

Lily Geismer

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Academic Appointments

Associate Professor of United States History, *Claremont McKenna College*, 2016-

Assistant Professor of United States History, *Claremont McKenna College*, 2010-2016

Education

Ph.D. History, *University of Michigan*, 2010

Dissertation: "Don't Blame Us: Grassroots Liberalism in Massachusetts, 1960-1990"

Dissertation Committee: Matthew Lassiter (Chair, History), Matthew Countryman (History), Regina Morantz-Sanchez (History), Anthony Chen (Sociology)

B.A. History, *Brown University*, *magna cum laude*, honors in history, 2003

Publications

Books:

Left Behind: The Democrats Failed Attempt to Solve Inequality (PublicAffairs, 2022)

Don't Blame Us: Suburban Liberals and the Transformation of the Democratic Party, (Princeton University Press, 2015)

Shaped by the State: Toward a New Political History of the 20th Century, co-editor with Brent Cebul and Mason B. Williams (University of Chicago Press, 2019)

Journal Articles:

"Agents of Change: Microenterprise, Welfare Reform, the Clintons, and Liberal Forms of Neoliberalism," *Journal of American History* (June 2020, Vol. 103, Issue 1) 107-131

"Comment: The Curious Origins of Airline Deregulation: Economic Deregulation and the American Left," *Business History Review* (Winter 2020, Vol. 93, Issue 4)

"At Home in America through the Lens of Metropolitan and Political History," Special Issue of the *Journal of American Jewish History* (April 2016, Vol. 100, Issue 2)

"Good Neighbors for Fair Housing: Suburban Liberalism and Racial Inequality in Metropolitan Boston," *Journal of Urban History* (May 2013 vol. 39, no. 3)

Book Chapters:

“Kennedy and the Liberal Consensus” in *A Companion to John F. Kennedy*, ed. Marc Silverstone, Wiley-Blackwell, 2014

“More Than Megachurches: Liberal Religion and Politics in the Suburbs” in *Faithful Republic: Religion and Politics in the 20th Century United States*, ed. Andrew Preston, Bruce Schulman, and Julian Zelizer, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015

“Urban Politics Since 1945” in *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*, Oxford University Press, (May 2016)

Other Articles:

“Write Off School Board Politics at Your Peril” with Eitan Hersh, *New York Times*, November 2, 2021, A21

“Stop Worrying about Upper-Class Suburbanites” with Matthew D. Lassiter, *Jacobin.com*, January 2, 2021

“Let Them Eat Tech,” *Dissent* (Fall 2019)

“The Democrats and Neoliberalism,” Vox.com (June 11, 2019). Reprinted as part of *Political Parties: What Are They Good For? An Essay Collection on Democracy*, New America Foundation, December 2019.

“Public Thinker: Kevin Kruse on Why Recent History is Still History,” *Public Books*, November 1, 2019.

“The Soccer Mom Strikes Back,” *New Republic* (Sep 2018, Vol. 249 Issue 9), 9.

“Turning Affluent Suburbs Blue Isn’t Worth the Cost,” with Matthew D. Lassiter, *New York Times*, June 9, 2018

“Napoleons in Pinstripes: The Rise of the Business Mogul as Politician” *New Labor Forum* (May 2018, volume 27, number 2): 48-5

“How Lyndon Johnson Unmade the Democratic Party,” *Washington Post: Made by History*, March 30, 2018

“The Places Left Behind” *Jacobin.com*, November 1, 2016

“A Party of Entrepreneurs” *Democracy: A Journal of Ideas*, August 17, 2016

“The Shifting Class Politics of the Democratic Party,” Public Seminar, May 5, 2016

“Atari Democrats” *Jacobin Magazine*, Winter 2016

"Overcoming the Gender and Political History Divide: Teaching and Studying Post-1945 United States History," with Tamar Carroll *Perspectives on History: The Newsmagazine of the American Historical Association* (March 2012): 28-30.

Reviews:

"An Account of the 1960s That Goes Beyond the Baby Boomers' Perspective," *Washington Post*, December 3, 2021

Review of Cristina Viviana Groeger, *The Education Trap: Schools and the Remaking of Inequality in Boston*, *Business History*, (May 2021)

"Follow The Tax Incentive: Thoughts On Berman's The American Jewish Philanthropic Complex," *HistPhil*, December 2, 2020

"A Crusading Justice and a Cautious President," *Washington Post*, May 2018

"Conservatives and Counterrevolutionaries: Corey's Robin's *The Reactionary Mind*," *Los Angeles Review of Books*, January 19, 2018

Review of Stacie Taranto, *Kitchen Table Politics: Conservative Women and Family Values in New York*, *Journal of Social History* (January 2018)

Review of *JFK: A Vision for America*," edited by Stephen Kennedy Smith and Douglas Brinkley in *Washington Post*, May 5, 2017

"Life After the Great Industrial Extinction: Review of Tracy Neumann, *Remaking the Rust Belt: The Postindustrial Transformation of North America* and Chloe Taft, *From Steel to Slots: Casino Capitalism in the Postindustrial City* in *New Labor Forum* (Spring 2017)

Review of Steve Fraser, *Limousine Liberal: How an Incendiary Image United the Right and Fractured America*, *Journal of American History* (June 2017)

Review of Kevin Kruse, *One Nation Under God: How Corporate America Invented Christian America* in *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 114, no. 2, (2016): 284-285

Review of Eric Avila, *The Folklore of the Freeway: Race and Revolt in the Modernist City* in *CITY: Analysis of Urban Trends, Culture, Theory, Policy, Action* (Volume 19, Issue 6, 2015): 875-878

Review of *Rabble Rousers: The American Far Right in the Civil Rights Era* in *Journal of American Ethnic History* (Volume 32, Issue 2, Winter 2013): 101-102

Review of Bruce Miroff, *The Liberals' Moment: The McGovern Insurgency and the Identity Crisis of the Democratic Party* in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* (Volume 39, Issue 2, Autumn 2008): 301-303.

Awards and Fellowships

Andrew Carnegie Fellow, Carnegie Corporation, 2018-2021

Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship for Recently Tenured Faculty, American Council of Learned Societies (deferred to 2020-2021)

Fellow, Charles Warren Center, Harvard University, 2015-2016

Arnold L. Graves and Lois S. Graves Award in the Humanities, 2014-2015

Mellon/American Council for Learned Societies Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2009-2010

Miller Center of Public Affairs Fellowship, 2009-2010

Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2009-2010 (Declined)

Research Award Fellowship, Institute for Research on Women and Gender, University of Michigan, 2009

Dissertation Research Grant, Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, 2008-2009

Phi Beta Kappa, elected Spring 2003

Gaspee Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution Prize in American History, Brown University, 2002

Teaching Experience

Assistant/Associate Professor of History, Claremont McKenna College

History 81: Modern America: 1865 to the Present

History 099: Cold War America

History 100: Modern American Politics

History 121: United States History Since 1945

History 124: What is Political?: Rethinking American Political History Since 1900

History 144: Reagan's America: The Politics and Culture of the 1980s

History 171/120: American Suburbia and Its Consequences

History 190: Race and American Cities

Selected Presentations

"Public Schools Are Our Most Important Business: Democratic Neoliberalism, The Tech Industry, and the Rise of Charter, Panelist, " Digitizing Democracy: Technologies of Citizenship at the End of the Twentieth Century," Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, April 2021 (virtual)

"Destroy the Suburbs: The Democratic Party's Long Relationship to Suburban Voters," Marian Miner Cook Athenaeum, Claremont McKenna College, October 27, 2020

"Public Schools Are Our Most Important Business: Democratic Neoliberalism and the Rise of Charter Schools in Los Angeles," Los Angeles History & Metro Studies Group, November 2019

Moderator, "Big Ideas Panel: Debating Political Fracture Today; Comment on "Settling in the Center" Panel; Panelist, "Sourcing Recent American Political History in the Classroom" at Remaking American Political History Conference, Purdue University, June 2019

"The Perfect Model for the 1990s': Community Development Banking, Market-Based Solutions, and Democratic Neoliberalism," Center for the Study of Work, Labor and Democracy, University of California-Santa Barbara, April 2019

Participant, "Ruralities: Politics, Culture, and Contested Places," A Symposium at Dartmouth College, April 2019

"Change Their Heads: The National Homeownership Strategy, Asset Building and Democratic Neoliberalism"; Comment, "Racial Politics in the Suburbs: Latinos and Asian Americans in Postwar Southern California," Organization of American Historians Conference, April 2019

Don't Blame Us Workshop, Institute of Governmental Studies, University of California, Berkeley, February 2019

"The Atari Democrats, the Democratic Leadership Council and Democratic Neoliberalism," Political Parties, Representation, and Governance in the 21st Century Conference, Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, Stanford University, November 2018.

Panelist, "Revolt of the Suburbs in the 1968 & 2018 Elections," Princeton University, October 2018

Chair/Commenter, " The Democrats and 1968: A Reassessment, Fifty Years Later," Policy History Conference, May 2018

Panelist, "Don't Blame Us . . . Again: Historical Perspectives on the Democratic Party and the Rise of Trump," Organization of American Historians Conference, April 2018

"Doing Good: The Digital Divide, Democratic Neoliberalism and the Origins of Philanthrocapitalism", Organization of American Historians Conference, April 2018

Keynote Address, Boston University Graduate Student Conference, April 2018

Panelist, Corruption and the Circulation of Capital Roundtable, Organization of American Historians Conference, 2017

“The Digital Divide,” The Nineties Conference, Purdue University, March 2017

“Agents of Change,” Approaches to Capitalism Workshop, Stanford University, February 2017

“The Search for New Markets: Urban Antipoverty Policy in the Clinton Era” at the Urban History Association Conference, October 2016

“The Road to Route 128: The Past Present and Future of Suburban Political History,” Keynote Address, “The Shifting Politics of US Suburbs” Conference, George Mason University, June 2016

“Political History Beyond the Liberal-Conservative Paradigm” at the Organization for American Historians Annual Conference, April 2016

“From Yippie to Yuppie: Ira Magaziner and a New Democrat Approach to Leadership” at Organization for American Historians Annual Conference, April 2016

“Agents of Change: The Clintons and the Long History of Microfinance in the United States and the World,” Charles Warren Center Seminar, Harvard University, March 2016

“Doing Good: Liberal Uses of the Market to Help the Poor from the War on Poverty through the Clinton Era” American Political History Institute Seminar, Boston University, February, 2016

“The Perfect Model for the 1990s: Community Development Banking, Market-Oriented Solutions to Economic Inequality and the Transformation of Liberalism,” BGIE Seminar, Harvard Business School, November 2015

“Politics of High-Tech Societies”, Great Issues Program, Miller Center, University of Virginia, April 2015

“The Perfect Model for the 1990s”: Chicago’s Shorebank Corporation, Microfinancing and Liberal Market-Oriented Solutions to Urban Inequality Following the War on Poverty” at the Urban History Association Conference, October 2014

“Mandate for Change: the Post-Industrial Economy, Market-Oriented Solutions and the Transformation of Liberalism and the Democratic Party” at the Policy History Conference, June 2014

“How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the 1964 Election” at the Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, April 2014

Commenter, “Rethinking the Post-’60s Left, from the Grassroots to the White House” panel at the Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, April 2014

“Beyond Red and Blue: Suburban Liberals, High-Tech Industry, and the Transformation of the Democratic Party,” Clark Davis Memorial Lecture, LA History and Metro Studies Group, April 2014

“Massachusetts Liberal’: Challenging a Political Pejorative” at the Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, April 2013

“From Taxachusetts to the Massachusetts Miracle: Michael Dukakis, Suburban Liberals, and the Transformation of the Democratic Party” American Political History Seminar, Princeton University, November 2012

“Beyond the Busing Crisis: Voluntary Integration, Market-Based Individualism and Suburban Liberalism in Metropolitan Boston,” at the Policy History Conference, June 2012

“Religion and Liberal Religious Activism in the Suburbs” at the Religion and American Political History Conference, Boston University, March 2012

Selected Media Appearances

Guest, Throughline Podcast, NPR, July 2021, replayed on All Things Considered, July 12, 2021

Guest, The Special Report with Areva Martin, October 19, 2020

Guest, *The New Republic's* Politics of Everything Podcast, September 23, 2020

Guest, Arsenal of Democracy Podcast, August 21, 2020

Guest, The Dig Podcast, August 2, 2019

Guest, 1A with Joshua Johnson , NPR, January 2, 2019

Guest, Midday Briefing w/ Tim Farley, SiriusXM-POTUS, August 20, 2018

Guest, New Books Network, June 19, 2018

Interview, Here and Now! WBUR, November 3, 2016

Guest, KTLA News, April 14, 2016

Guest, The Majority Report with Sam Seder, majority.fm, February 16, 2016

Guest, This is Hell! Show, WNUR, February 13, 2016

Guest, The Majority Report with Sam Seder, majority.fm April 22, 2015

Guest, Behind the News with Doug Henwood, Pacifica, KPFA January 15, 2015

Selected Professional Service Activities

Professional Service

Prize Committee, Ellis W. Hawley Prize, Organization of American Historians, 2021-2022

Journal of Urban History, Editorial Board, 2016-2021

Review Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities New York Historical Society Fellowship, 2021

Society for American City and Regional Planning History, Conference Program Committee and Committee to Select Best Graduate Student Paper, 2019

Urban History Association, Michael Katz Award for the Best Dissertation in Urban History, 2018

Society for American City and Regional Planning History, Lewis Mumford Award, Prize Committee 2017

Urban History Association Board of Directors, 2014-16

Program Committee, Urban History Association Conference, October 2016

Review panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipends program, 2016

Co-organizer, Los Angeles History & Metropolitan Studies Group, Huntington Library, 2012-present

Co-organizer, "Seeing Beyond the Partisan Divide" Conference at the Miller Center, University of Virginia, October 2015

Program Committee, California American Studies Association Conference, April 2015

Manuscript Reviewer, Oxford University Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, University of Chicago Press, Yale University Press, University of North Carolina Press, New York University Press, University of Massachusetts Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, Cornell University Press, *Journal of Policy History*, *Journal of Urban History*, *Environment and Planning*, *Urban Planning History*, *Journal of Media Studies*, *Modern American History*, *Journal of Social History*, *Law and History Review*

Claremont McKenna College Service

Appointment Promotions and Tenure Executive Committee, 2021-

Project Leader, Covid19@CMC Digital Archive, 2020-present

Writing Committee, Claremont McKenna College, 2019

Diversity Committee, Claremont McKenna College, 2017-2018

Conduct Board, Claremont McKenna College, 2011-13, 2014-15

Steering Committee, Intercollegiate Feminist Center for Teaching, Research and Engagement, 2011-13

CMC Faculty Representative to 5C American Studies program, 2014-15

Claremont Graduate University, Dissertation Committees: Laura Pierce (History, defended 2015); Lucas Gunderson (History, defended 2020); Jonathan Hanna (History, defended 2020)