

# RACHEL E. BRULÉ

---

NYU Abu Dhabi, PO Box 129188, Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates  
+1 (650) 465-7664 | reb11@nyu.edu

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**New York University Abu Dhabi**  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, Fall 2014 - Present

**New York University New York**  
Global Network (Affiliated) Professor, Fall 2013 - Present  
Integration year, Fall 2013 - Spring 2014

## EDUCATION

**Stanford University**, Department of Political Science, 2006-2013  
PhD in Political Science  
Dissertation: "The Political Economy of Gender-Equalizing Reform in Rural India"  
Committee: Beatriz Magaloni (Chair), Jon Bendor, Jim Fearon, & Saumitra Jha

**London School of Economics**, Development Studies Institute, UK, 2004-2005  
Msc in Development Management, *Distinction on Thesis*

**Oxford University**, Refugee Studies Centre, UK, 2003-2004  
MSc in Forced Migration

**Mount Holyoke College**, 1999-2003  
BA in International Relations & African Studies, *Summa Cum Laude*

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS

Primary field: Comparative Politics  
Secondary fields: Gender, South Asia, Political Economy, Institutions, Development, Migration

## PUBLICATIONS: PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Women's Inheritance Rights Reform and the Preference for Sons in India" (with Sanchari Roy and Sonia Bhalotra). Forthcoming. *Journal of Development Economics*.

"Reform, Representation and Resistance: The Politics of Property Rights' Enforcement." Accepted. *Journal of Politics*.

"Accounting for Accountability: Local Government and Social Equity in India." 2015. *Asian Survey*, Vol. 55(5), Special Edition on State Capacity in India.

## BOOK MANUSCRIPT

*Women's Representation & Resistance: Positive and Perverse Consequences of Indian Laws for Gender Equality*. Under contract with Cambridge University Press.

## WORKING PAPERS

"Culture, Capital & the Gender Gap in Political Economy Preferences: Evidence from Meghalaya's Tribes" (with Nikhar Gaikwad).

- 2017. Winner, Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)'s Pi Sigma Alpha Award for Best Paper Overall, Presented at the MPSA Annual Conference, April 2017.
- 2017. Winner, Midwest Political Science Association's Kellogg/Notre Dame Award for Best Paper in Comparative Politics, Presented at the MPSA Annual Conference, April 2017.

"Women's Inheritance Rights Reform and the Preference for Sons in India" (with Sanchari Roy and Sonia Bhalotra). 2017. *IZA Discussion Paper No. 11239*.

"Land Rights Without Law: Property Rights Institutions, Growth, & Development in India." 2009. *CDDRL Working Paper Number 98, Stanford University*.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Land Rights Without Law: Property Rights Institutions, Growth, & Development in India,” in *Law and Economy in India*, T. Heller & E. Jensen, Eds. Forthcoming. *Oxford University Press India*.

“Audacious Institutions: Negotiating land tenure in pre-conflict Sri Lanka, *Putting Land First? Exploring the Links Between Land & Poverty*. Conference Proceedings: 6th Annual Symposium on Land & Poverty in Sri Lanka. 2006. Centre for Poverty Analysis, Colombo.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

“Invisible Institutionalism” (book manuscript contribution, edited by Swethaa Ballakrishnen and Sara Dezalay)

“Research And Policy Innovation for Development in Challenging Contexts (RAPID): Translating Welfare Enhancing Development Interventions from Non-conflict to Conflict-affected Countries” (with Dana Burde, Cyrus Samii, and Rebecca Wolfe)

“Resources, Rights, & Restraint: The Impact of Dynamic Economic & Social Resources on Political Preferences across India” (with Nikhar Gaikwad)

“Measuring Women’s Representation: Lessons Learned & Existing Puzzles” (with Sarah Khan)

“Networks & the Political Economy of Women’s Empowerment: Investigating the Enduring Results of Two Natural Policy Experiments in India” (with Jenn Larson and Solédad Prillaman)

“Representing Multi-dimensional Diversity: The Political Economy of Gender, Religion & Class in Contemporary India” (with Aliz Tóth)

## GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND HONORS

2017. **Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)’s Pi Sigma Alpha Award for Best Paper Overall**, for “Culture, Capital and the Political Economy Gender Gap: Evidence from Meghalaya’s Matrilineal Tribes,” with Nikhar Gaikwad, presented at the MPSA conference, April 2017.

2017. **Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)’s Kellogg/Notre Dame Award for Best Paper in Comparative Politics**, for “Culture, Capital and the Political Economy Gender Gap: Evidence from Meghalaya’s Matrilineal Tribes,” with Nikhar Gaikwad, presented at the MPSA conference, April 2017.

2017-2018. **CVoter Foundation**, Corporate Social Responsibility Grant.

2017-2019. **Research & Empirical Analysis of Labor Migration**, Grant on “Gendered Differences in the Causes and Consequences of Migration: Experimental Evidence from India and the United Arab Emirates” (with Nikhar Gaikwad). Granted by Columbia University’s Interdisciplinary Center for Innovative Theory and Empirics (INCITE). Declined.

2012, 2008. **Center for South Asia, Stanford University**, Doctoral Student Research Grant.

2010-2011. **National Council for Applied Economic Research**, Doctoral Fellowship, Delhi, India.

2007-2008. **Center for Democracy, Development & Rule of Law, Stanford University**, Pre-doctoral Fellowship.

2004. **St. Cross College, Oxford University**, Research Grant.

2003. **Marshall Scholarship**.

2002. **Truman Scholarship**.

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2019: “Invisible Institutionalism” Book Workshop, Onati, Spain (“The Political Economy of Backlash: What do we know?”)

2018: University of California at Berkeley Comparative Politics Workshop (“Reform, Representation and Resistance: The Politics of Property Rights’ Enforcement”); Institutions and Political Inequality Research Group at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (WZB or Berlin Social Science Center: “Women’s Representation and Resistance”); Empirical Gender Research Network (E-GEN), Vanderbilt University (“Gender & Migration,” with Nikhar Gaikwad); Gender Brown Bag, New York University Abu Dhabi (“Women’s Representation & Resistance”); The Center for the Advanced Study of India (CASI) at the University of Pennsylvania (“The Long Arm of Resistance: Parental Care & Backlash”)

2017: Columbia Comparative Politics Workshop (“Refracted Reform: On the Origins of Indian Laws for Gender Equality & their Perverse Consequences”); European Conference on Politics and Gender, Panel on Women’s Political Behavior in History (“Refracted Reform”); Conference on “Child Development in India: The First 4000 Days,” The Center for Advanced Studies on India (CASI) at the University of Pennsylvania (“Women’s Inheritance Rights and the Preference for Sons in India”)

2016: APSA (“Representation, Reform & Resistance: The Politics of Property Rights’ Enforcement”); Annual South Asia Conference, University of Wisconsin/Madison (“Culture, Capital & the Gender Gap in Political Economy Preferences: Evidence from Meghalaya’s Tribes,” with Nikhar Gaikwad); Development Economics and Policy Conference at Heidelberg University (“Representation, Reform & Resistance”); European Conference on South Asian Studies (“Culture, Capital & the Gender Gap,” with Nikhar Gaikwad); Georgetown University, Comparative Government Coffee (“Representation, Reform & Resistance”); International Political Economy Society’s Annual Meeting (“Culture, Capital & the Gender Gap,” with Nikhar Gaikwad); Midwest Political Science Association (“Culture, Capital & the Gender Gap,” with Nikhar Gaikwad); Southern Economics Associations Annual Conference (Presidential Panel on Gender and Political Economy, Co-organizer & Presenter with Nikhar Gaikwad, “Culture, Capital & the Gender Gap”)

2015: Midwest Political Science Association (“Do Cultural Norms Explain the Gap in Political Preferences? Evidence from a Matrilineal Society”); APSA (“States and Gender Revolutions”); Book Conference at NYU NY (“Refracted Reform: Positive & Perverse Consequences of Indian Laws for Gender Equity”)

2014: University of Wisconsin/Madison, Annual South Asia Conference (“States and Gender Revolutions”); APSA (Panel Organizer: “Gender, Political engagement & Public goods across India,” “Does Granting Greater Inheritance Rights to Women Limit Son-preferring Behavior? Evidence from a Natural Experiment in India?”)

2013: Bristol University, Centre for Market and Public Organization, Political Economy & Public Services Conference (“Gender Equity and Inheritance Reform: Evidence from Rural India”) University of Wisconsin/Madison, Annual South Asia Conference (“Accounting for Accountability: Local Governance & Gender Equality in Rural India”); University of California, Berkeley workshop on State Capacity in India & Yale University, Modern South Asia Workshop (“Gender Equity and Inheritance Reform”)

2012: APSA (“India Workshop”: The Perils of Opinion Surveys in India); Stanford University Center for South Asia, South Asia by the Bay Graduate Student Conference (“Negotiations in Property Rights, Gender & Identity in Rural India”; “Democratic Reform & Information Technology: Catalyst for Progress or Backlash?”); London School of Economics and The School of Oriental and African Studies (“When Reform Works: On the Legal Impact of Gender-Equalizing Property Rights Law in Rural South India”)

2011: University of Wisconsin/Madison, Annual South Asia Conference (“Gender & Finance”); APSA (“Counter-intuitive Institutional Reform”), Universit d’Aix-Marseille, Institute of Public Economics, Journées Louis-André Grard-Varet Conference in Public Economics (“Gender Discrimination”), PRIO, Oslo (“When Reform Works: A Theory of Individual Legal Impact in Rural India”)

2010: APSA (“Political Participation & Clientelism in Changing Economic Circumstances”); National Council of Applied Economic Research, IDRC & Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, India (“Decentralization, Rural Governance and Inclusive Growth”)

2009: APSA (“Political Engagement & Governance in Developing Democracies”); Law & Economy in India at Stanford & Center for Policy Research, Delhi, India (“Land Rights without Law”)

## RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

**Reviewer**, *American Journal of Political Science*, *British Journal of Comparative Political Science*, *Journal of Comparative Politics*, *Journal of Economics & Politics*, *World Politics*.

**American Political Science Association**, *Professional Member*, 2013-Present.

**Global TIES for Children: Transforming Intervention Effectiveness and Scale**, *Research Affiliate*, Spring 2015-Present.

**Empirical Gender Research Network (E-GEN)**, *Member*, Fall 2017-Present.

**WZB Berlin Social Science Center, “Institutions and Political Inequality” Research Unit**, led by Prof. Macartan Humphreys, *Visiting Researcher*, Summer 2018.

**Research & Empirical Analysis of Labor Migration**, *Working Group Member*, Fall 2015-Spring 2018.

**“Labor, Migration, and Human Rights” Academic Speaker Series**, *Convener*, NYU Abu Dhabi, Spring 2015-Fall 2016.

**North East Workshop in Empirical Political Science**, *Discussant*, NYU NY, Fall 2013.

**“Technology, Accountability & Democracy in South Asia & Beyond”**, *Co-organizer, Guest Speaker & Presenter*, University of Mumbai, in coordination with Stanford Alumni Association of India, Stanford University and the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, 2014.

**“Technology & Democracy in South Asia”**, *Co-Organizer*, Stanford Center for South Asia, 2012.

**Google.org Land Transparency Team**, *Consultant*, Palo Alto, CA, Spring 2013-Fall 2014.

**Self Employed Womens Association (SEWA)**, *Consultant*, Ahmedabad, India, Winter 2010.

**Hope House Halfway House for Women**, *Assistant Professor*, Menlo Park, CA, Fall 2008.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course Design & Teaching at NYU Abu Dhabi

“Introduction to Comparative Politics”, Spring 2019.

“Gender Revolutions and the State in India: POLSC-AD 185J”, January Term 2016, 2017

“Comparative Politics of South Asia: POLSC-AD 153”, Undergraduate Seminar, Fall 2014, 2015

“Justice: Theory and Practice: CORES-AD 64”, Fall 2015, 2016, Spring 2018

“Justice: Political Theory and Practice: POLSC-AD 142”, Undergraduate Seminar, Spring 2015

Course Design & Teaching at NYU

“Politics Senior Honors I: POL-UA 950”, Undergraduate Honors Seminar, Fall 2013-Spring 2014

Course Design & Teaching at Stanford

“The Political Economy of Development in Rural India”, Undergraduate Seminar, Winter 2013

Teaching Assistant at Stanford & MIT

Prof. Diaz-Cayeros, “Introduction to Comparative Politics: PS4”, Stanford 2009

Prof. Reich, “Theories of Civil Society, Philanthropy & Nonprofit Sector: PS236”, Stanford 2008

Prof. Abernathy, “NGOs and Development: PS 143”, Stanford, 2007-08

Prof. Mullainathan, “Evaluating Social Programs”, MITs Jameel Abdul Latif Poverty Action Lab in Chennai, India, Executive Education course for Public and Private Sector Professionals, 2007

Guest Lecturer & Teaching Assistant at Stanford

“Islam & the West, PS149S”: Qutb, the Islamic Brotherhood & Secular Modernity in the Arab World, 2009

“Global Politics of Human Rights, PS141”: US Interrogation Procedures, Law, & Human Rights, 2008-09

“Law & Economy in India, LAW 342”: Indian Inheritance Law: Design, Implementation, & Impact, Intended & Unintended, 2008

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Stanford University**

#### **Research Assistant**

Prof. Saumitra Jha, Graduate School of Business, 2012, “Veterans & Public Goods in Post-Partition India.” Data collection and preliminary analysis of violence-driven institutional change.

Prof. Beatriz Magaloni, Political Science Department, 2009, “Governance & Corruption in Mexico.” Aided development of randomized experiments and list-based survey experiments on governance and corruption across Mexican states.

**National Council for Applied Economic Research & IDRC**, Delhi, India, 2010-11

#### **Doctoral Fellow**

Analyzed constraints to effective local governance regarding inequality in land rights & political participation.

**The World Bank, Rural Development Group**, Andhra Pradesh, India, 2010

#### **Consultant**

Designed a randomized experiment on increasing gender-equalizing land inheritance reform: drafted project framework, survey content, and built local implementation partnerships.

**Stanford Center for Democracy, Development & the Rule of Law**, 2007-2008

#### **Pre-doctoral Fellow**

Wrote chapter in Law and Development in India (Forthcoming); Lecturer, Stanford Law School.

**MIT Poverty Action Lab**, India, 2005-06

#### **Program Coordinator for Harvard Prof. S. Mullainathan**

Designed & implemented large-scale randomized experiments in Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu with ICICI Bank & NGOs using behavioral economics to improve access to credit, education and public health, and lower debt.

**International Labour Organization**, Geneva, Switzerland, Fall 2000

#### **External Collaborator**

Authored a Working Paper for the International Institute for Labour Studies on strategies to integrate information economy workers into the ILOs mandate and protection network.

## FIELD RESEARCH

**INDIA**, over 2 years, June-August 2007 and 2008; November 2009 April 2011; January, October, and December 2014; January and March 2015; January 2016; March 2017.

**North East India:** Meghalaya (East Khasi Hills district, Shillong municipality); Mizoram (Aizawl municipality and district)

**North India:** Uttar Pradesh (Saharanpur district), Haryana (Yamuna Nagar district), Delhi

**South India:** Andhra Pradesh (Anantapur, Khammam, Krishna, Ranga Reddy, Vishakhapatnam, and Vizianangaram districts)

**SENEGAL**, 1 year, September 2001 June 2002

**Dakar** (March HLM, Ethnography)

**Kaolack** (Society of Development and Textile Fibers, SODIFITEX)

## LANGUAGES

French (Advanced/Intermediate), Hindi (Intermediate), Arabic, German & Wolof (Beginner)