980s Chicago,” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 16, 2019
- “Women’s Workfare: Feminist Rape Crisis Centers and the Comprehensive Employment Training Act,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, April 5, 2019
- 2018 “‘Teach your children that they have the right to say NO’: Nkenge Tourè and Child Sex Abuse Prevention in Washington D.C.’s Black Community, 1974-1988,” Association for the Study of African American Life and Culture Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, October 5, 2018
- 2017 “Philadelphia Black Feminists and Statistical Discourses of Race and Rape,” African American Intellectual History Society Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN, March 25, 2017
- “Confronting the ‘White Face and Power Base’: The Third World Caucus of Philadelphia WOAR, 1976-1989,” Sarah Lawrence University’s 19th Annual Women’s History Conference, Bronxville, NY, March 4, 2017
- 2016 “The Historical Violence of White Feminism in the Free Joan Little Movement, 1974-1975” 38th Annual Susman Graduate Student Conference, New Brunswick, NJ, April 8, 2016
- 2015 “Historicizing the Construction of Black Female Sexuality in the Joan Little Trial, 1975,” Feminism Here and Now 2015: An Interdisciplinary Conversation, Chapel Hill, NC, November 7, 2015

## **CAMPUS TALKS**

- 2022 “For Women’s Safety or Law and Order?: Critiques of the Feminist Anti-Rape Movement of the 1970s,” Faculty Research Salon, Mercy College, October 13, 2022
- 2019 “Breaking the Silence, Healing Themselves: Black Women’s Stories from the Anti-Rape Movement,” John W. Chambers II Oral History Graduate Fellowship Lecture, Rutgers University, December 14, 2019

<https://history.rutgers.edu/events/calendar/icalrepeat.detail/2019/12/14/1012/-/caitlin-wiesner-john-chambers-oral-history-lecture>

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### **Mercy College**

American History Since 1877 (Fall 2021 and Fall 2022)

The American Presidency (Fall 2021)

African American History Since Reconstruction (Spring 2022)

Introduction to Research Methods (Spring 2022 and Fall 2022)

World War II in America (Spring 2022)

Gendering U.S. History (Fall 2022)

### **The College of New Jersey**

Gendering U.S. History (Fall 2020, Spring 2021)

### **Rutgers University- New Brunswick**

Race and Sex in America (Summer 2019)

The American Revolution (Spring 2017)

Development of the U.S. II (Fall 2016, Fall 2017)

## **SERVICE**

**Planning Committee Member**, Annual Women's Empowerment and Leadership Conference, Mercy College, September 2022-Present

**Delegate**, Department of Humanities, School of Liberal Arts Curriculum Committee, Mercy College, September 2022-Present

**Chair**, School of Liberal Arts Annual Theme Committee, Mercy College, July 2022-Present

**Advisor**, Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society, Phi Zeta Chapter, Mercy College, January 2022-Present

**Advisor**, History Program Public History Internship Program, Mercy College, January 2022-Present

## **PUBLIC-FACING SCHOLARSHIP**

**Contributing Writer**, "Women at the Center" Blog, Center for Women's History, New-York Historical Society Museum & Library, September 2019-August 2020

“Fighting Back: Women of Color and the Ongoing Struggle for Citizenship Beyond the Vote,” August 20, 2020, <https://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/fighting-back-women-of-color-and-the-ongoing-struggle-for-citizenship-beyond-the-vote/>

“Remembering Seneca Falls,” July 15, 2020, <https://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/remembering-seneca-falls/>

“Child Welfare and the New York Foundling Hospital,” July 13, 2020, <https://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/child-welfare-and-the-new-york-foundling-hospital/>

“Juneteenth and Women’s History,” with Pamela Walker, June 17, 2020, <https://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/juneteenth-and-womens-history/>

“Caring for the Community During a Pandemic: Lessons from HIV/AIDS,” May 11, 2020, <https://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/caring-for-the-community-during-a-pandemic-lessons-from-hiv-aids/>

““Mrs. America” Primer: The Real Story of Phyllis Schlafly’s Campaign Against the ERA,” April 13, 2020, <https://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/mrs-america-primer-the-real-story-of-phyllis-schlaflys-campaign-against-the-era/>

“Rosa Parks Beyond the Bus Boycott: A Life of Activism,” February 25, 2020, <https://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/rosa-parks-beyond-the-bus-boycott-a-life-of-activism/>

“Roe v. Wade Turns 47: Reproductive Rights in the New-York Historical Collection,” January 21, 2021, <https://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/roe-v-wade-turns-47/>

“Warts and All: Learn the Fascinating History of Witchcraft and Reproductive Health,” October 29, 2019, <https://womenatthecenter.nyhistory.org/witchcraft-and-reproductive-health/>

**Curatorial Scholar**, “Women March: 1820-2020,” Joyce B. Cowin Gallery Women’s History Gallery, Center for Women’s History, New-York Historical Society Museum & Library, February 28, 2020-January 31, 2021, [https://www.nyhistory.org/exhibitions/women-march?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIzrn94cOD6AIVwoCfCh3xMAHQEAAYASAAEgIK6\\_D\\_BwE](https://www.nyhistory.org/exhibitions/women-march?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIzrn94cOD6AIVwoCfCh3xMAHQEAAYASAAEgIK6_D_BwE)

**Research Assistant**, Amicus Brief for Jane Doe 2 et al., *Doe 2 v. Trump* with Dr. Jennifer Mittelstadt, Professor of History at Rutgers University, and Dr. Ronit Stahl, Assistant Professor of History at the University of California, Berkeley, October 2018  
[https://www.ropesgray.com/en/newsroom/news/2018/10/Ropes-Gray-Friend-Court-Brief-Trump-Administration-Ban-Transgender-Individuals-Service-Military?fbclid=IwAR3sXUxCPTOn3jwNPNSWTQ8SjkuTxOsw-6J\\_X4emWZXTVwFV4wA\\_VEG0Nbk](https://www.ropesgray.com/en/newsroom/news/2018/10/Ropes-Gray-Friend-Court-Brief-Trump-Administration-Ban-Transgender-Individuals-Service-Military?fbclid=IwAR3sXUxCPTOn3jwNPNSWTQ8SjkuTxOsw-6J_X4emWZXTVwFV4wA_VEG0Nbk)

**Researching Assistant**, New Jersey Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prisons Consortium (NJ-STEP) with Dr. Johanna Schoen, Professor of History at Rutgers University, Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey, September 2017-May 2018

**Research Assistant**, Research Committee for Enslaved and the Disenfranchised Populations in Rutgers History, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, May 2016-April 2018

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Historical Association

Association for the Study of African American Life and History

Berkshire Conference of Women Historians

Coordinating Council for Women's History

National Women's Studies Association

Organization of American Historians

Urban History Association