

JASON A. GILLMER

John J. Hemmingson Professor of Civil Liberties
Director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights
Gonzaga University School of Law
721 N. Cincinnati Street
PO Box 3528
Spokane, WA 99220
509-313-3750
gillmer@gonzaga.edu

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School Master of Laws (LL.M.)	Cambridge, MA 2002
American University Washington College of Law Juris Doctor Honors: <i>summa cum laude</i> Note & Comment Editor, <i>American University Law Review</i>	Washington, D.C. 1996
Carleton College Bachelor of Arts in History Honors: <i>cum laude</i> Robert C. Byrd Scholar	Northfield, MN 1992

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Gonzaga University School of Law John J. Hemmingson Professor of Civil Liberties Founding Director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights Inaugural Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development	Spokane, WA 2010-present 2017-present 2012-2016
Texas A&M University (formerly Texas Wesleyan) School of Law Professor of Law Associate Professor of Law	Fort Worth, TX 2008-2010 2003-2008
American University Washington College of Law Visiting Associate Professor of Law	Washington, D.C. 2005-2006
Stanford Law School Teaching Fellow	Stanford, CA 2002-2003

RESEARCH AND TEACHING PROFILE

Research Interests

American Legal History
Civil Rights and Liberties
Race and the Law

Core Teaching Areas

Constitutional Law
Torts

Upper Level Teaching Areas

Advanced Torts/Products Liability

American Legal History

Civil Rights

Immigration Law

Race and the Law: Slavery, Jim Crow, and the Conquest of the American West (seminar)

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS**Books**

SLAVERY AND FREEDOM IN TEXAS: STORIES FROM THE COURTROOM, 1821-1871 (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2017) (Finalist for the Ramirez Family Award for Most Significant Scholarly Book, Texas Institute of Letters, 2017).

BLACK, WHITE, AND GOLD: LITIGATING SLAVERY IN THE AMERICAN WEST (work-in-progress)

Law Reviews, Book Chapters, and Book Reviews

Black Litigants in the Antebellum American South, by Kimberly M. Welch, 21 CIVIL WAR BOOK REVIEW (Winter 2019) (book review).

The Weeping Time: Memory and the Largest Slave Auction in American History, by Anne C. Bailey, 85 J. OF SO. HIST. 166 (2019) (book review).

The Life of the Law, in TEACHING LEGAL HISTORY: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES (Wildy, Simmonds & Hill) (2014).

Boston Strong: Understanding Hatred, Confronting Intolerance, Eliminating Inequality, 49 GONZ. L. REV. ix (2013/14) (symposium introduction) (conference organizer – see below).

Telling Stories of Love, Sex, and Race, in LOVING IN A POST-RACIAL WORLD: NEW LEGAL APPROACHES TO INTERRACIAL MARRIAGES AND RELATIONSHIPS (Kevin Noble Maillard & Rose Cuison Villazor eds., 2012).

Crimes of Passion: The Regulation of Interracial Sex in Washington, 1855-1950, 47 GONZ. L. REV. 393 (2012) (symposium contribution) (conference organizer – see below)

Slavery and the Supreme Court, 1825-1861, by Earl Maltz, 52 AM. J. OF LEGAL HIST. 411 (2012) (book review).

Shades of Gray: The Life and Times of a Free Family of Color on the Texas Frontier, 29 MINN. J. LAW & INEQ. 33 (2011).

Lawyers and Slaves: A Remarkable Case of Representation from the Antebellum South, 1 U. MIAMI RACE & SOC. JUST. L. REV. 47 (2011) (symposium contribution).

Edmund J. Davis of Texas: Civil War General, Republican Leader, Reconstruction Governor, by Carl H. Moneyhon, 77 J. OF SO. HIST. 735 (2011) (book review).

Race, Blood, and What the Alligator Knows: A Review of What Blood Won't Tell, 83 S. CAL. L. REV 425 (2010) (symposium contribution).

What Blood Won't Tell: A History of Race on Trial in America, by Ariela Gross, 28 LAW & HIST. REV. 1087 (2010) (book review).

Law and Society in the South: A History of North Carolina Court Cases, by John W. Wertheimer 25 CONTINUITY AND CHANGE: A JOURNAL OF SOCIAL STRUCTURE, LAW AND DEMOGRAPHY 468 (Cambridge University Press 2010) (book review).

Jim Crow Moves North: The Battle over Northern School Segregation, 1865-1954, by Davison M. Douglas, 27 LAW & HIST. REV. 476 (2009) (book review).

Base Wretches and Black Wenches: A Story of Sex and Race, Violence and Compassion, During Slavery Times, 59 ALA. L. REV. 1501 (2008) ("Top Paper" award in 2008 Southeastern Association of Law Schools' Call for Papers Competition).

Poor Whites, Benevolent Masters, and the Ideologies of Slavery: The Local Trial of a Slave Accused of Rape, 85 N.C. L. REV. 489 (2007).

Suing for Freedom: Interracial Sex, Slave Law, and Racial Identity in the Post-Revolutionary and Antebellum South, 82 N.C. L. REV. 535 (2004).

Minnesota's Tobacco Case: Recovering Damages Without Proof of Reliance Under Minnesota's Consumer Protection Statutes, 25 WM. MITCHELL L. REV. 567 (1999) (with Gary L. Wilson).

United States v. Clary: Equal Protection and the Crack Statute, 45 AM. U.L. REV. 497 (1995) (student note).

Back Cover Book Blurbs

MICHAEL F. CONLIN, THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORIGINS OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR (2019)

LOREN SCHWENINGER, APPEALING FOR LIBERTY: FREEDOM SUITS IN THE SOUTH (2018)

ANDREW FEDE, ROADBLOCKS TO FREEDOM: SLAVERY AND MANUMISSION IN THE UNITED STATES SOUTH (2012)

Others

Guest Opinion, *On the Urgency of Intersectionality*, SPOKESMAN REVIEW, March 30, 2019.

Guest Opinion, *9 law experts on what Brett Kavanaugh means for the future of America*, KUOW Seattle, Oct. 9, 2018.

The Lessons from Loving v. Virginia Still Resonate 50 Years Later, 18 SOCIAL EDUCATION 137 (May/June 2017).

Letter to the Editor, *Gonzalez for Justice*, SPOKESMAN REVIEW, July 15, 2012.

Guest Opinion, *Washington's high court deals blow to racial bias*, SPOKESMAN REVIEW, June 19, 2011.

To Kill a Mockingbird: Ideologies, Mythologies, and the Rape Complex Revisited, 5 WESLEYAN LAWYER 26 (2005).

Sex, Race, and Slavery: A Brief Look into the Jefferson-Hemings Affair, 4 WESLEYAN LAWYER 14 (2004).

PRESENTATIONS

Panel Organizer, *Section on Civil Rights: Works-in-Progress*, Annual Meeting, AALS, virtual conference (January 2021)

Presenter, *Litigating Slavery in the Far West*, Annual Meeting, SEALS, virtual conference (August 2020)

Presenter, *So You Want to Publish a Book?*, Annual Meeting, SEALS, virtual conference (August 2020)

Presenter, *So You Want to Publish a Book?*, Annual Meeting, AALS, Washington D.C. (January 2019)

Panel Organizer and Moderator, *New Voices in Civil Rights*, Annual Meeting, AALS, Washington D.C. (January 2019)

Presenter, *Litigating Freedom in the Far West*, Annual Meeting, The Law and Society Association, Washington D.C. (May 2019)

Presenter, *Lawyers and Slaves on Galveston Island*, Faculty Colloquium, Southern Methodist University School of Law, Dallas, TX (November 2017).

Presenter, *Lawyers and Slaves on Galveston Island*, Dallas Bar Association, Dallas, TX (October 2017).

Presenter, *The Importance of Jury Diversity*, Washington Judicial Conference, Spokane, WA (Sept. 2016).

Presenter, *Lawyers and Slaves on Galveston Island*, Faculty Colloquium, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, WA (March 2016).

Presenter, *Slavery and Freedom in Texas*, Circum-Atlantic Studies Seminar, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (Jan. 2016).

Presenter, *Accessing Justice in Antebellum Texas*, Conference on *Access to Justice*, Texas A&M School of Law, Fort Worth, TX (May 2015).

Presenter, *Lawyers and Slaves on Galveston Island*, Faculty Colloquium, Lewis & Clark Law School, Portland, OR (Feb. 2015).

Presenter, *Resistance and Rebellion: Perspectives from the Courtroom in Antebellum Texas*, Annual Meeting, The Law and Society Association, Minneapolis, MN (May 2014).

Presenter, *"Nothing But an Exclusion Order": Japanese Internment and the Law of Discrimination*, Jundt Art Museum, Ansel Adams Exhibit, Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA (Feb. 2014).

Panelist, *The Civil Rights Act of 1964: Implications Then and Now*, Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA (Feb. 2014).

Presenter, *Resistance and Rebellion: Perspectives from the Courtroom in Antebellum Texas*, Faculty Colloquium, UC Davis School of Law, Davis, CA (Oct. 2013).

Presenter, *Resistance and Rebellion: Perspectives from the Courtroom in Antebellum Texas*, Faculty Colloquium, Texas A&M School of Law, Fort Worth, TX (Oct. 2013).

Film Discussant, *Mr. Cao Goes to Washington*, Conference on *The Pursuit of Justice*, Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, WA (April 2013).

Presenter, *Crimes of Passion*, Annual Meeting, The Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, Fort Worth, TX (March 2012).

Keynote Address, *Telling Stories of Love and Race*, Diversity Services, California Western School of Law, San Diego, CA (Nov. 2011).

Presenter, *Crimes of Passion*, Conference on Race and Criminal Justice, Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, WA (Sept. 2011).

Presenter, *Lawyers and Slaves*, Annual Meeting, The Law and Society Association, San Francisco, CA (June 2011).

Keynote Address, *Race and Crime: Historical Narratives*, 6th Annual Statewide Diversity Conference, Washington Minority Bar Associations, Seattle, WA (May 2011).

Plenary Panel, *So, Do People of Color Really Commit More Crimes?*, Task Force on Race and the Criminal Justice System, Washington Superior Court Judges' Spring Conference, Cle Elum, WA (May 2011).

Presenter, *Preliminary Report on Race and Washington's Criminal Justice System*, Task Force on Race and the Criminal Justice System, Washington Supreme Court, Olympia, WA (March 2011).

Presenter, *"Her champion and her friend:" Lawyers, Slaves, and the Politics of Freedom in Galveston County, Texas*, Dallas Bar Association, Dallas, TX (February 2011).

Panel Organizer, *Race and Lawyering: Slave Lawyers, Black Lawyers, and the HBCU*, LatCrit XV, Annual LatCrit Conference, Denver, CO (October 2010) (other panelists: Carla Pratt and Kamille Wolff).

Presenter, *Slave Lawyers*, LatCrit XV, Annual LatCrit Conference, Denver, CO (October 2010).

Presenter, *The Intriguing Tale of John and Sabrina: A True Story of a Slave Owner and a Slave Who Became His Wife*, Annual Meeting, Texas State Historical Association, Dallas, TX (March 2010).

Panel Moderator, *Law Reviews Today and Tomorrow*, Annual Meeting, National Conference on Law Reviews, Fort Worth, TX (March 2010).

Presenter, *Freedom in a Slave Country*, Black History Month Speaker Series, Tarrant County Community College, Hurst, TX (February 2010).

Presenter, *Shades of Gray: The Life and Times of a Free Family of Color in Antebellum Texas*, Law and History Faculty Colloquium, Washington University, St. Louis, MO (November 2009).

Presenter, *Telling Stories of Love, Sex, and Race*, LatCrit XIV, Annual LatCrit Conference, Washington, D.C. (October 2009).

Presenter, *Author Meets Reader: Ariela Gross, What Blood Won't Tell*, Annual Meeting, The Law and Society Association, Denver, CO (May 2009).

Presenter, *Shades of Gray: The Life and Times of a Free Family of Color in Antebellum Texas*, Faculty Colloquium, University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia, South Carolina (February 2009).

Presenter, *Shades of Gray: The Life and Times of a Free Family of Color in Antebellum Texas*, Conference on *1808: Fighting for the Right to Dream*, University of Toledo College of Law, Toledo, OH (October 2008).

Presenter, *Life in the Middle: Free Blacks, Poor Whites, and the Politics of Difference in Antebellum Texas*, LatCrit XIII, Annual LatCrit Conference, Seattle, WA (October 2008).

Presenter, *Complexity and Confusion in the Laws of Slavery*, Conference on *Kara Walker: My Complement, My Enemy, My Oppressor, My Love*, The Modern Art Museum, Fort Worth, TX (September 2008).

Awards Recipient and Presenter, *Base Wretches and Black Wenches: A Story of Sex and Race, Violence and Compassion, During Slavery Times*, Annual Meeting, The Southeastern Association of Law Schools, Palm Beach, FL (August 2008).

Presenter, *Base Wretches and Black Wenches: A Story of Sex and Race, Violence and Compassion, During Slavery Times*, Faculty Colloquium, Stetson University College of Law, Gulfport, Florida (April 2008).

Presenter, *Base Wretches and Black Wenches: A Story of Sex and Race, Violence and Compassion, During Slavery Times*, Colloquium on *Law and Citizenship*, SMU School of Law, Dallas, TX (October 2007).

Presenter, *Base Wretches and Black Wenches: A Story of Sex and Race, Violence and Compassion, During Slavery Times*, Annual Meeting, The Law and Society Association, Berlin, Germany (July 2007).

Presenter, *Black, White, and Brown: Texas Interracial Cases in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries*, Annual Meeting, The Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, Washington, D.C. (March 2007).

Conference Fellow, *Denying Genocide: Law, Identity and Historical Memory in the Face of Mass Atrocity*, Cardozo Law School, New York, NY (Dec. 2006).

Presenter, *Poor Whites, Benevolent Masters, and the Ideologies of Slavery: The Local Trial of a Slave Accused of Rape*, Annual Meeting, The Southeastern Association of Law Schools, Palm Beach, FL (July 2006).

Panel Moderator, *Plenary Session: Slavery and Freedom in the Wake of Somerset*, Conference on *"Too Pure an Air": Law and the Quest for Freedom, Justice, and Equality*, University of Gloucestershire, Gloucester, England (June 2006).

Panel Moderator, *Slavery and Imperialism*, Conference on *"Too Pure an Air": Law and the Quest for Freedom, Justice, and Equality*, University of Gloucestershire, Gloucester, England (June 2006).

Presenter, *Slave Crime*, Conference on *Race: Law, Culture and Policy*, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C. (April 2006).

Presenter, *Why Spike Lee Got it Wrong: Contemporary Black/White Relationships in Media and Film*, Annual Meeting, The Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, Syracuse, NY (March 2006).

Presenter, *Poor Whites, Benevolent Masters, and the Ideologies of Slavery: A Slave Accused of Rape in Antebellum Arkansas*, Faculty Colloquium, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C. (February 2006).

Panel Moderator and Organizer, *Jurisprudence Case Study: DeShaney v. Winnebago County*, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C. (Fall 2005).

Presenter, “*To Kill a Mockingbird*”: *Ideology and Mythology in an Alabama Courtroom*,” Conference on *The Power of Stories: Intersections of Law, Culture, & Literature*, University of Gloucestershire, Gloucester, England (July 2005).

Panel Moderator, *The Role of Stories as an Impetus for Social Change*, Conference on *The Power of Stories: Intersections of Law, Culture, & Literature*, University of Gloucestershire, Gloucester, England (July 2005).

Presenter, *From Thomas Jefferson to Emmett Till: Rethinking Issues of Interracial Intimacy*, Brown Bag Seminar, University of North Texas, Denton, TX (June 2005).

Presenter, *Scandal in the Neighborhood: A Slave Accused of Rape in the Antebellum South*, Annual Meeting, The Law and Society Association, Las Vegas, NV (June 2005).

Presenter, *Sex, Race, and Mastery: A Slave Accused of Rape in the Antebellum South*, Annual Meeting, The Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, Austin, TX (March 2005).

Presenter, *Suing for Freedom*, Annual Meeting, The Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, Hartford, CT (March 2004).

Presenter, *Suing for Freedom*, Stanford Legal History Society, Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA (April 2003).

CONFERENCE PLANNING

Conference on Women’s Rights as Human Rights Conference Organizer (with Brooks Holland) Center for Civil and Human Rights Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, Washington	Nov. 2020
Conference on Medicine, Music, and Mascots: Furthering Social Justice in the Age of Intellectual Property Conference Organizer Center for Civil and Human Rights Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, Washington	Sept. 2019
Conference on Law, Leadership, and the Role of the Civil Rights Activist Conference Organizer Center for Civil and Human Rights Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, Washington	Sept. 2018
Conference on The Pursuit of Justice Conference Organizer (with John Shuford) In Celebration of 100 th Anniversary of Law School and 125 th Anniversary of University Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, Washington Symposium Issue, 49 GONZ. L. REV. (2013/14)	Apr. 2013

Conference on <i>Race and Criminal Justice in the West</i> Conference Organizer Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, Washington Symposium Issue, 47 GONZ. L. REV. (2012)	Sept. 2011
Conference on <i>The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present, and Future</i> Faculty Advisor and Conference Organizer (with law review) Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, Fort Worth, Texas Symposium Issue, 16 TEX. WESLEYAN L. REV. (2010)	Oct. 2009
Conference on <i>Kara Walker: My Complement, My Enemy, My Oppressor, My Love</i> Conference Organizer (with The Modern Art Museum) The Modern Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas	Sept. 2008
Conference on <i>Too Pure an Air: Law and the Quest for Freedom, Justice, and Equality</i> Conference Organizer (with Reginald Oh and Stephen Alton) University of Gloucester, Gloucester, England Symposium Issue, 13 TEX. WESLEYAN L. REV. (2007)	June 2006

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AALS Section on Civil Rights Treasurer Executive Committee	2021-2022 2018-2020
Washington State Minority and Justice Commission Commission Member	2013-present
Washington State Bar Association Council on Public Defense Board Member	2017-2019
Washington State Task Force on Race and the Criminal Justice System Founding Member, Executive Committee	2010-2013
Washington Courts Historical Society Board Member	2011-2018
University of Texas Academic Press Co-editor of Texas Legal History Series	2009-2014
Institute on Hate Studies (Gonzaga University) Board Member	2011-2015

MEDIA

First Lady's Roots Reveal Twisty Path from Slavery, NEW YORK TIMES, Oct. 8, 2009, at A1.

Replace Trump with Pence under the 25th Amendment? Don't hold your breath, SPOKESMAN REVIEW, May 18, 2017.

An 1889 U.S. Supreme Court case sets precedent for Trump's immigration order, THE INLANDER, Feb. 3, 2017.

Domestic Partner Benefits Scrutinized, CDA PRESS, June 27, 2013.

DOMA Ruling Gives Washington Couples Benefits, SPOKANE PUBLIC RADIO, June 26, 2013.

The Sick and the Damned: Does the Criminalization of HIV Actually Make Us Less Safe, THE INLANDER, Oct. 2, 2012.

Keller Resident Must Pay Former Mayor \$50,000 and Apologize in Ad as Part of Libel Settlement, FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, Feb. 11, 2010, at 1B.

Couple Finds a More Than Century Old Gravestone, BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE, Dec. 14, 2009.

Husband Pulled Trigger, But Wife Is Indicted, FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, Mar. 30, 2007, at 1B.

The Faces of Progress: More Interracial Couples Are Raising Families in North Texas, Though Some Stigma Lingers, FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, Jan. 18, 2009, at 1B (featured in article).

The Carter Library Is a Destination, AMON CARTER MUSEUM PROGRAM, Mar-Apr. 2005, at 18 (featured in article).

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Current Committees

- Faculty Recruitment Committee (**chair**)
- Budget Committee (**chair**)
- President's Advisory Committee (university committee)

Past Committees

- ABA / AALS Strategic Planning Committee
- Academic Affairs (**chair 2013-14**)
- Bar Performance Committee
- Building Committee
- Dean's Advisory Committee
- Dean Search Committee
- Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Equity and Inclusion Committee (university committee)
- Faculty Development Committee (**chair 2009-10; 2011-12**)
- Faculty Recruitment Committee
- Faculty Senate (university committee)
- Graduate Programs Committee
- Innovation Committee (ad hoc) (**chair 2016-17**)
- International Programs Committee (**chair 2013-14**)
- Scholarship Committee
- Steering Committee for Center for Law and Public Service (**chair 2007-08**)
- Workload Committee (**chair 2015-16**) (ad hoc)

Other:

- Act VI mentor and participant (scholarship program with Gonzaga University) (2011-2018)
- Faculty Advisor, *Gay Straight Alliance* (2015 – present)
- Faculty Advisor, *Gonzaga Law Review* (2016-2019)
- Faculty Advisor, *Gonzaga Association for Justice* (2010 – present)
- Faculty Advisor, *Black Law Student Association* (2015 – 2017)
- Faculty Advisor, *Street Law* (2013-14)

- Faculty Advisor, *Texas Wesleyan Democrats* (2003-10)

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Law Clerk to Hon. Kim Wardlaw	Pasadena, CA 8/00 – 1/01
United States District Court for Minnesota Law Clerk to Hon. Donald D. Alsop	St. Paul, MN 8/99 – 8/00
Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi, L.L.P. Associate	Minneapolis, MN 1996-1999

PAST AND PRESENT ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- State Bar of Minnesota (inactive)
- American Society for Legal History
- Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities
- Law and Society Association
- Society of American Law Teachers
- Texas Supreme Court Historical Association

TEACHING AWARDS

- Professor of the Year, Gonzaga University School of Law (2016-17)
- 1L Professor of the Year, Gonzaga University School of Law (2015-16)
- Professor of the Year, Gonzaga University School of Law (2013-14)
- Professor of the Year, Gonzaga University School of Law (2011-12)
- 1L Professor of the Year, Gonzaga University School of Law (2010-11)
- Outstanding 1L Day Professor, Texas Wesleyan University School of Law (2003-04)
- Outstanding 1L Night Professor, Texas Wesleyan University School of Law (2003-04)

OTHER HONORS/AWARDS

- Finalist, Ramirez Family Award for Most Significant Scholarly Book in 2017, Texas Institute of Letters, for *SLAVERY AND FREEDOM IN TEXAS: STORIES FROM THE COURTROOM, 1821-1871* (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2017)
- “Top Paper” Award, *Base Wretches and Black Wenches: A Story of Sex and Race, Violence and Compassion, During Slavery Times*, 59 ALA. L. REV. 1501 (2008), in 2008 Southeastern Association of Law School’s Call for Papers Competition
- Member of the Year (collectively with Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi Cigarette Litigation Team), *Minnesota Trial Lawyers Association* (1998)
- J.D., *summa cum laude*, American University Washington College of Law
- B.A., *cum laude*, Carleton College
- Robert C. Byrd Scholar