

SARAH POTTER
Department of History
The University of Memphis
Memphis, TN 38152-3450
(901)678-1713
spotter1@memphis.edu

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, History Department
University of Memphis
2008-present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. American History
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
2008

M.A., American History
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
2002

B.A., American History, *cum laude* and with departmental honors
Columbia University, New York, NY
1999

DISSERTATION

Family Matters: Domesticity and the Everyday Life of Race, Class, and National Belonging in Postwar Chicago (passed with distinction)
Committee: George Chauncey (chair), Amy Dru Stanley, James Sparrow

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

“‘Undesirable Relations’: Same-sex Relationships and the Meaning of Sexual Desire at a Women’s Reformatory during the Progressive Era,” *Feminist Studies* 30, no. 2 (Summer 2004): 394-415.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Faculty Research Grant, University of Memphis, 2009

Short-term Research Fellowship in African American Studies, Black Metropolis Research Consortium, Chicago, IL, 2009

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in U.S. History, Cornell University, 2008-2010 (declined)

Center for Gender Studies Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2006-2007

Women's Studies Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, 2006

Century Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2002-2006

Mellon "First Year" Fellowship in Humanistic Studies, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, 2001-2002

HONORS

Fitzpatrick Mellon Dissertation Proposal Prize, University of Chicago Department of History, 2004-2005

Feminist Studies Award for Best Paper Submitted by a Graduate Student, 2003

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS

HIST 2020: US since 1877

HIST 4831/6831: American Family History

HIST 4863/6863: History of American Childhood

HIST 7980/8980: The Reproductive Rights Movement in the US

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Racialization and the Private Sphere in the US, Lecturer, Fall 2007

BA Essay Seminar in Gender Studies, Preceptor, Winter and Spring 2005

America in Western Civilizations 2 (nineteenth-century section), teaching assistant for Professor Amy Stanley, Winter 2005

Research and Writing Methodologies in Gender Studies, Preceptor, Fall 2004

The Social History of American Sexual Subcultures, Teaching Assistant for Professor George Chauncey, Fall 2003

PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

"The Obligations of Motherhood: Rethinking the Politics of Family in Post-World War II Chicago," Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Washington, DC, April 2010 (forthcoming)

"Do We Stay or Do We Go?: Family Ideals and the Diverse Meanings of Suburban Space in Chicago in the 1940s and 1950s," *The Diverse Suburb: History, Politics, and Prospects*, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY, October 2009 (forthcoming)

"Inside the Baby Boom: Rethinking the Politics of Family, Race, and Class in Post-World War II Chicago," Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Miami, FL, October 2008

“‘They’ve Shown Themselves to Be Very Home Loving and Community Minded Persons’: Family Ideology and Civic Engagement,” Political History Workshop, University of Chicago, April 2008

“‘Something to Live For’: Family Ideology, Personal Fulfillment, and Social Belonging,” Social History Workshop, University of Chicago, October 2007

“Constructing Domestic Space: Community, Race, and Domestic Privacy in Post-World War II Chicago,” Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, March 2007

“‘We’ve All Got Acute Ghetto-itus’: Domesticity in Chicago’s Black Belt, 1940-1960,” Seventh Annual Graduate Symposium on Women’s and Gender History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, March, 2006; also presented at Social History Workshop, University of Chicago, March 2006

“‘A Place for Women Only’: Women’s Political Activity in the 1920s and the Campaign for a State Reformatory for Women in Illinois,” M.A. thesis, completed under direction of Thomas C. Holt, James Westfall Thompson Professor of American History, University of Chicago, 2002

SERVICE

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Membership Committee – Representative from Tennessee, Organization of American Historians, 2009-present

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Center for Research on Women, University of Memphis, Faculty Affiliate, 2008-present
Women’s and Gender Studies Program, University of Memphis, Faculty Affiliate, 2008-present

Faculty Co-Advisor, Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, University of Memphis, 2009-present

Department of History Endowment Committee, University of Memphis, 2009-present

Department of History Undergraduate Studies Committee, University of Memphis, 2009-present

Department of History Graduate Program Committee, University of Memphis, 2008-2009

Department of History Newsletter/Alumni Outreach Committee, University of Memphis, 2008-2009

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Consultant, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Chicago, Fall 2007

Project Director, “Women and the University of Chicago: History and Experience,” University of Chicago Center for Gender Studies, Summer 2006

Graduate Student Representative and Co-coordinator of Student Caucus, University of Chicago Center for Gender Studies, 2005-2006

Graduate Student Mentor, University of Chicago SROP-McNair Scholars' Program, Summer 2005

Co-coordinator, University of Chicago Social History Workshop, 2004-2005

Department Administrator, Barnard College Department of Women's Studies, New York, NY, September 1999 to September 2001

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association, Organization of American Historians, National Women's Studies Association, Social Science History Association