

**YVETTE BUTLER**  
605-651-0364 • [ytbutler@olemiss.edu](mailto:ytbutler@olemiss.edu)

### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

**University of Mississippi School of Law, Oxford, MS**  
Assistant Professor of Law, July 1, 2020 – Present

- Awards: Ben Hardy Faculty Excellence Award for Outstanding Teaching, Scholarship, and Service (2022), Inaugural Faculty Diversity Award (2022), University of Mississippi Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies Fellowship (for the project *The Legal Consequences of Conflating and Appropriating Slavery Abolition*) (2021-2023)
- Committees: Speakers and Faculty Scholarship (2020-Present), Faculty Appointments (2021-Present), Dean Search Committee (2022), Public Interest Law Fellows Grant Selection (2021, 2022), Diversity (2020-2021)
- Service: Vice Chair, ABA Criminal Justice Section, Academics Committee (2021-Present)

### **TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Constitutional Law, Jurisprudence, Theories of Collective Liberation (including Race and Gender Theory), Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Civil Rights, Work Law

### **PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS**

- WIP Survival Labor
- Selected for Third Annual Equity Scholars' Conference at Boston University School of Law (November 2021)
  - Presented at the AALS New Voices in Criminal Justice Panel (January 2022)
  - Invited to the Marquette University Law Junior Scholar Works-in-Progress Workshop (September 2022)
- Sub. Demonizing Our Sisters Through Epistemic Oppression. Available at: [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=4159001](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4159001).
- "Download of the Week" on Lawrence Solum's Legal Theory Blog <https://lsolum.typepad.com/legaltheory/2022/07/download-of-the-week-demonizing-our-sisters-through-epistemic-oppression-by-butler.html> (July 30, 2022).
- 2021 Yvette Butler, *Aligned: Sex Workers' Lessons for the Gig Economy*, 26 Mich. J. Race & L. 337 (2021). Available at: <https://repository.law.umich.edu/mjrl/vol26/iss2/3>.
- Reviewed by Charlotte S. Alexander, *Learning from Sex Workers: Lessons in Advocacy, Stigma, and Struggle*, JOTWELL (June 11, 2021), <https://worklaw.jotwell.com/learning-from-sex-workers-lessons-in-advocacy-stigma-and-struggle/>

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- 2021 (Book Chapter) *The Handbook of Social Work and Sexualities*, “From Fallen Women to the Tumblr Ban: Representing the Landscape of Sex Work From a Historical and Legal Perspective,” Panichelli, M., Capous-Desyllas, M., Butler, Y (New York, NY: Routledge)
- 2021 (Book Chapter) *The Handbook of Social Work and Sexualities*, “Contemporary Social Work Education, Practice, Policy, and Research With the Sex Trades,” Panichelli, M., Capous-Desyllas, M., Butler, Y (New York, NY: Routledge)
- 2020 Not Built for Us *American Bar Association Journal* (legal short fiction about a black advocate charged with domestic terrorism resulting from a peaceful protest)
- 2018 Amara Legal Center, Protection from Sexual Extortion Act (July 11, 2018) <https://www.amaralegal.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/sextortion-written-testimony.pdf>
- 2018 Amara Legal Center, Amara's Stance on FOSTA/SESTA (Feb 23, 2018) <https://www.amaralegal.org/amaras-stance-on-fosta-sesta/>
- 2016 Amara Legal Center, Harmful Investigation Tactics: How Law Enforcement Uses Criminalization to Control and Retraumatize Survivors of Sex Trafficking (December 2016) <https://www.amaralegal.org/harmful-investigation-tactics-how-law-enforcement-uses-criminalization-to-control-and-retraumatize-survivors-of-sex-trafficking/>

### **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

**National Association of Appellate Court Attorneys**, July 8, 2022. Understanding Critical Race Theory, CLE Session at Berkeley School of Law. (Invited)

**Lutie Lytle Summer Workshop and Writing Retreat**, June 23, 2022. *The Legal Consequences of Conflating and Appropriating Slavery Abolition*, Incubator Presentation.

**Lutie Lytle Summer Workshop and Writing Retreat**, June 23, 2022. Creating and Executing Your Tenure/Promotion Plan. (Moderator)

**United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi**, May 23, 2022. An Introduction to Critical Race Theory. (Invited)

**James Madison University, Democracy in Peril Speaker Series**, April 26, 2022. Understanding Critical Race Theory: Does the Current Climate Prove the Point? (Invited)

**Saint Louis University School of Law Faculty Workshop**, April 6, 2022. (Invited)

**Texas A&M University School of Law, SEC Exchange Series**, March 30, 2022 (Invited)

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**AALS 2022 Annual Meeting, New Voices in Criminal Justice**, January 8, 2022. Presented WIP on “Survival Labor” (working title for Protecting the Hustle/Navigating the Harm WIPS).

**Third Annual Equity Scholars’ Forum, Boston University School of Law**, November 2021. Selected to workshop my work in progress, Survival Labor.

**Constitutional Law Colloquium, Loyola Chicago**, November 7, 2020. Accepted to present on my work in progress, Protecting the Hustle: Exploring Constitutional Protections Afforded to Survival.

**16th Annual Symposium of the Journal of Law, Economics & Policy: The Changing Nature of Work and the Economics of Employment in the 21st Century**. George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School. November 2019.

**The Effect of SESTA/FOSTA**. February 2019.

Invited to speak at a hill briefing hosted by the LGBT Caucus on the effect on sex workers and survivors of trafficking after SESTA/FOSTA was signed into law.

**Fair Budget Coalition Constituent Education**. January 13, 2018.

Engaged with DC Community members about the coalition’s community safety issue group priorities. We sought feedback from people who would be personally impacted and/or live in the district, to inform selection of policy priorities.

**Virginia Rights and Remedies for Survivors Training**. Ayuda. June 27, 2018.

Trained Ayuda’s Fairfax, Virginia attorneys and advocates on expungement, vacatur, pardons, civil protection orders, and name changes in Virginia for victims of sex trafficking.

**FOSTA/SESTA Overview**. DC National Lawyers’ Guild. June 28, 2018.

Provided an overview of recently passed legislation impacting individuals engaged in commercial sex and the consequences of the legislation (pro and con).

**Sex Worker and Advocate Surveillance Panel**. American University. September 8, 2018.

Invited to speak on a panel regarding issues of advocate surveillance by the government and how expanded surveillance affects sex worker advocacy.

**NOVAHTI Social Worker Training**. November 1, 2018.

Invited to design a training for social workers working with survivors of trafficking to highlight the differences in professional responsibility between attorneys and social workers and the many ways that social workers can help guide and support clients through the legal process.

**Together We Bake**. June 14, 2017.

Invited to give a training on identifying victims of sex trafficking and providing trauma informed care to the leaders of a job training program for women moving toward self-sufficiency, many of whom were previously incarcerated.

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**D.C. Judicial Bar Conference.** April 7, 2017.

Selected to participate on a panel at the DC Judicial Bar Conference during a session with approximately 20 participants on identifying survivors of trafficking and advocating or deciding cases in a trauma-informed way.

### **SELECTED MEDIA**

CNN, A look inside Mississippi's only critical race theory class and an unlikely ally  
<https://www.cnn.com/2022/02/11/us/mississippi-critical-race-theory-law-class/index.html>  
(February 11, 2022) (interview)

Mississippi Today, Inside Mississippi's only class on critical race theory,  
<https://mississippitoday.org/2022/02/02/mississippi-only-critical-race-theory/> (February 2, 2022)  
(I was not interviewed for this article, but it is about my course)

Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Morning Edition, Abortion (December 3, 2021) (interview)

Mississippi Public Broadcasting, In Legal Terms, Abortion Ban Case (June 22, 2021)  
<http://inlegalterms.mpbonline.org/episodes/in-legal-terms-ms-abortion-ban-case> (interview)

Baskin, Morgan, Proposed Legislation Would Decriminalize Selling and Buying Sex in D.C.  
(Nov. 30, 2017) <https://www.washingtoncitypaper.com/news/article/20984273/proposed-legislation-would-decriminalize-selling-and-buying-sex-in-dc> (interview)

Kurzus, Rachel, New Bill Would Decriminalize Sex Work in DC (Oct. 5, 2017)  
<https://dcist.com/story/17/10/05/new-bill-would-decriminalize-sex-wo/> (interview)

Chen, Michelle, DC May Soon Be the First US City to Decriminalize Sex Work (Oct. 31, 2017)  
<https://www.thenation.com/article/dc-may-soon-be-the-first-us-city-to-decriminalize-sex-work/>  
(interview)

### **EDUCATION**

**The George Washington University Law School, Washington, DC**

*Juris Doctor*, May 2014

- Member, Moot Court Board
- First Place and Best Brief Award, American Bar Association, First Amendment and Media Law Moot Court, Spring 2014
- American Bar Association, Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in Health Law, Spring 2014
- Participant, Van Vleck Constitutional Law Moot Court, Fall 2013
- Business Ethics Teaching Assistant for Professor Keith Diener in The George Washington University School of Business (August 2012 – February 2013)

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**University of Minnesota, Morris**, Morris, MN

*Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy*, May 2011

- Recipient of Ted Uehling Donor Funded Scholarship in Philosophy
- Senior Thesis “The Morality of Sex Robots”

### **PRACTICE EXPERIENCE**

**Center for Survivor Agency and Justice**, Washington, DC

*Director of Capacity Building and Systems Change* (January 2019 – June 2020)

Lead the development of CSAJ’s systems change work by creating new projects related to commercial sexual exchange and strategies to address broader issues of economic security for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Collaborated with issue area experts in Consumer Rights Law, Domestic Violence Law, Family Law, Civil Rights, and more to create webinars, resources, and other materials for use by attorneys and advocates in the field. Managed a budget as the lead on a brand-new project that developed the skills of legal advocates to address the economic costs of domestic and sexual violence.

**Amara Legal Center**, Washington, DC

*Director of Policy and Strategic Partnerships* (July 2017 – January 2019)

*Staff Attorney* (May 2016 – July 2017)

*Volunteer* (January 2014 – May 2016)

Established and led Amara’s policy department by developing policy priorities, presenting oral and written testimony in support of or in opposition to legislation, forming and participating in coalitions with non-profit and government entities to work toward legislative and policy change in the areas of civil rights, criminal justice reform, and victim services that benefitted intersecting communities. Provided direct legal representation to sex workers and survivors of human trafficking by independently litigating cases in federal and state court from intake to resolution. Developed and managed the intern program.

**U.S. District Court for the District of South Dakota**, Rapid City, SD

*Law Clerk to United States Magistrate Judge Wollmann* (June 2015 – May 2016)

Sole staff member to newly appointed magistrate judge in an area with a large Native American community to further her mission of ensuring equitable treatment of all who appeared in her courtroom. Conducted legal research, drafted and edited orders, reports and recommendations, and internal memoranda on a variety of issues, including unreasonable searches and seizures, excessive force, and employment discrimination.

**Victor M. Glasberg & Associates**, Alexandria, VA

*Post-Graduate Fellow* (August 2014 – May 2015)

Conducted legal research to develop civil rights cases and drafted pleadings, memoranda, briefs, correspondence, and other documents on a variety of issues including unlawful search and seizure, false arrest, and malicious prosecution. Interacted with clients and witnesses by conducting interviews, participating in depositions, and explaining matters to clients. Participated in meetings with members of the firm, discussed case strategy, and helped prepare for hearings and appellate argument.

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**BAR ADMISSIONS**

2014, Virginia State Bar

2015, District of Columbia Bar

2015, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia