

Heather Berg, PhD

Short Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

- PhD University of California, Santa Barbara, 2016 (Department of Feminist Studies, Affiliation with the Center for Work, Labor, and Democracy)
MA George Washington University, 2011 (Public Policy and Women's Studies)
BA New York University, Gallatin School of Individualized Study, 2008

EMPLOYMENT

- 2019-present Assistant Professor, Washington University St. Louis, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department; Affiliated Faculty with American Culture Studies
2016-2019 Lecturer, University of Southern California, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Book

- 2021 *Porn Work: Sex, Labor, and Late Capitalism* (University of North Carolina Press)
*Winner, 2022 CLR James Best Book for Academic or General Audience Award, Working-Class Studies Association
Academic reviews in *Gender & Society*, *Feminist Formations*, *Journal of American History*, *New Labor Forum*, *Sexualities*, *Criminal Law and Criminal Justice*
Popular reviews in *The Boston Review*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Spectre Journal*, *X Critic*
2022 audio edition
2023 "Une Scène N'est Qu'un Outil Marketing: Le Travail Indépendant des Actrices dans L'économie de la Pornographie en Ligne aux États-Unis," *Réseaux*. 237. (excerpted French translation)
Forthcoming "Pornografia Wydaje Się Inna Niż Wygląda: Praca Porno na Planie," *Intimacy and Ethics in the Theater*, Eds. Agata Adamiecka-Sitek, Małgorzata Jabłońska, Katarzyna Waligóra, Izabela Zawadzka. (excerpted Polish translation)

Edited Volume

- 2021 "Reading Sex Work." *South Atlantic Quarterly*. 120 (3).

Refereed Articles

- Accepted "'If You're Going to Be Beautiful, You Better Be Dangerous': Sex Worker Community Defense and the Search for a Useable Past," *Radical History Review [Feminists Confront State Violence, special issue]*. 148.) Forthcoming in 2024.
Accepted "'Today, Solidarity Means Fight Back': On Militant Care." *Essays in Philosophy [Care Ethics Otherwise, special issue]*. 24 (1-2). Forthcoming in 2023.
2023 "Free Sex." *South Atlantic Quarterly [Feminism's Bad Objects, special issue]*. 122 (3): 505-523. (invited).
2022 "Reading Gigs Dialectically." *Critical Historical Studies*. 9 (1): 35-61.
2021 "Porn Work, Independent Contractor Misclassification, and the Limits of the Law." *Columbia Human Rights Law Review*. 52 (3): 1159-1198.
2020 "Left of #MeToo." *Feminist Studies*. 46 (2): 259-286. *Winner, Claire Goldberg Moses Award for Most Theoretically Innovative Article Published in the Journal.
2017 "Porn Work, Feminist Critique, and the Market for Authenticity." *Signs*. 42 (3): 669-692.
2016 "A Scene is Just a Marketing Tool: Alternative Income Streams in Porn's Gig Economy." *Porn Studies [Porn and Labour, special issue]*. 3 (2): 160-174.

- 2015 “Trafficking Policy, Meaning Making, and State Violence.” *Social Policy and Society*. 14 (1): 144—155.
- 2014 “Working for Love, Loving for Work: Discourses of Labor in Feminist Sex-Work Activism.” *Feminist Studies*. 40 (3): 693—721. *Winner, Feminist Studies Award for best article submitted by a graduate student.
- 2014 “An Honest Day’s Wage for a Dishonest Day’s Work: (Re)Productivism and Refusal.” *WSQ [Debt, special issue]*. 42 (1-2): 161—177.

Book Chapters

- Accepted “Work,” in *This is Not a Feminism Textbook*, Ed. Catherine Rottenberg. London: Goldsmiths Press. (invited) Forthcoming in 2023.
- 2021 “Sex Work,” in *Keywords in Gender and Sexuality Studies*, Eds. Aren Aizura, Aimee Bahng, Amber Musser, Karma Chavez, Mishuana Goeman, Shona Jackson and Kyla Wazana Tompkins. New York: NYU Press. 207-210. (invited)
- 2021 “Gendering Risk and Protection,” in *Handbook of Male Sex Work, Culture, and Society*, Eds. John Scott, David Bimbi, Christian Grov, and Victor Minichiello. London: Routledge Press. 133-141. (invited)
- 2020 “Sex and Money After the Future,” in *Come Closer: The Biennial Reader*, Eds. Vít Havránek and Tereza Stejskalova. Prague: Tranzit. 105-116. (invited) *Also exhibited at the *Matter of Art* exhibition, Prague. Translated into Czech as *Pojď Blíž: Antologie Textů k Bienále*.
- 2016 “Intimate Labor in Porn Work.” in *Introducing the New Sexuality Studies: Third Edition*, Eds. Nancy Fischer and Steven Seidman. New York: Routledge. 448-455. (invited)
Re-published 2022, in *Introducing the New Sexuality Studies: Fourth Edition*, Eds. Nancy Fischer, Laurel Westbrook, Steven Seidman. New York: Routledge.
- 2016 With Constance Penley, “Creative Precarity in the Adult Film Industry.” in *Precarious Creativity: Global Media, Local Labor*, Eds. Kevin Sanson and Michael Curtin. Oakland: UC Press. 159-171.
- 2015 “Sex, Work, Queerly: Identity, Authenticity, and Labored Performance.” in *Queer Sex Work*, Eds. Mary Laing, Katy Pilcher, and Nicola Smith. London: Taylor & Francis. 23—32.
- 2014 with Eileen Boris, “Protecting Virtue, Erasing Labor: Historical Responses to Trafficking.” in *Human Trafficking Reconsidered: Rethinking the Problem, Envisioning New Solutions*, Eds. Kimberly Kay Hoang and Rhacel Parreñas. New York: International Debate and Education Association. 19—29.

Other

- 2022 “Queer Sex and the Crisis of Capital.” (invited book review) *GLQ*. 29 (1): 141-143.
- 2022 With Samantha Pinto and Kathi Weeks. “What Can Feminist Work Be?: A Conversation with WSQ authors Kathi Weeks and Heather Berg.” *Women’s Studies Quarterly*. (invited) 50 (3): 111-123.
- 2022 “Civilians at Work.” *Litro Magazine*. 181 (invited)
- 2022 With Angela Jones, P.J. Patella-Rey, and Corinne Schwarz. “Nothing about Us without Us: An Interview on the Sex Worker Syllabus.” *Ethics and Social Welfare*. 16 (2): 145-150.
- 2021 “Reading Sex Work: An Introduction.” *South Atlantic Quarterly*. 120 (3). 485-491.
- 2021 “Erotic Labor within and Without Work: An Interview with femi babylon.” *South Atlantic Quarterly*. 120 (3). 631-640.
- 2018 “Sex, Work, Place: Beyond the Set Shop Floor.” *Harvard Design Magazine*. 46, “No Sweat” special issue. (invited)
- 2018 “Workers and Publics.” *Porn Studies*. *Porn Studies*. 5 (2): 217-220. (invited)
- 2016 “Practicing Institutional Feelings: A Roundtable.” *Feminist Formations*. 27 (3): 217—236. (invited)
- 2014 “Labouring Porn Studies.” *Porn Studies*. 1 (1-2): 75—79.
- 2014 Review of *Playing the Whore: The Work of Sex Work*, by Melissa Gira Grant, *Porn Studies*. 1 (3): 1—2.
- 2014 “Sex Work and Trafficking.” *Encyclopedia of Political Thought*, Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell. 3410—3415.

ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP (SELECT)

- 2022 “Freedom, Not Benefits,” *Boston Review* [Imagining Global Futures, special issue]. July 21 (online); Fall 2022 (print: 71-83).
- 2018 With Conner Habib. “The Problem with Sex Work is Work: A Conversation With Conner Habib and Dr. Heather Berg,” *Merry Jane*. December 14.
- 2018 With Lola Li and M. Dante, “Why Sex Workers Are Fighting the Anti-Sex Trafficking Bill.” *Broke Ass Stuart*. March 9.
- 2015 “Business as Usual.” *Jacobin*. February 15.
Translated into Polish at *Political Critique*. April 3.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE, COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT

Washington University, St. Louis

- “Advanced Feminist Theory.” Spring 2020, Spring 2021.
- “Feminist Research Methods.” Fall 2021. Designed in collaboration with Dr. Rachel Brown.
- “Everyday Unruliness: Feminist and Queer Resistance.” Fall 2020, Spring 2022.
- “Sex and Money: Economies of Desire.” Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022.
- “Sexuality and the State.” Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021.

MEDIA COVERAGE (SELECT)

Recorded Interviews (Radio, Podcasts, Film and TV)

- 2023 Guest, “Heather Berg Talks Porn Work, Marxism, Racial Capitalism, and SWERFS,” Kiko’s Freethinkers.
- 2023 Guest, “January 24,” Sonora (Spain)
- 2023 Guest, “January 20,” Radio Canada (Montreal)
- 2022 Guest, “August 26,” The Takeaway with Melissa Harris-Perry
- 2022 Guest, Majority Report
- 2022 Guest, “Sex Workers as Labor’s Vanguard,” This is Hell! Also Live on Chicago’s WNUR, August 18
- 2022 Guest, “5/26/22,” Behind the News with Doug Henwood
- 2022 Guest, “A Platform Named Desire,” Fairwork (UK)
- 2022 Guest, “Dr. Heather Berg’s *Porn Work*,” Sex Industry Book Club
- 2022 Guest, “Sex Work in a Digital Age,” Global Citizen
- 2022 Guest, with Michelle Chihara, “Are We All Porn Workers Now?: Gigwork & Radical Flexibility,” *The American Vandal Podcast*, Center for Mark Twain Studies
- 2022 Guest, with Whit Strub, “Porn Work,” *Reinventing Solidarity* (New Labor Forum podcast)
- 2021 Guest, *National Public Radio’s Marketplace*, “OnlyFans Reversed Its Policy, But Sex Workers Are Still Wary”
- 2021 Guest, *Postcapitalism Podcast*, “Heather Berg on Porn Work”
- 2021 Guest, *New Books Network*, “Porn Work”
- 2021 Guest, *Thinking is Cool*, “How to Make Porn Suck Less”
- 2021 Guest, *Buzzfeed Video*, “I Confronted My Hatred of Porn”
- 2021 Guest, *Against Everything with Conner Habib*, “Heather Berg on Porn Work”
- 2021 Guest, *Sex Out Loud*, “Porn Work: How Performers Hack the System”
- 2021 Guest, *Peepshow Podcast*, “Porn Work with Heather Berg”
- 2020 Guest, *It’s Not Just in Your Head*, “Interviewing Sex Worker Gemma Paradise and Feminist Studies Scholar Heather Berg”
- 2019 Featured in *American Mythology* (video documentary)
- 2019 Guest, *Global News Radio Toronto*, live on 10/18
- 2019 Guest, *Against Everything with Conner Habib*, “Porn Work is Work”
- 2019 Guest, *Labor History Today*, episodes 3/31 and 4/7
- 2019 Guest, *Nostalgia Trap*, “Seizing the Means of (Porn) Production”

- 2019 Guest, *How Humans Change*, “Dr. Heather Berg on Moving From Liberalism to Radical Reform”
- 2018 Co-host, *Ill Repute*, “Caliban and the Witch,” “The Story of Ys,” and “Alice: Memoirs of a Barbary Coast Prostitute”
- 2018 Guest, *Mission PodCast*, “Pornography and Social Justice With Dr. Heather Berg”
- 2018 Guest, *Observations With Sovereign Syre*, “Heather Berg”

Print Features

- 2022 Interview in *St. Louis Public Radio*, “Missouri Sex Workers Organize to Protect Their Community’s Access to Abortions”
- 2022 Book feature interview, with Helen Hester, *Autonomy’s Feminist Futures Programme*
- 2022 Book feature interview, with Nicholas Journeyman, *Melrose Michaels*
- 2022 Interviewed in *The Washington Post*, “She Was Less Than a Year From Finishing a Master’s Degree. Then classmates discovered her OnlyFans Page”
- 2021 Book feature in *Unemployed Negativity*, “Homework”
- 2021 Book feature in *New Review of Film and Television Studies*, “Porno Dialectics”
- 2021 Quoted in *The New York Times*, “How OnlyFans Became The Latest Casualty of the War on Porn”
- 2021 Interviewed in *The Guardian*, “OnlyFans Ban on Sexually Explicit Content Will Endanger Lives, Say US Sex Workers”
- 2021 Interviewed in *The Washington Post*, “Sex Workers Rallied Together When OnlyFans Banned Sexually Explicit Content.”
- 2021 Book feature in *Literarische Welt*, “Weiße Sehen Gerne Sex Zwischen Menschen Unterschiedlicher Ethnien”
- 2021 Book feature in *Mauvaise Graine*, “Le Porno Féministe est-il L’avenir Du X?”
- 2021 Book feature in *Jezebel*, “‘Pleasure and Tedium’: What Porn Reveals about the Future of Work”
- 2021 Interviewed in *New York Times Magazine*, “OnlyFans Isn’t Just Porn”
- 2021 Interviewed in *Vice*, “‘He Found Out Where I Live’ – Sex Workers Are Getting Doxxed by Clients”
- 2020 Interviewed in *BuzzFeed*, “The Pandemic Made Some Nurses Heroes. It Also Left Some Turning to OnlyFans to Make Ends Meet”
- 2020 Interviewed in *Peepshow Media*, “FSC Releases Guidelines on Resuming Porn Production, Performers Still Have Concerns”
- 2020 Interviewed in *Mel Magazine*, “The Fraught World of Sex Workers Selling Nudes for Black Lives Matter”
- 2020 Interviewed in *Wired*, “Lockdown Sex Workers are Flocking to Animal Crossing and Second Life”
- 2020 Interviewed in *Los Angeles Times*, “‘Scarlet Letter Statute’: L.A’s Adult Performers Strike Back Against State Registry Bill”
- 2020 Interviewed in *The Guardian*, “Cam Girl Reality: An Enticing Illusion Leaves Many Models Poor and Defeated”
- 2019 Interviewed in *BuzzFeed*, “Porn Stars Vs. Instagram: Inside The Battle To Remain On The Platform”
- 2019 Interviewed in *El País*, “El Deseo Femenino Pide Paso en la Industria del Sexo”
- 2019 Interviewed in *Rolling Stone*, “California Just Passed a Landmark Law Protecting Sex Workers’ Rights”
- 2019 Interviewed in *Marketplace*, “Sex Workers Say Anti-Trafficking Law Fuels Inequality”
- 2019 Interviewed in *NBC Los Angeles*, “Porn Actresses Accuse Powerful Industry Agent of Fraud, Sex Abuse”
- 2019 Interviewed in *Penthouse*, “The Working Girl Diaries: How Much Do Porn Stars Actually Make?”
- 2018 Interviewed in *BuzzFeed*, “Sex Robots are Now a Thing”
- 2018 Guest, *Hound Tall Discussion Series with Moshe Kasher*, “Sex Workers of the World Unite!”

2018	Interviewed in <i>BuzzFeed</i> , “Porn Stars Are Now Making Content Just for You—For Price”
2018	Interviewed in <i>The New York Times</i> , “Who Gets to be Sexy?”
2018	Interviewed in <i>The Daily Dot</i> , “Should You be Worried About Porn Induced Erectile Dysfunction?”
2018	Interviewed in <i>Vice</i> , “Making Pole Dancing a Sport Is Offensive to Strippers”
2018	Interviewed in <i>Market Watch</i> , “‘Pretty Woman’ With a Twist: A ‘Sugar Baby’ Who Dates Older Men to Pay for College”
2017	Interviewed in <i>Vice</i> , “Who Gets to Identify as Femme?”
2017	Interviewed in <i>Girlboss</i> , “The Dos and Don’ts of Navigating Unpaid Internships”
2016	Interviewed in <i>The Conversation</i> , “Women in the Porn Industry Need Rights and Proper Pay, Not Token Gestures”
2016	Article featured in <i>Broadly</i> , “Rise and Grind: A Look at the Side Hustles of Porn Stars”
2015	Interviewed in <i>Yahoo</i> , “Yes, Sex Workers Can Also Be Victims of Rape”