

MARIE-AMÉLIE GEORGE

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2018-present Professor, Wake Forest Law School
Associate Professor (2021-2024)
Assistant Professor (2018-2021)

Courses:
Civil Procedure; Evidence; Family Law; Professional Development; Public Interest Advocacy; Regulating Intimacy

Service:
Re-Accreditation Task Force (2024-present)
Academic Engagement and Advising Committee (2020-present; chair, 2023-present)
Junior Faculty Workshop (2020-2024; chair, 2020-21 & 2023-24)
Intellectual Life Committee (2019-2023)
Diversity and Inclusion Committee (2018-2020)

2017-2018 Berger-Howe Fellowship in Legal History, Harvard Law School

2015-2017 Associate in Law Fellowship, Columbia Law School

Courses:
Legal Practice Workshop; Sexuality and Gender Law Clinic

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

2024 *FAMILY MATTERS: QUEER HOUSEHOLDS AND THE HALF-CENTURY STRUGGLE FOR LEGAL RECOGNITION* (Cambridge University Press, Studies in Legal History Series).

ARTICLES

2025 *Win, Lose, or Draw* (under review with LAW & SOCIAL INQUIRY).

2021 [Exploring Identity](#), 55 FAM. L. Q. 1 (peer reviewed) (received Haub Law Emerging Scholar Award in Gender and Law) (reviewed by Erez Aloni on [Jotwell Equality](#) and Aníbal Rosario-Lebrón on [Jotwell Family Law](#)).

2021 [Expanding LGBT](#), 74 FLA. L. REV. 243 (selected for Harvard/Stanford/Yale Junior Faculty Forum)

2020 [Queering Reproductive Justice](#), 54 RICH. L. REV. 671 (invited symposium contribution).

2019 [Framing Trans Rights](#), 114 NW. U. L. REV. 555 (Dukeminier Award recipient) (selected for Michigan Junior Scholars Conference).

2018 [The LGBT Disconnect: Politics and Perils of Legal Movement Formation](#), 2018 WIS. L. REV. 504.

- 2017 [*Bureaucratic Agency: Administering the Transformation of LGBT Rights*](#), 36 YALE L. & POL'Y REV. 83 (Dukeminier Award recipient).
- 2017 [*Expressive Ends: Understanding Conversion Therapy Bans*](#), 68 ALA. L. REV. 793 (Dukeminier Award recipient) (cited by ALI, Restatement on Children and the Law).
- 2016 [*Agency Nullification: Defying Bans on Gay and Lesbian Foster and Adoptive Parents*](#), 51 HARV. C.R.-C.L. L. REV. 363.
- 2016 [*The Custody Crucible: The Development of Scientific Authority About Gay and Lesbian Parents*](#), 32 L. & HIST. REV. 487 (peer reviewed) (reviewed by Mary Ziegler on [Jotwell Legal History](#)).
- 2015 [*The Harmless Psychopath: Legal Debates Promoting the Decriminalization of Sodomy in the United States*](#), 24 J. HIST. SEXUALITY 225 (peer reviewed).
- 2006 *The Modern Mulatto: A Comparative Analysis of the Social and Legal Positions of Mulattoes in the Antebellum South and the Intersex in Contemporary America*, 15 COLUM. J. GENDER & L. 665.
- 2005 *Gendered Crime, Raced Justice: A Critical Race Feminist Approach to Forensic DNA Databank Expansion*, 19 NAT'L BLACK L.J. 78.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2025 *Regulating Same-Sex Sexuality in the Twentieth Century*, in THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF SEXUALITY IN THE UNITED STATES (Jen Manion & Nick Syrett eds.) (forthcoming) (invited contribution)
- 2022 *The Coming Out of American Law*, in THE BILL OF RIGHTS IN MODERN AMERICA 249 (David J. Bodenhamer & James W. Ely, Jr. eds., 3d. ed.) (invited contribution, peer reviewed).

SHORTER WORKS

- 2022 [*Complicating Conformity*](#), 40 L. & HIST. REV. 819 (invited contribution).
- 2022 Commentary for *Massachusetts v. Blache*, in FEMINIST JUDGMENTS: CRIMINAL LAW 168 (Sarah Deer et al. eds.).

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2025 [*Review of Queer Career: Sexuality and Work in Modern America by Margot Canaday*](#), L. & HIST. REV. (Jan. 27).
- 2022 [*Review of The Streets Belong to Us: Sex, Race, and Police Power from Segregation to Gentrification by Anne Gray Fischer*](#), 62 AM. J. LEG. HIST. 211.
- 2019 [*Review of RAISING GOVERNMENT CHILDREN: A HISTORY OF FOSTER CARE AND THE AMERICAN WELFARE STATE by Catherine E. Rymph*](#), 53 J. SOC. HIST. 316.

OP-EDS & NEWS ANALYSIS ESSAYS

- 2024 [*LGBTQ rights: Where do Harris and Trump Stand?*](#), THE CONVERSATION, Oct. 10, 2024.

- 2024 [*The False Idea Behind Project 2025's Plans for LGBTQ Rights*](#), TIME, Sept. 20, 2024.
- 2024 [*This Year's Pride Month is a Time for Optimism, Not Despair*](#), MIAMI HERALD, June 10, 2024.
- 2024 [*Nex Benedict's Suicide Coincides with a Wave of Anti-LGBTQ+ Laws – and Some People's Misunderstanding about Transgender and Nonbinary Individuals*](#), THE CONVERSATION, April 3, 2024.
- 2023 [*"Don't Say Gay" Laws Harm Students Already at Risk*](#), ATLANTA J.-CONST., Feb. 17, 2023.
- 2022 [*Everyday People Must Save Marriage Equality*](#), WINSTON-SALEM J., Dec. 9, 2022.
- 2022 [*Florida's Bill Restricting LGBTQ Discussion Will Hurt All Children, LGBTQ and Straight*](#), WASH. POST, Mar. 9, 2022.
- 2021 [*False Claims of Protecting Children are Fueling Anti-Trans Legislation*](#), WASH. POST, July 6, 2021.
- 2020 [*The History Behind the Latest LGBTQ Rights Case at the Supreme Court*](#), WASH. POST, Nov. 17, 2020.
- 2020 [*The Fight Against AIDS Has Shaped How Potential COVID-19 Drugs Will Reach Patients*](#), WASH. POST, Apr. 29, 2020.

BLOG POSTS & LETTERS

- 2024 [*Stories on the Cutting Room Floor*](#), LEGAL HISTORY BLOG, Oct. 30, 2024.
- 2024 [*The Pre-Publication Gauntlet*](#), LEGAL HISTORY BLOG, Oct. 22, 2024.
- 2024 [*Using Oral Histories*](#), LEGAL HISTORY BLOG, Oct. 17, 2024.
- 2024 [*Collecting Oral Histories*](#), LEGAL HISTORY BLOG, Oct. 14, 2024.
- 2024 [*Writing a History of Progress During a Period of Retrenchment*](#), LEGAL HISTORY BLOG, Oct. 10, 2024.
- 2024 [*Legal History from the Ground Up*](#), LEGAL HISTORY BLOG, Oct. 7, 2024.
- 2024 [*Introducing Family Matters!*](#), LEGAL HISTORY BLOG, Oct. 3, 2024.
- 2024 [*Finding Hope for the Future in Queer Legal History*](#), FIFTEEN EIGHTY-FOUR (Cambridge Univ. Press Blog), September 19, 2024.
- 2023 [*Protecting Trans Children: Scientific Uncertainty and Legal Debates Over Child Custody and Access to Care*](#), BILL OF HEALTH (Harvard Law School, Petrie Flom Center), Sept. 20, 2023.
- 2021 [*Letter in response to "Why So Many Mothers Feel Like Failures,"*](#) N.Y. TIMES, Mar. 5, 2021 (with Meghan Boone & Jane Aiken).

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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| 2025-2027 | Dean's Fellow (Wake Forest University) |
| 2025 | Inclusive Excellence Award (AALS Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues Section) |
| 2025 | Gladding Author Award (Wake Forest University) |
| 2025 | Engaged Scholarship Pilot Grant (Wake Forest University) |
| 2024 | Departmental Teaching Initiative Grant (Wake Forest University) |
| 2023 | Book Development Grant (Wake Forest University) |
| 2021 | Michael Cunningham Prize, Dukeminier Awards Journal (Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law) |
| 2021 | Haub Law Emerging Scholar Award in Gender and Law (Pace Law School) |
| 2021 | Jurist Excellence in Teaching Award (Wake Forest University) |
| 2021 | Departmental Teaching Initiative Grant (Wake Forest University) |
| 2020 | William Nelson Cromwell Foundation Early Career Scholar Research Fellowship |
| 2020 | Pilot Research Grant (Wake Forest University) |
| 2019 | Michael Cunningham Prize, Dukeminier Awards Journal (Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law) |
| 2019 | Wallace Johnson Program for First Book Authors (American Society for Legal History) |
| 2018 | Stu Walter Prize, Dukeminier Awards Journal (Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law) |
| 2017 | Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (declined) |
| 2016 | William Nelson Cromwell Foundation Research Fellowship in American Legal History |
| 2015 | John Morton Blum Fellowship (research grant) (Yale University) |
| 2015 | Fund for Lesbian and Gay Studies Research Award (Yale University) |
| 2014 | Conference Travel Fellowship (Yale University) |
| 2014 | Fund for Lesbian and Gay Studies Research Award (Yale University) |
| 2013 | Phil Zwickler Memorial Research Grant (Cornell University) |
| 2013 | Fund for Lesbian and Gay Studies Research Award (Yale University) |
| 2013 | History Department Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship (Yale University) |
| 2012 | Fund for Lesbian and Gay Studies Research Award (Yale University) |

2011-2013 Richard J. Franke Fellowship (merit scholarship) (Yale University)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Family Matters: Queer Households and the Half-Century Struggle for Family Recognition,” presented at Yale University, February 13, 2025.

“Win, Lose, or Draw,” presented at the Mid-Atlantic Family Law Scholars Roundtable, Dec. 11, 2024.

“Teaching Tolerance: The Queer Family Comes Out Against Hate,” presented at the Michigan Law School Public Law Workshop, January 24, 2024.

“Confronting Crisis: Domestic Partnerships During the AIDS Epidemic,” presented at the American Society for Legal History, Oct. 27-28, 2023.

“Family Matters: Queer Households and the Half-Century Struggle for Family Recognition,” presented at the UNC Law Faculty Workshop, Sept. 29, 2023.

“Teaching Tolerance: The Queer Family Comes Out Against Hate,” presented at the Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 14-15, 2023.

“Becoming Equal: American Law and the Rise of the Queer Family,” presented at the Mid-Atlantic Family Law Scholars Roundtable, Dec. 2, 2022.

“Discrimination by Popular Vote,” presented at the American Society for Legal History, Nov. 10-12, 2022.

“Gender Expansive Children in Domestic Relations Matters: Redefining ‘Best Interests,’” presented at the Colorado Bar Association Family Law Section, May 11, 2022.

“Reading Rainbows: Inculcating Tolerance in the Nation’s Schools,” presented at the Harvard Law School Legal History Workshop, Mar. 2, 2022.

“Reading Rainbows: Inculcating Tolerance in the Nation’s Schools,” presented at the William & Mary Faculty Workshop, Sept. 16, 2021.

“Exploring Identity,” presented at Families Without Borders (Université de Tours), Apr. 1, 2021.

“Exploring Identity,” presented at Wash. Univ. Sch. of Law Faculty Workshop, Jan. 13, 2021.

“Expanding LGBT,” presented at the Harvard/Stanford/Yale Junior Faculty Forum, July 13, 2020.

“Expanding LGBT,” presented at the Junior/Senior Southeastern Faculty Forum, Nov. 1-2, 2019.

“Framing Trans Rights,” presented at the Michigan Junior Scholars Conference, Apr. 26-27, 2019.

“Getting to LGBT,” presented at the American Society for Legal History, Nov. 9-10, 2018.

“Reading Rainbows: Battles Over Gay-Inclusive Curricula in 1990s America,” presented at the Harvard Law School Legal History Workshop, Feb. 22, 2018.

“Why LGBT?,” presented at the American Society for Legal History, Oct. 27-28, 2017.

“The Boomerang Effect: LGBT Rights Strategy and Countermobilization,” presented at the New York Area Family Law Scholars Workshop, Aug. 18, 2017.

“Agency Nullification: Administering the Transformation of LGBT Rights,” presented at the American Society for Legal History, Oct. 28-30, 2016.

“Symbolic Legislation: Understanding Conversion Therapy Bans,” presented at the Law and Society Association, June 2-5, 2016.

“Modernizing Morality: Scientific Evidence in Anti-Gay Ballot Initiatives,” presented at the Organization of American Historians, Apr. 7-10, 2016.

“The Delayed Cure: Legal Implications of American Psychiatric Association Debates about Homosexuality after 1973,” presented at the American Historical Association, Jan. 2-5, 2015.

“Agents of Change: Executive Agency Policies on Gay and Lesbian Foster and Adoptive Parents,” presented at the Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 21, 2015.

“The Parenthood Paradox: Psychological Research on Gay and Lesbian Parenting,” presented at the American Association for the History of Medicine, May 8-11, 2014.

“The Custody Crucible: The Centrality of Lesbian Mother Custody Cases to Gay Rights,” presented at the American Society for Legal History, Nov. 6-9, 2014.

“From Sexual Psychopath to Deviant Sodomite: The Transition from Sexual Psychopath Legislation to the Decriminalization of Sodomy in America,” presented at the European Social Science and History Conference, April 23-26, 2014.

MEDIA APPEARANCES & MENTIONS

- 2025 [*“Becoming a Target”: LGBTQ+ Community in Gaston Fears Future as Trump Takes Office*](#), GASTON GAZETTE (NC), Feb. 7, 2025
- 2025 [*Trump Trans Care Order Raises New Legal Risks for Providers*](#), LAW360, Feb. 4, 2025.
- 2024 [*There’s a Queer Alternative to Project 2025, and It’s Been in the Works for Years*](#), LGBTQ NATION, Oct. 31, 2024.
- 2024 [*The Heartbreaking Oversight in Conversion Therapy Bans*](#), UNCLOSETED MEDIA, Sept. 29, 2024.
- 2024 [*Family Matters: Queer Households and the Half-Century Struggle for Legal Recognition*](#), NOTCHES: REMARKS ON THE HISTORY OF SEXUALITY, Sept. 10, 2024.
- 2024 [*Supreme Court Sets Stage for Crucial Ruling On Trans Rights*](#), LAW360, June 25, 2024.
- 2023 [*The Gay Pastor, The Conservative Megachurch and the Fight Ripping Apart a Suburb*](#), HUFFINGTON POST, Dec. 28, 2024.
- 2023 [*NC Transgender Athlete Ban Affects Private Schools and Universities. But Is It Legal?*](#), CHARLOTTE NEWS & OBSERVER, June 23, 2023.

- 2022 [*They Said Letting Transgender Girls Play Would Drive Athletes Away from HS and College Sports. It Didn't*](#), THE 74 MILLION, Oct. 19, 2022.
- 2022 [*The Future of Marriage Equality*](#), GETTING COMMON, July 20, 2022.
- 2022 [*History is Repeating Itself On the Gay Rights Movement*](#), Baltimore Sun, June 18, 2022.
- 2022 [*The History and Importance of the Stonewall Rights*](#), 770 CHQR RADIO (Canada), June 6, 2022.
- 2022 [*What Were the Stonewall Riots? How the Events of 1969 Shaped LGBT Movement*](#), NEWSWEEK, June 1, 2022.
- 2022 [*The Real Reason Pride Month Is Celebrated in June*](#), NEWSWEEK, June 1, 2022.
- 2022 [*Republicans Will Try to Ban or Further Restrict Abortions in North Carolina. Legal and Political Experts Say*](#), WINSTON-SALEM J., May 8, 2022.
- 2022 [*Law Professor Says Other Rights Could be Impacted if Roe v. Wade Overturned*](#), WFMY NEWS, May 4, 2022.
- 2022 [*Impact in North Carolina if Roe v. Wade is Overturned*](#), WFMY NEWS, May 3, 2022.
- 2022 [*Why So Many Conservatives Are Talking About "Grooming" All Of A Sudden*](#), FIFTYTHREE, Apr. 13, 2022.
- 2022 [*Why Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' Bill is Just the Tip of the Iceberg*](#), THE SKIMM, Mar. 28, 2022.
- 2022 [*Abbott and Paxton, Don't Threaten Parents of Trans Kids and their Doctors*](#), HOUSTON CHRONICLE, Feb. 26, 2022.
- 2021 [*California Legislates Non-Consensual Condom Removal*](#), LA PRESSE (Canada), Oct. 8, 2021.
- 2021 [*A Supreme Court Case Poses a Threat to L.G.B.T.Q. Foster Kids*](#), N.Y. TIMES, June 5, 2021.
- 2021 [*These Photos of Dogs Doing Work are Absolutely Adorable*](#), GOOD MORNING AMERICA, March 29, 2021.
- 2021 [*During the 1970s, Social Workers Began Placing LGBTQ Youth with Queer Foster Families*](#), THE TAKEAWAY (WNYC and Public Radio Int'l), March 9, 2021.
- 2021 [*The Untold Story of Queer Foster Families*](#), NEW YORKER, Feb. 28, 2021.
- 2021 [*What new jobs are available? Why are you paying taxes on your unemployment? Ask the experts*](#), WFMY TV, Feb. 17, 2021.
- 2020 [*Having problems with your unemployment? Wake Forest Law may be able to help*](#), WFMY TV, June 17, 2020.
- 2020 [*Wake Forest Law School Students Providing Help With Unemployment Benefit Questions*](#), WINSTON-SALEM J., June 7, 2020

2019 [Examining Transgender Civil Rights](#), NPR – KUAF, April 16, 2019.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2024-present William Nelson Cromwell Foundation Article Prize Committee, American Society for Legal History (member, 2024; chair, 2025-present)

2024-present Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference (organizer)

2022-2023 Mid-Atlantic Family Law Scholars' Roundtable (founder and organizer)

2020-2023 Committee for Research Fellowships and Awards, American Society for Legal History

2020-2021 Faculty Supervisor, Wake Forest Law Pro Bono Unemployment Insurance Project

2019-present Faculty Advisor, Wake Forest Law OUTLaws, DVAC, First Generation Professionals

2018-present Peer reviewer (Law & History Review, Law & Society Review, American Historical Review, Journal of Homosexuality, Modern Intellectual History)

2014-2017 Publications Committee, American Society for Legal History

2013-2015 Graduate and Professional Student Senate, Yale University

2013-2015 Amy Rossborough Fellowship Coordinator, Yale College Dean's Office

2013-2014 Legal History Forum Fellow, Yale Law School

2013-2014 Graduate and Professional Student Title IX Advisory Board, Yale University

2003-2007 Columbia Journal of Gender & Law (Editor-in-Chief, Production Editor, Articles Editor)

2006-2007 Courtroom Advocates Project Coordinator, Domestic Violence Project

EDUCATION

2018 Ph.D., History, Yale University, New Haven, CT
Dissertation: *Deviant Justice: The Transformation of Gay and Lesbian Rights in America, with Distinction*

2007 J.D., Columbia Law School, New York, NY
James Kent Scholar

2006 M.St., Women's Studies, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
Distinction on thesis

2003 B.S.F.S., Comparative Studies, Georgetown University, Washington, DC
Magna cum laude

LEGAL PRACTICE

2008-2011 Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
Litigation Associate

Practiced white collar criminal defense and complex commercial litigation. Drafted appellate and trial briefs in criminal and civil cases addressing discovery obligations, admissibility of expert testimony, jury instructions, and sentencing. Assisted in two trials and an arbitration hearing, preparing direct and cross-examinations and drafting evidentiary motions. Participated in mock jury exercises to evaluate trial arguments. Assisted in taking and defending depositions of fact and expert witnesses. Drafted mediation position statements in contract disputes and fraud cases. Represented client in successful asylum petition based on forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

2007-2008 State Attorney's Office, Miami-Dade County
Assistant State Attorney

Investigated and prepared misdemeanor and felony criminal cases from arrest to trial. Interviewed victims, officers, and witnesses, reviewed evidence, and assessed whether to proceed on charges. Argued motions that included bond revocation, probation violation, probable cause determination, witness competency, and admissibility of evidence. Conducted bench trials, jury trials, and hearings. Drafted appellate brief.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida
New York