

# MARIE-AMÉLIE GEORGE

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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

Courses:

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

Service:

Re-Accreditation Task Force (2024-2025)  
Academic Engagement and Advising Committee (2020-2026; chair, 2023-2026)  
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

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### BOOKS

2024 *FAMILY MATTERS: QUEER HOUSEHOLDS AND THE HALF-CENTURY STRUGGLE FOR LEGAL RECOGNITION* (Cambridge University Press, Studies in Legal History Series) (recipient of Honorable Mention for the Frederick Jackson Turner Award, Organization of American Historians).

### ARTICLES

2026 *Protecting Trans Rights* (in process).

2026 *Win, Lose, or Draw: Using LGBTQ+ Legal History to Reassess Social Movement Outcomes*, 48 LAW & POL'Y e700008 (peer reviewed).

2025 *The Missing History of Romer v. Evans*, 3 J. AM. CONST. HIST. 925 (peer reviewed).

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

- 2026 *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

- 2026 *Gender Matters: How Gender Shaped My Analysis and Research, from Dissertation to Book*, in RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON GENDER, HISTORY, AND LAW (Rosemary Auchmuty et al. eds.) (invited contribution).
- 2025 [\*Queer as U.S. Constitutional History\*](#), 3 J. AM. CONST. HIST. 879 (with Felicia Kornbluh) (peer reviewed)
- 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

- 2025 [History as a Beacon of Hope](#), THE DOCKET, July 2025.
- 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 Honorable Mention, Federick Jackson Turner Award (Organization of American Historians)
- 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**

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“Queer Legal Radicalism,” presented at the Southeastern Family Law Conference, Dec. 10, 2025.

“For Love And Money: The Economic History of Marriage Equality,” Thomas S. Berry Lecture in Economic History, University of Richmond, Nov. 5, 2025.

“The Transgender Target,” presented at University of Kentucky Law, Sept. 3, 2025.

“Family Matters: Queer Households and the Half-Century Struggle for Family Recognition,” presented at Law and Society Annual Meeting, May 22, 2025.

“The Transgender Target,” presented at the Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 17-18, 2025.

“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**

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- 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](#), FIVETHIRTYEIGHT, 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**

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- 2025-2026 Roundtable on Radical Legal Advocacy, American Society for Legal History (convenor)
- 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)
- 2024-2025 Guest editor, Journal of American Constitutional History
- 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 (American Historical Review, Cambridge University Press, Journal of Homosexuality, Modern Intellectual History, New England Journal of Medicine, Law & History Review, Law & Society Review)
- 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**

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- 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**

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- 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**

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Florida  
New York