**Elisabeth Becker**

Yale Department of Sociology,  
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**Current Professional Positions**

2018 *Postdoctoral Associate*, Religion and Its Publics, University of Virginia & Luce Foundation

*Non-residential* *Fellow*, Muslim Diaspora Initiative, New America Foundation

*Non-residential Fellow*, Humility & Conviction in Public Life, University of Connecticut  
  
 *Principal Investigator*, Muslims for American Progress-New York City, Institute for Social Policy

and Understanding

**Education**

**Yale University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New Haven, CT**

2016 PhD, Sociology. Junior fellow in Cultural Sociology, Comparative & Historical Research and Religion & Politics.  
   
Dissertation*: Unsettled Islam: A Comparative Study of European Capital City Mosques.*

2013 MPhil in Sociology.  
  
**Oxford University, St. Antony’s College**

2007 MSc in Latin American Studies.

**Oxford University, St. Antony’s College**

2008 MSc in Forced Migration and Refugee Studies.

**Cornell University, College of Arts & Sciences**

2006 BA in Sociology and College Scholar. Minor in International Relations. Cornell University,   
 College of Arts and Sciences. GPA: 4.0. *Summa cum Laude*. Dissertation topic:   
 *Kosovar Political Migrants and Narration of the Nation: Homeland Cosmopolitans and Ethnic   
 Chauvinists Abroad.*

**Main Research and Writing Interests**

Culture; Religion; Immigration; Forced Migration; Race & Ethnicity

**Books Manuscripts**

*Unsettled Islam: Virtuous Contention in European Mosques* (under contract with University of Chicago   
 Press).

*On the Edge of the Worlds* (non-academic memoir on cross-cultural marriage, immigration and exile  
 represented by Jessica Craig Literary and currently under negotiation with publishers).

**Peer-Reviewed Publications**

***Sole-authored***

Elisabeth Becker. Conditional acceptance (2018). “Local Pluralism: Jewish-Muslim Relations in Berlin.”   
 *Annual Review of the Sociology of Religion* Vol. 10.

Elisabeth Becker. Invited paper (2018). “Reconstructing the Muslim Self in Diaspora: A Comparative Study   
 of European City Mosques.” *International Journal of Islamic Architecture*.

Elisabeth Becker. 2017. “Good Mosque/Bad Mosque: Boundaries to Belonging in Contemporary   
 Germany.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 85(4): 1050-1088.

Elisabeth Becker. 2014. “Little of Italy? Assumed Ethnicity in a New York City Neighborhood.” *Ethnic   
 and Racial Studies* 38(1): 109-124.

Elisabeth Becker. 2009. “[The Stage is the World, Women are the Actors: Peace and Justice Movements   
 in Latin America](http://www.infinityjournal.com/article.php?article=88).” *Infinity Journal*, October.

***Co-authored***

Michelle Adato, Terry Roopnaraine, and **Elisabeth Becker**. 2010. “Changing health practices through   
 conditional cash transfer programs: Insights on sociocultural context from ethnographic   
 research in Latin America and Turkey,” *Social Science and Medicine* 72(12): 1921-1929.

**Research Report**

Elisabeth Becker. 2018. *Muslims for American Progress: An Impact Report of Muslim Contributions to   
 New York City.* Washington, D.C.: Institute for Social Policy and Understanding.

**Book Reviews**

Elisabeth Becker. 2017. “Mapping the Secular Mind: A Search for a Godless Utopia” (Haggag   
 Ali). *International Sociology* 32(2): 201-204.

**Selected News and Social Commentary**

Becker, Elisabeth. 2018. “How Muslim Women are Transforming New York City’s Political Sphere.”   
  *Religion & Politics*, forthcoming.

Becker, Elisabeth. 2018. “Die Moscheen sollen sich in Luft auflosen.” *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung.*

Becker, Elisabeth. 2018. “I moved to Berlin and found my Jewish identity.” *Forward*.

Becker, Elisabeth. 2018. “How a Turkish Organization is Leading the Fight Against Anti-Semitism in   
 Germany”. *The Conversation*, forthcoming.

Becker, Elisabeth. 2017. “Breaking Bread in Berlin: Jews and Muslims Come Together.” *A   
 Beautiful Perspective.*

Becker, Elisabeth. 2017. “Sehitlik’s Retreat from Cosmopolitanism.” *Berkeley Forum*.  
Becker, Elisabeth. 2017. “Why Sociologists of Religion Need Theology.” *The Sociological Review* Blog.  
  
Becker, Elisabeth. 2017. “Paths to Sexual Ethics in Islam: Reflections on an Interview with Kecia Ali.”   
 *The Religious Studies Project*.  
  
Becker, Elisabeth. 2017. “The Toddler as Ethnographic Assistant.” *Kveller*.

Becker, Elisabeth. 2016. “Peace Baby or Trump Target?” *The Washington Post*.

Becker, Elisabeth. 2016. “A secular age? Re-enchantment in the Mosque.” *Global Scholars Blog.*

Becker, Elisabeth. 2015. “Dear New York Times: A Hijab is not a Burka.” *First Things.*

Becker, Elisabeth. 2015. “Making a Case for the Open Mosque as Methodology.” *Policy Trajectories*.

Becker, Elisabeth. 2015. “Notes from the Field: Europe’s Harvest of Fear.” *Global Dialogue*,5(2).

Becker, Elisabeth. 2015. “Keep Calm: Not a Terrorist.” *Discover Society*, 22.

**Selected Presentations**

2017 “Lessons from Women in the Mosque” (*Islamophobia, the Body, and the State in Contemporary   
 Europe).* Presenter, American Academy of Religion, Boston.

2017 “Multiple Secularities.” Presenter, Critical Realism Conference, Montreal.

2017 “From Caste to Purity in European Mosques.” Presenter, American Sociological Association, Montreal.

2017 “Europe’s Untouchables? Contemporary Caste and Purity in Mosques.” Presenter, Council for   
 European Studies, Glasgow

2017 “John Bowen’s *On British Islam: Religion, Law, and Everyday Practice in Shari’a Councils*.”  
 Invited discussant, Council for European Studies, Glasgow.

2016 “Foreign Conversations: How Northern Europe differs from Southern Europe.” Invited   
 presenter, American Sociological Association, Seattle.

2016 “The Everyday Ethnographic Study of Highly Securitized Populations.” Presenter, American   
 Sociological Association, Seattle.

2016 “The Aftermath of Charlie Hebdo.” Invited discussant, Council on European Studies,   
 Philadelphia.

2015 “Re-Placing Stigma? The Reception of Purpose-Built Mosques in Contemporary Germany.”   
 Presenter, Social Science History Association, Baltimore.

2013 “A Little Italy in Identity: An Example of Assumed Ethnicity.” Presenter, Social Science   
 History Association Conference, Chicago.

2013 “Global and Transnational Roundtable.” Discussant, American Sociological Association, New   
 York City.

2013 “Futures.” Discussant, *The Future of Religious Pluralism in Europe*, Conference, Center for the   
 Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) Essen, Germany.

**Awards, Grants and Recognitions**

2017 **Religious Freedom Research Project Doctoral Fellow**. $5000 award supporting research   
 on religious freedom, Berkeley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs

2017 **Baron Foundation Research Grant.** $2,000award supporting research on Muslim-Jewish

initiatives.

2016 **Robert Dentler Student Award**, American Sociological Association for applied and public   
 sociology.

**Constant H. Jacquet Award**, Religious Research Association. $2,839 supporting   
 fieldwork on the study of religion.

**Public Scholar Award**, Yale University. $1,000 award for scholarly work that aims to   
 improve social life.

2015 **Connecticut Academy of the Arts and Sciences (CAAS),** Graduate Fellow, financial award   
 provided for research publication and engagement in the CAAS community.

2014 **MacMillan Dissertation Research Grant**, $17,000 award for dissertation research abroad.

2013 **NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant**, $7,000 award for dissertation research.

**DAAD Research Grant**, 10,000 EURO award for dissertation research in Germany.

**Fox International Fellowship**, direct international exchange and research funding to support   
 future global leaders.

**Ganzfried Family Travel Fellowship**, $2,500 award for research project on *State Intervention   
 in Religious Practices.*

2011 **Sterling Fellowship**, Yale University, $5,000 award for academic excellence.

2006 **Marshall Scholarship**, academic award that provides financial support to 40 U.S. citizens for   
 two years of graduate studies in Great Britain.

**Robert Wertheimer Award**, Cornell University, for the best undergraduate Sociology thesis.

**Ruth and Harrop Freeman Peace Prize**, Cornell University, recognizes student for his/her   
 continuing contributions to peace studies.

**Humanity in Action Fellowship**, selects 40 students from the US and Europe to study human   
 and minority rights in the United States and undertake employment in government or non-  
 governmental organizations.

2005 **Truman Scholarship**, national award of $30,000 for graduate education, based on academic   
 excellence and dedication to public service.

**Research and work experience**

2018 **Primary Investigator,** Muslims for American Progress (MAP) Project New York   
 City, Institute for Social Policy and Understanding

* Design qualitative research instruments, lead qualitative and quantitative analysis and write final report, including data visualization.
* Manage team of research assistants in data collection and analysis.
* Write research report, op-eds, blogposts and other pieces for mainstream audience.

2016-2017 **Critical Realism Public Engagement Research Assistant**, Yale University.

* Design newsletter, organize conferences and undertake outreach for international network of scholars.
* Communicate research to broader audience through social media (primarily Twitter and Facebook).
* Write pieces for public audience.   
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2011-present **Consultant,** International organizations

* Qualitative research and writing training for government, NGO and non-profit employees globally, including study design, implementation, analysis and advocacy/policy-implications.
* Write op-eds, policy briefs and major grant proposals.

2009-2011 **Senior Research Assistant,** International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

* Undertook evaluations of government social safety-net programs, specifically among displaced populations (in Guatemala, Cambodia, South Africa, Zambia and El Salvador).
* Helped to design program interventions and research studies related to forced migration, displacement, poverty, health, nutrition and displacement.

2009-present **Copy editor**

* Ongoing, for professors at Princeton, Oxford, Frankfurt and Paderborn.
  1. **Journal Director**
* Managing Director of STAIR, St. Antony’s International Review. Solicited abstracts, chose papers, edited journals for the peer-reviewed graduate student journal of international affairs at Oxford University.

2009 **Writer/Researcher**, Professor Roger Zetter, Oxford University

* Researched and drafted book chapter for 2009 edition of the *Historical Dictionary of Refugee and Disaster Relief Organizations.*

2007 **Translator**, Buenos Aires, Argentina

* Spanish translator in PhD students completing doctoral research at the University of Wisconsin, March-April.

2006 **Intern**, German Senate Representative for Migration and Integration

* Completed organizational interviews and report regarding immigration policy and resulting integration of migrants in Berlin.

2006 **Teacher**, International Rescue Committee Summer School

* Taught art classes to recently arrived refugee youth.

2003 **Investigator Intern**, New York State Division of Human Rights

* Determined the existence of probable cause, through the investigation of human rights violation claims.

**Professional services**

Contributing Editor: *Civic Sociology*

Co-organizer, conference, *Religion and politics: The tensions between populism and pluralism*, Yale University MacMillan Center (spring 2018).

Member: American Sociological Association, American Academy of Religion, Council for European Studies, Association for the Sociology of Religion, Religious Research Association, Social Science History Association

Peer-Reviewer: *Journal of Ethnic & Racial Studies*; *Journal of Ethnic & Migration Studies*; *Journal of the American Academy of Religion.*

**Languages:** English (native), Spanish (fluent), German (advanced), Turkish (proficient)