

**NATASHA ZARETSKY  
CURRICULUM VITAE**

Department of History  
University of Alabama-Birmingham  
Birmingham, AL 35233  
[zaretsky@uab.edu](mailto:zaretsky@uab.edu)

**Appointments**

August 2019-Present	Professor of History, University of Alabama-Birmingham
August 2018-August 2019	Professor of History, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
August 2008-May 2018	Associate Professor of History, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
September 2002-August 2008	Assistant Professor of History, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

**Education**

2002	Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island Ph.D., Department of American Civilization
1992	B.A., American Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz

**Selected Fellowships, Awards, Honors**

2018	Choice Outstanding Academic Title for <i>Radiation Nation</i>
2016	Visiting Fellow, United States Studies Centre, University of Sydney
2013	Annette Kolodny Prize, Best Paper in Environmental Studies, Environment and Culture Caucus, American Studies Association Annual Meeting
2009	Top Young Historian, History News Network
2006	Participant, Reconfigurations of American Studies Summer Institute, Dartmouth College
2003-2004	George S. and Gladys W. Queen Award for Excellence in History Teaching
2002-2003	Joukowsky Family Foundation Outstanding Dissertation Award at Brown University
2002-2003	Nomination for Gabriel Prize, Outstanding Dissertation in American Studies
2001	Brown University Faculty Scholars Award
2000	Brown University Graduate School Fellowship Stipend
1999-2000	Gerald R. Ford Library Travel Grant
1999-2000	Bernstein Dissertation Fellowship from Brown University
1999	J. Walter Thompson Research Fellowship at Duke University
1997	Mellon Seminar on History and Literature Fellowship

## **Publications**

### **Books**

*Radiation Nation: Three Mile Island and the Political Transformation of the 1970s* (Columbia University Press, 2018).

*No Direction Home: The American Family and the Fear of National Decline, 1968-1980* (The University of North Carolina Press, 2007).

### **Editorships**

Co-editor with Professors Michael Ziser and Julie Sze (UC Davis), *American Quarterly Special Issue: Energy Pasts and Futures in American Studies*, September 2020.

Co-editor, *The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics and Culture*

### **Edited Volumes**

*Major Problems in American History Since 1945*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, co-edited with Mark Lawrence, Cengage, 2013.

### **Articles, Book Chapters, Review Essays**

“Contamination without Representation: Fetal Citizenship and Atomic Power in the Postwar United States,” Stephen Gross and Andrew Needham, eds., *Toward a New Energy History: Energy Transitions in Europe and America during the Twentieth Century*, University of Pittsburgh Press, forthcoming.

“Perpetual Motion: Energy and American Studies,” *American Quarterly* 72:3, September 2020, 543-557 (co-authored with Michael Ziser and Julie Sze).

“The Odd Couple: Oprah Winfrey, Donald Trump, and Contemporary Charisma,” *The Hedgehog Review*, Spring 2020, 88-101.

“Atomic Nightmares and Biological Citizens at Three Mile Island,” in Eckart Conze, Martin Klimke, and Jeremy Varon, eds., *Nuclear Threats, Nuclear Fear, and the Cold War of the 1980s*, Cambridge University Press, 2016, 55-78.

“Radiation Suffering and Patriotic Body Politics in the 1970s and 1980s,” *Journal of Social History*, Spring 2015 (48:3), 1-24.

“Struggles for Citizenship: Gender, Sexuality, and the State (Then and Now).” A review essay of Robert Self’s *All in the Family*, Leigh Ann Wheeler’s *How Sex Became a Civil Liberty*, and Margot Canaday’s *The Straight State*, in *The Journal of Women’s History* 27:1, Spring 2015, 158-164.

“Restraint or Retreat? The Debate Over the Panama Canal Treaties and U.S. Nationalism After Vietnam,” in *Diplomatic History: The Journal of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations* 35:1, June 2011, 535-562.

“Private Suffering and Public Strife: Delia Alvarez’s War with the Nixon Administration’s POW Publicity Campaign, 1968-1973,” in James T. Campbell, Matthew Guterl, and Robert Lee, eds., *Race, Nation, and Empire in American History* (University of North Carolina Press, 2007).

“In the Name of Austerity: Gender, The Middle-Class Family, and the OPEC Oil Embargo of 1973-74,” in *The World the Sixties Made: Culture and Politics in Recent America*, Van Gosse and Richard Moser, eds. (Temple University Press, 2003).

### **Journalism, Opinion Pieces, and Encyclopedia Entries**

“Invisible Threats and the Politics of Disaster: Three Mile Island and Covid 19,” *History Now* 58.

“Against Holism: Reflections on Keith Makoto Woodhouse’s *The Ecocentrists: A History of Radical Environmentalism*,” H-Enviro Roundtable.

Participant in H-Enviro Roundtable on Jennifer Thomson, *The Wild and the Toxic: American Environmentalism and the Politics of Health*, 22 June 2020, <https://networks.h-net.org/thomson-wild-and-toxic-american-environmentalism-and-politics-health>.

“The End of Three Mile Island,” *Process: a Blog for American History*, 13 November 2019, <http://www.processhistory.org/zaretsky-three-mile-island/>

“The Miss America Protests at 50,” *Jacobin*, 7 September 2018. <https://www.jacobinmag.com/2018/09/miss-america-1968-feminist-protest>

“Red State Politics In and Out of the College Classroom,” *The Conversation*, 28 August 2018. <https://theconversation.com/red-state-politics-in-and-out-of-the-college-classroom-101299>

“Trusting the Water Again: Understanding the West Virginia Chemical Spill,” *Tikkun Magazine*, On-line Edition, 9 April 2014.

“Our Treaties, Ourselves: The Struggle Over the Panama Canal,” published on the Oxford University Press Blog, 18 April 2013. (<http://blog.oup.com/2013/04/panama-canal-treaty-1977-american-reaction/>)

“The 1970s,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Social History*, Lynn Dumenil (ed.), ABC-CLIO, April 2012.

“The Reawakening of Fear,” *The New Republic*, 21 March 2011, on-line edition.

Participant, H-Diplo Roundtable on *The Shock of the Global: The 1970s in Perspective*, eds. Niall Ferguson, Charles Maier, Erez Manila, and Daniel Sargent (Cambridge: Harvard University Press: 2010), November 2010.

“Feminism in the 1960s and 1970s,” entry in *Women’s Rights*, Christa DeLuzio, ed. (ABC-CLIO Perspectives in American Social History, 2010).

“Women and Vietnam,” entry in *The Vietnam War Era*, Mitchell Hall, ed. (ABC-CLIO Perspectives in American Social History, 2009).

“Family Decline in the Twentieth Century,” entry in *The Encyclopedia of the American Family*, Joe Hawes, ed. (ABC-CLIO, 2002).

### **Book Reviews**

James Nolan, *Atomic Doctors: Conscience and Complicity at the Dawn of the Nuclear Age*, Choice, forthcoming.

Leandra Zarnow, *Battling Bella: The Protest Politics of Bella Abzug*, *Journal of Cold War Studies*, forthcoming.

Kathleen Belew, *Bring the War Home: The White Power Movement and Paramilitary America, The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics and Culture* 12:2, September 2019.

William Knoblauch, *Nuclear Freeze in a Cold War: The Reagan Administration, Cultural Activism, and the End of the Arms Race*, *Journal of American History*, June 2018.

Meg Jacobs, *Panic at the Pump: The Energy Crisis and the Transformation of American Politics in the 1970s*, *Journal of Southern History* 83:2, May 2017.

Matthew Schneider-Mayerson, *Peak Oil: Apocalyptic Environmentalism and Libertarian Political Culture*, *Environment and Society* 7, 2016.

Caroline Rupperecht, *Womb Fantasies: Subjective Architecture in Postmodern Literature, Cinema, and Art*, *The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics, and Culture* 9:1, 2016.

Jefferson Cowie, *Stayin’ Alive: The 1970s and the Last Days of the Working Class*, *Journal of African American History* 100:1, Winter 2015, 174-5.

Catherine Ceniza Choy, *Global Families: A History of Asian International Adoption*, in *The Journal of American History* 101:3, December 2014, 990-991.

“Egalitarianism, Neoliberalism, and the 1970s: A Review of Thomas Borstelmann’s *The 1970s: A New Global History from Civil Rights to Economic Inequality*,” *Diplomatic History*, April 2013, 630-632.

Carolyn Herbst Lewis, “Prescriptions for Heterosexuality: Sexual Citizenship in the Cold War Era,” in *American Historical Review*, February 2012, 245-6.

Michael J. Allen, *Until the Last Man Comes Home: POWs, MLAs, and the Unending Vietnam War*, in *The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics, and Culture* 4:1, 2011, 75-78.

“Women Journalists and the Vietnam War,” Review of *On Their Own: Women Journalists and the American Experience in Vietnam*, *Reviews in American History*, December 2010.

Adam Clymer, *Drawing the Line at the Big Ditch: The Panama Canal Treaties and the Rise of the Right*, *Diplomatic History: The Journal of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations*, September 2009.

David Farber, *Taken Hostage: The Iran Hostage Crisis and America’s First Encounter with Radical Islam*, *American Studies*, January 2009.

Lorena Oropeza, *Raza Si! Guerra No! Chicano Protest and Patriotism During the Vietnam War Era, Peace and Change*, January 2007.

Peter Novick, *The Holocaust in American Life*, *Journal of Illinois State Historical Society*, Autumn 2000.

### **Invited Lectures, Presentations, Roundtables**

- 2020 “Nuclear Cultures in the United States,” Honors College, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 11 November.
- 2020 “Social Reproduction and the Paradox of 1970s Feminism,” Social History Workshop, Department of History, University of Chicago, 27 February.
- 2019 Roundtable on *American Quarterly*: Workshop on AQ Review and Editorial Process, American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii, 9 November.
- 2019 “Hiding in Plain Sight: the Unborn in Nuclear and Environmental History,” American Society for Environmental History Annual Meeting, Columbus, Ohio, 11 April.
- 2019 Chair, Negotiating Citizenship in the Nuclear Age, American Historical Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois, 4 January.
- 2018 “Engendering 1968: The Global 1960s, the Rise of Neoliberalism, and the Case of Feminism,” Institute of Global Studies, Shanghai University, 30 November.
- 2018 “Contamination Without Representation: Nation, Citizenship, and Emotion in the Atomic Age,” Energy Transitions, Remarque Institute, New York University, 1-2 November.
- 2017 “Nuclear Energy and Emotional Containment in *Pandora’s Promise*,” Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association, Chicago, Illinois, 9 November.

- 2017 “Social Reproduction, Neoliberal Crisis, and the Paradox of 1970s Feminism,” The National Women’s Conference: Taking 1977 into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, University of Houston, 6 November.
- 2017 “Women, Water, and the Radiation Threat at Three Mile Island,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Gender, and Sexualities, Hofstra University, 3 June.
- 2017 “Christopher Lasch and His Critics: The Culture of Narcissism in Historical Perspective,” Psychohistory in the Age of Trump: 40<sup>th</sup> Annual IPA Conference, New York University, 31 May.
- 2017 Chair and Commentator, “Feminist Visibility in the Long 1970s,” The American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, 8 January.
- 2016 “Species Reproduction and Social Reproduction within the Ecological Imaginary,” Historical Materialism Annual Conference, SOAS, University of London, London, England, 10 November.
- 2016 “Three Mile Island, Conservative Ecological Politics, and Biotic Nationalism in the 1970s,” Department of History, Monash University, Melbourne, 9 September.
- 2016 “Three Mile Island and the Birth of Biotic Nationalism,” United States Studies Centre, University of Sydney, 18 August.
- 2016 “Too Cheap to Meter: Nuclear Power in the US Postwar Energy Imaginary,” Cultures of Energy 5, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences, Rice University, 22 April.
- 2016 “Three Mile Island and the Birth of the Ecological Age,” Rend Lake Community College, 13 April.
- 2016 “The Women of Three Mile Island: Lessons from a Nuclear Accident,” Chancellor Scholarship Weekend, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 5 February.
- 2015 Participant, “Atomic Anthropocene” Roundtable, The Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Arts of the Present, Greenville, South Carolina, 24-27 September.
- 2015 “A Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day: Nuclear Winter Theory in the 1980s,” After Extinction Conference, Center for Twenty-First Century Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 30 April-2 May.
- 2014 “A Republic of Insects and Grass? Nuclear Apocalypse and the Second Cold War of the 1980s,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, 6-9 November.

- 2013 "A Crime Against the Future: Fetal Injury, the Unborn, and the Radiation Scares of the 1950s." American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, 21-24 November.
- 2013 Chair, "Engendering Protest: Women's Rhetorics of Peace in the Nuclear Age," Peace History Society Conference, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 25 October.
- 2013 "Through the Eye of the Needle: Reflections on the SIUC Faculty Strike of 2011," Illinois Works: A Conversation, John A. Logan College, 23 October.
- 2013 Commentator, Newberry Library Seminar on Women and Gender, 1 March.
- 2013 "Gender, Feminism, and the Politics of Austerity in the 1970s," Perils of Austerity, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, 3-6 January.
- 2011 Modern Feminism and the Fight for Women's Rights since the 1960s, Marion Carnegie Public Library, Marion, Illinois, 23 March.
- 2011 Chair, "Public Education, Family Values, and the Roots of the Culture Wars, 1968-1980," Organization for American Historians Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas, 19 March.
- 2011 "Victim, Culprit, or Both? The Place of Childhood and Youth in History," American History Teachers' Collaborative: Children and Teenagers in U.S. History, Urbana, Illinois, 5 February.
- 2010 Chair, "Solidarity, Insurgency, and Community: Social Movements of the 1970s," American Studies Association Conference, San Antonio, Texas, 18-20 November.
- 2010 "Atomic Nightmares and Biological Citizens at Three Mile Island," Accidental Armageddons Conference, German Historical Institute, Washington DC, 3-5 November.
- 2010 "The Decline of Trust and the Rise of Biological Citizenship at Three Mile Island," Internationales Begegnungszentrum der Wissenschaft, Berlin, Germany, 24 June.
- 2010 "Biological Citizenship, Eroding Trust, and the Politics of Reproduction at Three Mile Island," Free University of Berlin, John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, 20 May.
- 2009 "Feminism, the Family, and Economic Transformation in the 1970s," Workshop on Family Values in the United States in the 20th Century, University of Munster, Munster, Germany, 1-2 December.
- 2009 "A Question of Trust: Nuclear Disaster, Citizenship, and the State at Three Mile Island." American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., 4-8 November.

- 2009 "Through Children's Eyes: Childhood, Activism, and the Politics of Memory," Society for the History of Childhood and Youth 2009 Conference, University of California, Berkeley, 10-12 July.
- 2008 "Meltdown: Trust and Catastrophe at Three Mile Island," History Department Workshop, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 6 November.
- 2007 Commentator, "Gay Metropolises: Sexuality, Subcultures, and Queer Urban Life in Twentieth-Century America." Mid-America History Association, Oklahoma State University, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 27-29 September.
- 2007 "'We Bought It, We Paid for It, It's Ours': The Panama Canal Treaties and American Nationalism in the 1970s." Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 29 March-1 April.
- 2007 "The Panama Canal Treaties of 1977 and 1978 and U.S. Nationalism After Vietnam." History Department Workshop, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 28 March.
- 2007 "'Wives, Widows, and Protestors': Women and the POW Publicity Campaign, 1968-1973." Women and War Protest Roundtable, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, 3-6 January.
- 2006 "An American Mosaic: Diversity Nationalism and the Bicentennial Celebration of 1976." American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Oakland, CA, 12-15 October.
- 2006 "The Slave Ship and the Parlor: Diversity Nationalism and the Bicentennial Celebration of 1976." American Studies Colloquium Series, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 20 September.
- 2006 "The Panama Canal Treaties: Methodological Issues," Reconfigurations of American Studies Summer Institute, Dartmouth College, 22 June.
- 2005 "Family, Community, and Nation in the Presidential Election of 1980." American Studies Association Conference, Washington, DC, 6 November.
- 2005 "Basket Weavers and Butter Churners: Folk Traditions and National Identity in the Bicentennial of 1976." Utopian Visions and World's Fairs, a symposium at the Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, Delaware, 15 April.
- 2004 "Victims on the Homefront: Gender, the POW Controversy, and Vietnam." Women's and Gender Historians of the Midwest Conference, Loyola University, Chicago, 12 June.
- 2004 "'Private Suffering in the Public Sphere': The POW Publicity Campaign and the Story of Delia Alvarez." Public Spheres and American Cultures: An International Conference, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, 4-6 June.



- 2004 Participant, Women's History Roundtable, Southern Illinois University, 24 March.
- 2003 Commentator and Chair, "Road Trips." American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Hartford, Connecticut, 16-19 October.
- 2003 "Child-Rearing Gone Bad: National Economic Decline and Family Permissiveness in the 1970s." Second Biannual Conference of the Society for the History of Childhood and Youth, University of Maryland at Baltimore County, 26-29 June.
- 2003 Commentator and Chair, "Perceptions of Protest: The Vietnam War." Peace History Society Conference, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, 25-27 April.
- 2002 "'America's Longest Held POW': Race, Gender, and Nation in the Memoirs of Everett Alvarez Jr.." American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas, 15-17 November (presented in absentia).
- 2002 "'A Depraved Consuming Public': American Mobility and the OPEC Oil Embargo of 1973." "Mobility in American Culture," the First Biannual International Conference of American Studies, University of Bologna, Italy, 20-22 June.
- 2002 "Middle Class Suicide: Feminism, Narcissism, and Anti-Natalism in the 1970s." Feminist Seventies Conference, Centre for Women's Studies, University of York, England, 27 April.
- 2002 "The Cold Yet Smothering Mother: Narcissism, Feminism, and the Crisis of Middle Class Reproduction in the 1970s." Third Annual Graduate Symposium on Women's and Gender History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 7-9 March.
- 2001 "Familial Excesses: Middle Class Consumption, National Dependency, and the Oil Crisis of 1973." American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C., 8-11 November.
- 2001 "Diligent Fathers and Wayward Sons: Productive Labor and the Generation Gap in 1970s America." History Department Workshop, Southern Illinois University, Illinois, 23 April.
- 2001 Commentator, "The Family: Tradition and Change." Mid-America American Studies Association Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 20-21 April.
- 2001 "The New Breed of Worker: The Generation Gap, Productivity Lag, and Family Decline in the 1970s." Presented at the Great Lakes American Studies Association Conference, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 16-18 March.
- 2000 "Peter Novick's *The Holocaust in American Life*," Forum for American Studies, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 14 September.

1999 “‘Making a Virtue out of Necessity’: Family Dependence, National Decline and the 1973 Oil Embargo,” Forum for American Studies, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 17 November.

### **Research Interests**

- US Political Culture After 1945
- US History of the 1970s and 1980s
- Women, Gender, Feminism, and the Family in Modern US History
- Environmental Humanities and History of Energy
- Postwar US Conservatism

### **Courses Taught**

- U.S. and the World
- U.S. History Since 1945 (both undergraduate and graduate courses)
- Women, Gender, and the Family in Modern US History (both undergraduate and graduate courses)
- Modern Lesbian and Gay History in the US
- Introduction to American Studies
- Twentieth Century US History
- Origins of Modern America, 1492-1877
- Modern American History from 1877 to the Present
- Historiography and Historical Research (both undergraduate and graduate courses)

### **Membership in Professional Organizations and Working Groups**

- Organization of American Historians
- American Studies Association
- American Historical Association
- Association for the Study of Arts of the Present
- Society for the History of Technology
- Nuclear Consulting Group

### **Service**

### **Manuscript and Article Reviews**

*University of Georgia Press; Columbia University Press; Journal of the History of Biology; MIT Press: History for a Sustainable Future Series; Cornell University Press; The Johns Hopkins University Press; Palgrave Macmillan Press; The University of North Carolina Press; Modern American History; Gender and History; Feminist Studies; Journal of American History (multiple reviews); Journal of American Studies (multiple reviews); Journal of Women’s History (multiple reviews); Diplomatic History (multiple reviews); Design and Culture; Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth; The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics, and Culture (multiple reviews); American Quarterly (multiple reviews); International Journal of Cultural Studies; Peace and Change; The McNeese Review*

## Professional Service

- 2018 Reviewer for National Endowment for the Humanities, Social and Political Documentary
- 2018-2019 Lerner Scott Prize Committee, Organization of American Historians
- 2014-2017 Annette Kolodny Prize Committee, Environment and Culture Caucus, American Studies Association
- 2002-2008 Member, Editorial Board, *Thought and Action*, the Higher Education Journal of the National Education Association

## Selected Department and University Service

- 2016 SIUC Betty Fladeland Award Committee
- 2016 SIUC Academic Prioritization Task Force
- 2015-2016 SIUC Faculty Senate Status and Welfare Committee
- 2012-2015 SIUC Department of History, Director of Undergraduate Studies
- 2012-present College Representative, SIUC Faculty Association
- 2012-present Budget Committee, College of Liberal Arts
- 2010-present Co-Director, American Studies Minor
- 2008-2010 Co-Coordinator, American Studies Colloquium Series

## References

Prof. Mari Jo Buhle, Professor Emerita, Departments of History and American Studies, Brown University, [Mari\\_Buhle@brown.edu](mailto:Mari_Buhle@brown.edu)

Prof. Jeremy Varon, Department of Historical Studies, New School University  
[varonj@newschool.edu](mailto:varonj@newschool.edu)

Prof. Finis Dunaway, Department of History, Trent University, [finisdunaway@trentu.ca](mailto:finisdunaway@trentu.ca)