

## GABRIELLE KRUKS-WISNER

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### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- Harvard University 2015 – present  
*Academy Scholar, Harvard Academy for International & Area Studies* 2012 – 2013
- Boston College July 2013 – present  
*Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science* (On leave 2015-2016)

### EDUCATION

#### Massachusetts Institute of Technology

*Ph.D., Department of Political Science* (2013)

- Sub-Fields: Comparative Politics & Political Economy
- Dissertation: “Claiming the State: Service Delivery and Citizen-State Relations in Rural India.”
- Committee: Richard Locke (Chair), Suzanne Berger, Lily Tsai, Daniel Posner

#### Massachusetts Institute of Technology

*Master in City Planning, Department of Urban Studies & Planning* (2006)

- Field: International Development and Regional Planning
- Thesis: “After the Flood: Crisis, Voice, & Innovation in Maputo’s Solid Waste Management.”  
Recipient of the “Outstanding Thesis Award,” 2006. Advisors: Judith Tandler, Jenna Davis

#### Swarthmore College

*Bachelor of Arts* (1999)

- Major: Sociology & Anthropology; Concentrations: Peace & Conflict Studies; Latin American Studies. Oak Leaf Award for “Outstanding female student in the class of 1999.”

### BOOK MANUSCRIPT

*Active Citizenship: Claim-Making & the Pursuit of Social Welfare in Rural India.* (Under review)

This book explores the practices through which rural citizens of the world’s largest democracy make claims on the state for social welfare. Drawing on a survey of 2210 households as well as 500 interviews across 105 villages of Rajasthan, I argue that citizen action is *state-induced* and *socially produced*, shaped by direct encounters with public officials and by narrated accounts that circulate within – and beyond – communities. Claim-making is most likely where the institutional terrain of the state is both *broad* and *uneven*, thereby increasing citizens’ encounters with the state while generating a sense of grievance (and entitlement) if the state does not deliver. Under these conditions, *greater social and spatial exposure* is a catalyst for citizen action, building knowledge of, aspirations towards, and linkages to the state. More mobile citizens, who traverse boundaries of community and locality, are thus more likely to make claims on the state and to do so through a broader repertoire of practices.

### PUBLICATIONS

“Seeking the Local State: Gender, Caste, and the Pursuit of Public Services in Post-Tsunami India.”  
*World Development*, 39(7), p. 1143-1154, 2011.

“Fair Trade and Ecotourism in Mexico: Promoting Sustainability, Building Networks,” in *Making Ecopreneurs*, Aldershot, U.K.: Ashgate Publishing, 2005 (1<sup>st</sup> Edition), 2010 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition), pp. 253-266.

## **WORKING PAPERS & DRAFTS-IN-PROGRESS**

“Navigating the State: Citizenship Practice & the Pursuit of Services in Rural India.” *SAI Working Paper*. South Asia Institute, Harvard University. May 2015.

“Making Claims: Citizenship and Service Delivery in Rural India.” MIT Political Science Department Research Paper No. 2011-16, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. October 2011.

“Veiled Claims: When and How Do Women Make Claims on the State in Northern India?”

“Deepening Local Governance: Twenty-Years of Decentralization in Rajasthan.”

## **OPINION PIECES**

“Unequal Opportunity.” *Indian Express*. February 23, 2015.

“A Not So Distant State.” *Indian Express*. January 8, 2014.

“How Rural India Negotiates With the State.” *The Hindu: Business Line*. July 4, 2012.

## **INVITED TALKS & CONFERENCES**

- University of Virginia, Department of Politics. December 2015.
- University of Pennsylvania, Center for the Advanced Study of India. December 2015.
- Brown University, Watson Institute, Development & Governance Seminar. November 2015.
- University of Pennsylvania, Center for the Advanced Study of India. June 2014.
- University of Wisconsin, Annual Conference on South Asia. October 2014.
- American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting. September 2014.
- University of Connecticut, Human Rights Institute. April 2014.
- Boston College, Boisi Center. February 2014.
- American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting. August 2013.
- University of Wisconsin, Annual Conference on South Asia. October 2013.
- University of Pennsylvania, Center for the Advanced Study of India. April 2013
- Brown University, Brown-India Initiative. March 2013.
- Yale University, Modern South Asia Workshop. March 2013.
- Harvard University, Harvard Academy for International & Area Studies. February 2013.
- American University, School for International Service. December 2012.
- Columbia University, Department of Political Science. November 2012.
- Boston College, Department of Political Science. November 2012.
- Cornell University, Conference on Water in South Asia. April 2011.
- Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting. March 2011.
- Dartmouth College, Department of Government. November 2010.
- American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. September 2010.
- Mohan Lal Sukhadia University, Rajasthan, India. March 2010.

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- Harvard Academy for International Area Studies, post-doctoral fellowship, 2012-13; 2015-16
- Fulbright-Nehru Research Fellow (India), U.S. Department of State, 2009-2010
- National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2009-2010
- Boren Fellowship, U.S. National Security Education Program, 2009-2010
- Critical Language Scholarship (Hindi), U.S. Department of State, 2009
- Carroll L. Wilson Award, MIT Entrepreneurship Center, 2008
- MIT-India Award (NSF), MIT International Science & Technology Initiatives, 2007, 2009
- Summer Travel Award (India), MIT Program in Human Rights and Justice, 2007
- Travel Grant (India), Feinstein International Center, Tufts University, 2007
- Graduate Fellowship, MIT Department of Political Science, 2006 – 2011
- MIT Presidential Fellow, 2006-2007
- Outstanding Thesis Award, MIT Department of Urban Studies & Planning, 2006
- Summer Intern Fellowship, MIT Program in Human Rights & Justice (Mozambique), 2005
- Graduate Fellowship, MIT Department of Urban Studies & Planning, 2004-2006
- Oak Leaf Award for “Outstanding Woman Student in Class of 1999,” Swarthmore College

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Boston College, Department of Political Science**

- “Politics of India: Challenges of Democracy, Diversity, & Development.” (*Fall 2013, Fall 2014*)
- “Comparative Politics of International Development.” (*Spring 2014; Spring 2015*)
- “Grassroots Politics: Local Governance & Participation.” (*Spring 2015*)
- “Citizens, States, and Society” (advanced seminar). (*Spring 2014, Fall 2014*)

### **Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Political Science**

- “Thesis Design Workshop.” Teaching Assistant to Dr. Roger Petersen (*Fall 2008*)
- “Building a Better World.” Assistant to Dr. Richard Locke (syllabus design)

## SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

- Reviewer: *American Political Science Review, Asian Survey, Governance, Journal of Development Studies, World Development, World Politics*
- Harvard University, South Asia Institute, Research Affiliate 2014 – 2015
- Dartmouth College, Department of Government, Visiting Scholar 2009 – 2012
- Madras Institute for Development Studies (Chennai), Visiting Scholar 2009 – 2010
- American Political Science Association, Member 2006 – present

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### **Dissertation Fieldwork in Rural Rajasthan.** *Spring 2009 – Summer 2010; Fall – Spring 2010-2011.*

Eighteen months of mixed methods research across 105 villages and four districts of Rajasthan.

Completed more than 400 interviews with local elected officials, village leaders, and village residents.

Crafted and implemented an original survey in Hindi of 2210 households; trained and supervised an 18-person research team. Carried out case study research in 6 matched-pair villages.

### **Gender, Caste, and Public Services in Post-Tsunami India.** *Summer 2007; Winter 2008.*

Four months of research in Tamil Nadu, India, including a household survey in two tsunami-affected villages and over 70 interviews with officials, NGO staff, local representatives, and village residents.

The resulting paper examines channels through which residents sought public services, arguing that external shocks – the proliferation of aid and NGOs – created moments in which citizens interacted differently with public agencies. (Published in *World Development*.)

### **City Politics and Service Delivery in Maputo, Mozambique.** *Summer 2005; Winter 2006.*

Four months of research in Maputo, Mozambique, including interviews (in Portuguese) with city officials, politicians, NGO staff, and slum residents. The resulting paper explores differing local responses to the problem of solid waste management in two neighborhoods, examining the relations between citizens, donors, and city government.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Oxfam America** (*Summer 2007 – Spring 2009*)

*Boston, MA & Tamil Nadu, India*

*Research Consultant, Disaster Risk Reduction and Participatory Action Research Program.* Advisor to program building local research capacity in disaster management and risk reduction in post-tsunami South Asia.

### **WaterAid-Mozambique** (*Summer 2005*)

*Maputo, Mozambique*

*Consultant.* Designed and implemented a mixed method study of water and sanitation access in peri-urban neighborhoods of Maputo, in collaboration with WaterAid and the city government.

### **Washington Office on Latin America** (*Spring 2002 - Summer 2004*)

*Washington, DC*

*Program Assistant.* Worked to develop the “Rights & Development” program on issues of economic and social rights in the Americas. Drafted memoranda and organized conferences for U.S. policy audiences.

### **Ashoka: Innovators for the Public** (*Fall 2001 - Spring 2002*)

*Arlington, VA & Mexico*

*Consultant and Program Assistant.* Conducted site visits and case studies of fair trade, ecotourism, and urban agriculture projects in Oaxaca, Mexico City, and Querétaro.

### **Urban Justice Center** (*Summer 1999 through Summer 2001*)

*New York, NY*

*Legal Advocate, Homelessness Outreach & Prevention Project.* Defended rights of homeless and low-income New Yorkers to public benefits. Represented clients in administrative civil court proceedings.

## SKILLS

- Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (advanced), Hindi (advanced intermediate), Marathi (beginner), French (intermediate)
- Stata, SPSS, ArcGIS
- Survey design, sampling methodology, rapid mapping, case study methods, interview methods