

Corrie Decker
Associate Professor
Department of History
University of California, Davis
crdecker@ucdavis.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, University of California, Davis, Department of History, 2015-present

Assistant Professor, University of California, Davis, Department of History, 2009-2015

Assistant Professor, Lehman College, City University of New York, Department of African and African American Studies, 2007-2009

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, African History, 2007

M.A. University of California, Berkeley, African History, 2002

B.A. Bryn Mawr College, History, 1998

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

The Idea of Development in Africa: A History, co-authored with Elisabeth McMahon (Cambridge University Press, 2020)

Mobilizing Zanzibari Women: The Struggle for Respectability and Self-Reliance in Colonial East Africa (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014)

Articles and Book Chapters:

“Gender, Sexuality, and the Body,” in *A Cultural History of Youth, Volume 5: Age of Empire*, edited by David M. Pomfret (Bloomsbury Press, forthcoming 2021)

“A ‘Tomboy’ and a ‘Lady’: Religion, Modernity, and Youth Culture in Twentieth-Century Zanzibar,” in *The Oxford Handbook on the History of Youth Culture*, edited by James Marten (Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2021)

“Sexuality in Colonial Africa: Current Trends and New Directions,” in *The Routledge Companion to Sexuality and Colonialism*, edited by Dagmar Herzog and Chelsea Shields (Routledge, forthcoming 2020)

“A Feminist Methodology of Age-Grading and History in Africa,” AHR Roundtable: Chronological Age: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis, *American Historical Review* Vol. 125, no. 2 (2020)

“The Search for Juvenile Delinquency in Colonial Zanzibar, East Africa,” in William Bush and David Tanenhaus, eds., *Ages of Anxiety: Historical and Transnational Perspectives on Juvenile Justice* (New York University Press, 2018)

“Education: Colonial: Sub-Saharan Africa,” *Encyclopedia of Women & Islamic Cultures*, general editor Suad Joseph (Brill, 2015)

“The Elusive Power of Colonial Prey: Sexualizing the Schoolgirl in the Zanzibar Protectorate,” *Africa Today* Vol. 61, no. 4 (2015), Special Issue on Love & Sex in Islamic Africa, guest ed. by Elisabeth McMahon and Corrie Decker

“Introduction: Love & Sex in Islamic Africa,” *Africa Today* Vol. 61, no. 4 (2015), Special Issue on Love & Sex in Islamic Africa, ed. by Elisabeth McMahon and Corrie Decker

“Schoolgirls and Women Teachers: Colonial Education and the Shifting Boundaries between Girls and Women in Zanzibar,” in *Gendered Lives in the Western Indian Ocean: Islam, Marriage, and Sexuality on the Swahili Coast*, ed. by Erin Stiles and Katrina Daly Thompson (Ohio University Press, 2015)

“Biology, Islam, and the Science of Sex Education in Colonial Zanzibar,” *Past & Present* Vol. 222, No. 1 (February 2014)

“Reading, Writing, and Respectability: How Schoolgirls Developed Modern Literacies in Colonial Zanzibar,” *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (Spring 2010)

“Fathers, Daughters, and Institutions: Coming of Age in Mombasa’s Colonial Schools” in *Girlhood: A Global History*, ed. by Jennifer Helgren and Colleen Vasconcellos (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2010)

“Wives or Workers: Negotiating the Social Contract between Female Teachers and the Colonial State in Zanzibar,” co-authored with Elisabeth McMahon, *Journal of Women’s History*, Vol. 21, No. 2 (Summer 2009)

Works in progress:

Book manuscript titled “Puberty Matters: Age, Sex, and Maturation in Twentieth-Century East Africa”

Book chapter titled “The Personal is Professional: Positioning Feminist and Gender Scholarship in the Field of African History,” for *African Feminist Histories*, ed. By Alicia Decker, Maha Marouan, and Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoué (under review)

SELECTED RECENT RESEARCH TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

UC Berkeley African Studies Workshop, “Feminist Methodologies and the Interdisciplinary Roots of African History,” February 2020

African Feminist Initiative conference on African Feminist Histories, “Africanizing History, Historicizing Africa,” Pennsylvania State University, April, 2019

UC Berkeley African History Workshop, “The Limits of Knowledge and the Ethics of Researching Juvenile ‘Unnatural Offence’ Cases in Colonial East Africa,” January 25, 2019

African Studies Association, “Guilty Until Proven Victim: ‘Unnatural Offences’ and the Physical Violation of Boys in East Africa, 1930-1970,” November 2018

Western Association of Women Historians Conference, “Custom, Law, and the Child Marriage Debate in Colonial East Africa,” UC Davis, April 2018

Youth in the Age of Empire Symposium, “Gender, Sexuality, and the Body,” University of Hong Kong, May 24, 2018

FRI sponsored Interdisciplinary Feminist Research on Discourses of Gender and Adolescence Workshop, “The Invention of Puberty: Ethnographies of Physical Maturation in Colonial East Africa,” Petaluma, CA, March 2018

Stawa University, Conference on Child Marriage, Kampala, Uganda, “History of Child Marriage in East Africa,” August 23, 2017

Society for the History of Children and Youth Biannual Conference, Round Table: Chronological Age as a Category of Historical Analysis, Rutgers University, June 2017

Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexualities, “De-Sexualizing the Black Girl: Child Marriage in Colonial East Africa,” Hofstra University, June 2017

Stanford University, African Social History Workshop, “The Sexual Economy of Girls: The Invention of Child Marriage in Interwar East Africa,” May 4, 2017

UC Berkeley Center for African Studies, “De-Sexualizing the African Girl: The Making of the Child in Colonial East Africa,” October 26, 2016

UCHRI Multi-Campus Faculty Working Group, Fall Workshop, Reimagining Geographies of Africa, “Deconstructing ‘Africa’ through a History of Childhood,” Bodega Bay, CA, October 2016

African Feminist Initiative, a workshop at Pennsylvania State University, “De-Sexualizing the African Girl: Child Marriage Debates in Colonial East Africa,” State College, PA, September 2016

Society for the History of Children and Youth Biannual Conference, “From Instruction to Indecent Assault: The Criminalization of Childhood Sexual Play in Colonial East Africa,” Vancouver, June 2015

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

UC Davis, Graduate Program Advising and Mentoring Award, 2020

UC Davis FRI (Feminist Research Institute) Collaborative Research Grant, with Jenny Kaminer and Liz Constable, “Interdisciplinary Feminist Research on Discourses of Gender and Adolescence,” 2017-2019

Alternate, Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program, 2017

Nominee from UC Davis for the NEH Summer Stipend, 2016

UC Davis Division of Social Sciences Dean’s Innovation Award, 2016

Alternate, American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, 2016

UC Davis DHI (Davis Humanities Institute) Research Cluster Grant for African Studies, 2015

Hellman Fellowship, 2012-2013

UC Davis Faculty Development Award, Fall 2012

SELECT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Article manuscript reviews for: *Journal of African History*, *Journal of West African History*, *Women's History Review*, *American Ethnologist*, *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*, *Journal of Religion in Africa*, *Canadian Journal of History*, *African Studies Quarterly*, *Slavery and Abolition*, *Oxford Research Encyclopedias*, *Nordic Journal of African Studies*, *Politics & Gender*, and *Law & Society*

Book manuscript and proposal reviews for: *Oxford University Press*, *Prentice Hall*, *James Currey*

Guest Editor, *Africa Today*, Vol. 61, no. 4 (2015), Special Issue on Love & Sex in Islamic Africa

Research Workshops Organized:

Co-organizer with Jenny Kaminer and Liz Constable, *Gender Sexuality, and Youth Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Workshop*, sponsored by FRI, UC Davis, April 2018

Co-organizer with Jenny Kaminer and Liz Constable, *Interdisciplinary Feminist Research on Discourses of Gender and Adolescence Workshop*, sponsored by FRI, Petaluma, CA, March 2018

Co-facilitator with Rachel Jean-Baptise and Anneeth Kaur-Hundle, UCHRI-funded workshop, "The Critical Politics of Diversity in the Multiversity: Towards Africana Studies in the UC System," UC Merced, September 2017

Co-organizer with Elisabeth McMahon, *Love & Sex in Islamic Africa Workshop*, Tulane University, September 2012

Dissertation Committees:

Rachel Nickens, Sociology, UCD

Finished:

Chau Johnson Kelly, Assistant Professor, University of North Florida

Jo Tague, Assistant Professor, Denison University

Baba Jallow, Assistant Professor, Creighton University

Qualifying Exam Committees:

Zehra Ilhan, History, UCD

Jane Saffitz, Anthropology, UCD

Rachel Nickens, Sociology, UCD

Chase Arnold, History, UC Berkeley

PUBLIC AND MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Interviewed for *LAM Sisterhood* podcast about Bi Kidude, 2020

Stawa University, Kampala, Uganda, co-organizer of two-day conference on oral tradition and oral history, August 2019

Interviewed on Davis' KDVS (90.3FM) show "In the Meantime" with Roman Spinale and Aaron Liss, May 10, 2018, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpKVD3HrM2I&feature=youtu.be>

Conversation with Professor Kyu Hyun Kim (UC Davis) about the film *Black Panther* for his blog, “Q Branch Mirror Site,” February 23, 2018,
<https://qkoreanfilmorg.blogspot.com/2018/03/black-panthers-african-connection.html>

UCD First-Year Aggie Connection, The One Where You Learn about History, Talk on “Child Marriage in East Africa,” February 2018

UCD History I, Guest Lectures, Fall 2017 and Fall 2016

Stawa University, Kampala, Uganda, facilitator of one-day student workshop on gender, August 2017

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

African Studies Association (ASA)
ASA Women’s Caucus
Berkshire Conference of Women Historians
Society for the History of Children and Youth
African Feminist Initiative