

MICHAEL W. YARBROUGH
Department of Sociology
Yale University
P.O. Box 208265
New Haven, CT 06520
phone: 773.991.4027
email: michael.yarbrough@yale.edu

RESEARCH AREAS

Law and society; family; race, gender, and sexuality; cultural sociology

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Interpersonal relationship and collective identity formation; legal consciousness; legal pluralism; informal legal procedures; South Africa

EDUCATION

2003- Ph.D. student in sociology, Yale University

2007 J.D., Yale Law School
M.A., Sociology, Yale University

2001 A.B. with general and departmental honors, Sociology, University of Chicago

Thesis: "The Rainbow's Ends: From Economy to Affect in Post-Apartheid South Africa"

EDUCATIONAL AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2007 Beinecke Summer Pre-Dissertation Fellowship

2005- Kirby Simon Summer Fellowship for international human rights legal work
2006

2004 Selected for Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad at University of KwaZulu-Natal - Pietermaritzburg

2003- Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowship for isiZulu
2005

2001 University of Chicago Ruth Murray Prize
Recognizing outstanding undergraduate essay in women's and gender studies

PRESENTATIONS

2007 "The Grip of 'Legal Consciousness': Theoretical and Methodological Elaboration of the Law-Culture-Society Nexus." Paper presented at the Center for Cultural Sociology Workshop, February 2; Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Berlin, July; American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York City, August 12.

"Will Marriage Make Same-Sex Couples Less Egalitarian?: A Cautionary Tale" (w/ Vicki Schultz). Paper presented at the Center for Comparative Research/Center for Research on Inequalities and the Life Course workshop, Yale University, April; Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Berlin, July.

2005 "'We Thee Wed': Family Law, Subjectivity, and Culture in Post-Apartheid South Africa." Paper presented at the Center for Comparative and Historical Research Workshop, Yale University, September 28.

"Intimate Litigants: The Multiple Goals and Logics of Small Claims Courts." Paper presented at the Center for Cultural Sociology Workshop, November 18.

"How Are Provinces Responding to the *Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Act?*" (w/ Likhapha Mbatha). Paper presented at the Human Sciences Research Council, Tshwane, South Africa, July; and at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, Johannesburg, July.

"Integrating Research with Litigation: Opportunities and Challenges for Women's Property Rights" (w/ Likhapha Mbatha). Paper presented at the International Workshop on Strategic Litigation for Women's Rights, Johannesburg, August 16-20.

Invited commentator on Peter Brooks's Plenary Lecture, "The Identity Paradigm." Center for Cultural Sociology Annual Conference, Yale University, May 7-9.

2004 "Customary Marriage Law and the Meanings of Culture in Post-Apartheid South Africa." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the African Studies Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 11-14; Yale Center for African Studies Brown Bag Series, October 27; and the Center for Cultural Sociology Conference, Yale University, April 24.

PUBLICATION

2007 "South Africa's Wedding Jitters: Consolidation, Abolition, or Proliferation?" *Yale Journal of Law & Feminism* 18(2):497-521.

BOOK REVIEWS

2005 "Overcoming Apartheid: Can Truth Reconcile a Divided Nation?" (by James L. Gibson). *Yale Human Rights & Development Law Journal* 8:237-39.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“The Grip of ‘Legal Consciousness’: Theoretical and Methodological Elaboration of the Law-Culture-Society Nexus”

“Same-Sex Marriage and the Division of Household Labor: A Cautionary Tale” (w/ Vicki Schultz)

“We Thee Wed: Customary Marriage Law and the Meanings of Culture in Post-Apartheid South Africa.”

“Intimate Litigants: The Multiple Goals and Logics of Small Claims Court.”

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2006- Fellow, Center for Comparative Research, Yale University

2006- Managing Editor, *Yale Journal of Law & Feminism*
2007

2005- Coordinator, Work & Welfare Working Group, Yale University
2006

2005 Assistant Coordinator, Inter-Ivy Sociology Symposium, Yale University, April 9.

2004- Junior Fellow, Center for Cultural Sociology at Yale University

Member, American Sociological Association; Law and Society Association; Sociologists for Women in Society

2004- Articles and Symposium Editor, *Yale Journal of Law & Feminism*
2006 (lead editor on Robin L. West, “Law’s Nobility” and M.V. Lee Badgett, “Predicting Partnership Rights: Applying the European Experience to the United States”)

2004- Editor, *Yale Journal of Law & Humanities*; Junior Editor, *Yale Human Rights & Development Law Journal*
2005

2003- Yale Sociology Department Graduate Student Union Representative
2005

SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

2006 Legal Researcher, OUT LGBT Well-being; Tshwane, South Africa

2005- Research Assistant, Professor Vicki Schultz, Yale Law School
2007

2005 Visiting Researcher, Gender Research Project of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies; University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

2000 Research Assistant, Sloan Center on Working Families; Chicago, Illinois

1999- Research Assistant, Professor Donald Levine, University of Chicago
2001

LANGUAGES

isiZulu - very good; Spanish - good; Afrikaans - fair