

**ANNA ON YA LAW**  
DePaul University, Department of Political Science  
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## EDUCATION

**University of Texas at Austin**, Austin, 2003

**Ph.D.**, Government

Exam Fields: American Institutions and Processes; Public Law, Third Field: Comparative Politics

Dissertation: “Cracks in the National Consensus—Institutional Norms, the American Judiciary, and Immigration, 1883-1893 and 1990-2000.” Dissertation Chair: Sanford Levinson

The dissertation is a study of the judicial behavior of judges on the Supreme Court and U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal in immigration cases. The central research question is, “What explains the pattern of legal reasoning in the immigration opinions of the Supreme Court and the Courts of Appeals over time.” Studies of judicial behavior generally focus on individual characteristics of the judges. Historical institutionalist studies of judicial behavior have challenged this focus on individual discrete characteristics and actions, but even these studies treat “the courts” as an undifferentiated institution. My dissertation differentiates between the distinct institutional settings of the two courts. The primary data of the study consists of 1,727 legal opinions on immigration from the US Supreme Court and Federal Circuit Courts of Appeal in two time periods. These cases were content analyzed to identify patterns of legal reasoning. I argue that the institutional norms, which are specific to each court, influence judges to favor particular modes of legal reasoning. The findings call for the reevaluation of the factors that influence judicial decision-making and more specifically, the manner in which decision-making is tied to institutional contexts. The project also contributes to our understanding of the U.S. Courts of Appeals behavior in relation to the Supreme Court in the judicial hierarchy, and scholars’ conceptualization of “the courts” as an undistinguished institution.

University of California at San Diego (In residence 2002-2003)

**Center for Comparative Immigration Studies**

Visiting Pre-doctoral Fellowship

**Brown University**, Providence, RI, 1993

**M.A.**, American Civilization, Emphases: racial and ethnic theory, and immigration history

**Brandeis University**, Waltham, MA, 1992

**B.A.**, Politics, *Cum Laude*

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Relations between the U.S. Supreme Court and U.S. Courts of Appeals over time, Constitutional theory and interpretation, U.S. Immigration policy and law, American political development particularly historical institutionalism, and race/ethnicity in U.S. politics.

## TEACHING AREAS

American institutions and processes--particularly the Supreme Court and other federal courts, constitutional theory and interpretation, and the American jury system.

Topical areas-- U.S. immigration policy and law, race/ethnicity in public policy and law.

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

### Current Position: **Assistant Professor of Political Science**

DePaul University, Chicago, IL

□Intro to American Government

□Law in the Political System

□Topics in Public Law: United States Immigration Law and Policy

□Equal Protection Under the Law?—Women, Gays/Lesbians, and African Americans

□Studying U.S. Immigration Policy Through Film

□The American Jury System

### **Teaching Assistant, Department of Government**

University of Texas, Austin, TX                      1996-2002

Courses: Intro to American Government, The Citizen's Presidency, Politics and Poverty, Race and Ethnicity in US Politics, Latino Politics, Foundations of American Democracy

### **Research Assistant, Public Policy Clinic**

University of Texas at Austin

Summers '98, '99, '00 and 1996-1997

Researched state immigration status-based restrictions on occupational certification; a statewide survey of incentives and barriers for immigrants wishing to naturalize; and a multi-city comparison of the impact of 1996 welfare reform on immigrant communities.

### **Research Assistant for Dr. Daniel Tichenor**

Rutgers University, 1997-1998

Researched President Lyndon B. Johnson and his staff's roles in immigration issues. Utilized documents and tapes in the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library Archive to trace legislative history and action surrounding the passage of the Immigration Act of 1965.

## PUBLICATIONS

“In Search of a Methodology and Other Tales from the Academic Crypt” in *Research Methods Choices in Interdisciplinary Contexts: War Stories of New Scholars* (eds. Louis Desipio, Sheryl Kousoudji, and Manuel Garcia y Griego) Social Science Research Council Press. Forthcoming.

“The Diversity Immigration Lottery—A Cycle of Unintended Consequences.” *Journal of American Ethnic History*. Vol 21(4):3-29, Summer 2002.

□Reprinted in *Race and Ethnic Relations*, 13<sup>th</sup> Edition (ed. John A. Kromskowski) McGraw-Hill/Dushkin, 2003.

“Race, Ethnicity, and National Origins in Public Policy—When Should it Matter?” *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal* , Vol 10(1): 71-76, (1996)

## PAPERS PRESENTED

“Marching to Different Drummers, the Supreme Court, U.S Courts of Appeals, and Immigration” *Southern Political Science Association*. Atlanta, GA: January 5-8, 2006.

“The Supreme Court, U.S. Courts of Appeals, and Immigration Cases: A Case Study of Segmented Institutional Development” *American Political Science Association* Washington, DC. August 31-Sept. 4, 2005.

“The Least Dangerous Branch? But Which Branch?—Institutional Norms and Judicial Behavior in American Immigration Law. *American Political Science Association*, Chicago, IL. September 2-5, 2004.

“Determining Legal Outcomes in U.S. Immigration Cases—Choosing Themes of Legal Reasoning and their Consequences.” *Law and Society Association*, Chicago, IL, May 27-30, 2004.

“Cracks in the National Consensus—the Effect of Institutional Norms on Judicial Behavior” *Social Science Research Council, International Migration Fellows Conference*. Asilomar Conference Facilities, Pacific Grove, CA, January 7-11, 2004.

“The Effect of Rules, Norms, and Arrangements on Judicial Behavior in Immigration Law.” *American Political Science Association* Philadelphia, PA, August 27-31, 2003.

“Interdisciplinary Approaches to Studying Immigration.” *Social Science Research Council Summer Migration Institute*, San Diego, CA, June 18-24, 2003.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

Book manuscript. *Marching to Different Drummers—The Segmented Political Development of the Supreme Court and U.S. Courts of Appeals in Immigration Cases.*

The manuscript builds on the dissertation by extending the time period to cover the years 1801-2001. For the book project, I re-coded all the cases in order to add more variables and to include the cases from the extra time periods. The primary data now consists of 2,132 legal opinions on immigration from the Supreme Court and U.S. Courts of Appeals. The major premise of the study is that institutions are a “source of distinctive political purposes, goals, and preferences” because they can structure one’s ability to act on a set of beliefs that are external to the institution. Using a historical-institutionalist approach, the purpose of the project is not just to study the past by incorporating historical data, but also to study the change in the roles and missions of the Supreme Court and U.S. Courts of Appeals over time. I argue that neither the Supreme Court nor the U.S. Courts of Appeals play one static role; the roles and missions of both courts change over time. Institutional attributes such as the position of the court in the judicial hierarchy, the jurisdiction of the court as designated by Congress, the ability and inability of the courts’ to control its docket, and the courts’ caseloads together constitute the courts’ institutional settings/context. In turn, these contexts provide incentives and disincentives that influence judges’ preferences.

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Panel Chair. "The Constitution in Time of War", *Midwest Political Science Association*, Chicago, IL, April 7-10, 2005.

Invited lecture. Northwestern University Undergraduate Lecture Series on Race, Poverty and Inequality. “Legal Inequality in U.S. Immigration Policy and Law” Evanston, IL. May 19, 2004.

Roundtable participant. “Author meets critics roundtable on Desmond King’s *Making Americans: Immigration, Race, and the Origins of the Diverse Democracy.*” Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. *American Political Science Association*, Washington D.C., August 30- September 2, 2000

**United States Commission on Immigration Reform**, Program Analyst  
Washington, DC, 1994 - 1996

Researched and analyzed policy issues in support of the work of the blue ribbon, bipartisan, Congressional commission. The "Jordan Commission" (named after Chair, Barbara Jordan) was charged with making policy recommendations to Congress and the Executive on legal, illegal and temporary immigration.

**Spanish Catholic Center and Washington Lawyers’ Committee for Human Rights**,  
Naturalization Project Volunteer

Washington, DC, 1995-1996

**Law Offices of Alan W.C. Ma**, Immigration Paralegal  
Honolulu, HI, 1993 - 1994

**United States Senate, Office of Senator Daniel K. Inouye**, Summer Legislative Intern  
Washington, DC, Summer 1991  
Assisted with constituent casework and responded to constituent correspondence for the Senator.

**Goodsill Anderson Quinn and Stifel**, Law Library Intern  
Honolulu, HI, Summer 1990

**Chinese Chamber of Commerce Naturalization Project**, Stenography  
Supervisor/Interviewer  
Honolulu, HI, Summer 1988

#### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

**University Research Council Fellowship**, “Marching to Different Drummers, the Institutional Development of the Supreme Court and U.S. Courts of Appeals,” DePaul University (Summer 2005)

**Social Science Research Council**, Committee on International Migration  
Dissertation Fellowship (2002); Minority Pre-Dissertation Fellowship (Summer 1997)

#### MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Expert Commentator. (April 2004 to January 2007) *The Supreme Court* is a four-part documentary which was produced by the PBS and its New York affiliate WNET. It chronologically examines the history and development of the U.S. Supreme Court through the lenses of individual justices and famous cases. The series features reenactments of key moments in Supreme Court history and interviews with academics, the current Chief Justice John Roberts, and former Justice Sandra Day O’Conner. I appeared in shows 1, 2, and 3. I worked with PBS on the project for 2 years. The shows aired nationwide on PBS channels on January 31 and February 7, 2007.

Live Radio Panelist. (March 16, 2006) *Extensions 720: The Milt Rosenberg Show*. Appeared on this popular Chicago area live radio show with the host and two other immigration academics to discuss the state of U.S. immigration policy and prospects for reform. The second hour of the show consisted of the panelists taking questions from callers.

## SERVICE

### **DePaul University, Department of Political Science**

▣Evaluations Committee (2005-2006)

▣Personnel Committee (2005-2006)

### **Law and Society Association**

Paper Prize Committee (2005) Read 20 graduate student papers and one undergraduate paper and deliberated with prize committee members to select a winner for the LSA paper prize.

### **Department of Government**

2001-2002

Graduate Student Representative

Austin, TX

American Politics/Latino Politics Hiring Committee

### **Department of Government**

1998-1999

Graduate Student Organization Co-President

Austin, TX

Elected by the graduate students of the department as co-president. Served as a liaison between the graduate students and the Graduate Chair and administrative staff to address concerns about university and graduate program practices and procedures. Arranged professional development workshops.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Cantonese (speaking proficiency)

## REFERENCES

Sanford Levinson, School of Law, University of Texas at Austin, 727 East Dean Keeton Street Austin, Texas 78705 Tel: (512) 232-1351, [slevinson@mail.law.utexas.edu](mailto:slevinson@mail.law.utexas.edu)

Gary Freeman, Department of Government, University of Texas at Austin, 1 University Station A1800, Austin, TX 78712-0119, Tel: (512) 232-7250, [gfreeman@mail.la.utexas.edu](mailto:gfreeman@mail.la.utexas.edu)

Daniel J. Tichenor, Political Science Department, Rutgers University, 89 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. Tel: (732) 932-9384 ext. 283, [tichen@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:tichen@rci.rutgers.edu)

James F. Hollifield, Department of Political Science, Southern Methodist University, PO Box 750117, Dallas, TX 75275. Tel: (214) 768-2825, [jhollifi@smu.edu](mailto:jhollifi@smu.edu)

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Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University, Harris Building,  
3300 Whitehaven St NW, Suite 3100, Washington, DC 20007, Tel: 202-687-2153