

**Department of Sociology  
University of Connecticut  
344 Mansfield Rd.  
Storrs, CT 06269-2068**

**RANITA RAY**

## **Education**

2007- present      PhD in Sociology, University of Connecticut, expected in 2012  
(Research interests: Urban ethnography, Crime and deviance, qualitative methods, human rights and aging experiences)

**General Exams:** Crime and Deviance (Summer 2009); Gender (Fall 2009)

2007      M.A in Sociology, Presidency College, University of Calcutta  
(Thesis: “Gender Norms, Legitimacy and Justice Perceptions: A Study of the Indian Judiciary”)

2005      B.A in Sociology, Presidency College, University of Calcutta

## **Scholarships, Fellowships, Honors and Grants**

Human Rights Research Grant Competition award. University of Connecticut. 2009.  
**(Awarded- \$2000)**

Recruitment and Retention grant. University of Connecticut. 2009. **(Awarded- \$500).**

Departmental Pre-Doctoral Fellowships **(Awarded from 2008-2010).**

Lee Student Support Fund. Society for the Study of Social Problems. 2010. **(Awarded)**

Student Travel Grant. Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. 2010 **(Awarded)**

## **Research experience**

### **International Research**

Conducted participant observation and in-depth interviews at the West Bengal Human Rights Commission, India (December 2009-January 2010).

### **U.S. based research**

In-dept interviews and life-story narratives and participant observation among college based drug users.

**(Ongoing)** In-depth interviews and life story narratives with aging Asian Americans.

**(Ongoing)** Urban ethnography in New London for dissertation project.

## **Publications**

### **Books in Preparation**

**Under Contract:** As The Leaves Turn Gold: Aging Experiences of Asian Americans. (With Dr Bandana Purkayastha).

### **Articles in preparation**

**Under Review:** Ray, Ranita. Becoming a Pothead: Managing and Normalizing An Outsider Identity.

**Working paper:** Ray, Ranita. Human Rights and Aging Indian Americans.

**Working Paper:** Ray, Ranita. Informal Economy of Drug Use On College Campuses.

**Working Paper:** Ray, Ranita. Localizing Global Human Rights (With Dr Bandana Purkayastha).

Ray, Ranita. Established and the Outsider: Community Dynamics and Identity Politics Among Drug Users.

### **Book Chapters**

**In Print** Ray, Ranita. Sex Trafficking: In our backyard?; In our own backyard: Human Rights, Injustice, and resistance in the United States. Armeline, T William; Glasbert, S Davita and Purkayastha, Bandana (eds).

### **Other Publications**

Purkayastha, Bandana and Ranita Ray. South Asian Americans: Contemporary Issues. Entry in Greenwood Encyclopedia on Contemporary Asian American Issues, edited by

Edith Chen, Wendy Ng, and Peter Chua. Greenwood Press.

## **Conference Presentations**

American Sociological Association. 2010. Ray, Ranita. "Becoming a Pothead": Normalizing Deviant Identity within the Subculture of Marijuana smoking.

The 27th Annual Qualitative Analysis Conference: Social Pragmatism as a Conceptual Foundation. 2010. Ranita, Ray. Drug use and Deviant Identity construction among affluent College Students.

Annual Graduate Student Ethnography Conference. Stony Brook University. 2010. Ray, Ranita. Managing Stigma Through the Normalization of Deviant Behavior: The case of Marijuana Smokers.

Society for the Study of Social Problems. 2010. Ray, Ranita. Becoming a Pothead: Normalizing Deviant Identity within the Subculture of Marijuana Smoking

The Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. 2010. Ray, Ranita. "Becoming a Pothead": Managing an Outsider Identity.

Eastern Sociological Association. 2010. Ray, Ranita. "Becoming a Pothead": Stylizing an Outsider Identity

Eastern Sociological Association. 2010. Localizing Global Human Rights: An Ethnography of West Bengal Human Rights Commission.

SWS. 2010. Ray, Ranita. "Becoming a Pothead": Performing Gender while Normalizing Deviant Identity within the Subculture of Marijuana Smoking.

Eastern Sociological Society. 2009. Ray, Ranita. Masculinity by the Deviant in Cinema.

SWS. 2009. Ray, Ranita. Sex Trafficking in the U.S.

Conference on 'States of Violence: Representations of Conflict in The Film, Fiction, and Media of South Asia'. 2009. Ray, Ranita. Masculinity as portrayed by the deviant in cinema : A comparative study on Bollywood and Hollywood.

## **Teaching**

Introduction to Sociology (TA, Fall 2007)

Research Methods (TA, Spring 2008)

Criminology (Instructor, Summer 2008, Fall 2008, Spring, 2009, Fall, 2009)

Deviant Behavior (Instructor, summer, 2009)

Introduction to Sociology, SSS (Instructor, Summer, 2009; Summer 2010)  
Social Problems (Instructor, Spring, 2010)

### **Invited Lectures**

Sex Trafficking in the United States, presented in the course Women and Violence.  
University of Connecticut. 2009

### **Service**

Member, Orientation committee for graduate students.  
Member, Affirmative Actions committee.  
Member, Recruitment and retention committee  
Reviewer, Gender and Society  
G.A. for editorial office, Gender and Society (Summer, 2008)

### **Professional Affiliations**

American Sociological Association  
Eastern Sociological Society  
Sociologists for Women in Society  
Society for the Study of Social Problems  
Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction