

# DARA KAY COHEN

Stanford University  
Department of Political Science  
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## EDUCATION

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### Stanford University

Stanford, CA

Ph.D. candidate in Political Science, October 2003-present (Ph.D. expected Spring 2009)

*Major Fields:* International Relations, American Politics

*Minor Fields:* Comparative Politics, Political Methodology

*Dissertation Title:* "Explaining Sexual Violence During Civil War"

*Dissertation Committee:* James Fearon (chair), Jeremy Weinstein, Scott Sagan

*Fieldwork:* Sierra Leone (July-August 2006; April-July 2007; March-April 2008), Timor Leste (January-February 2008; Spring 2009); El Salvador (Winter 2009)

### Brown University

Providence, RI

A.B. Political Science and A.B. Philosophy, 2001

*Magna Cum Laude* (highest Latin honors), Honors in Political Science

## PUBLICATIONS

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"Color Bind: Lessons from the Failed Homeland Security Advisory System," (with Jacob N. Shapiro), *International Security*, Volume 32 (2): 121-154 (Fall 2007).

"Crisis Bureaucracy: Homeland Security and the Political Design of Legal Mandates," (with Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar and Barry R. Weingast), *Stanford Law Review*, Volume 59 (3): 673-760 (December 2006).

## WORKING PAPERS

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"Explaining Sexual Violence During Civil War"

"The Role of Female Combatants in Armed Groups: Women and Wartime Rape in Sierra Leone"

"Red Herrings: Fishing Disputes, Regime Type and the Militarized Interstate Dispute Dataset" (with Jessica Weeks)

"The (Occasional) Importance of Foreign Policy in Elections: Evidence from the U.S. House, 1972-1994"

"An Evaluation of Major Threat Assessments, 2001-2004," commissioned by the Princeton Project on National Security Working Group on Relative Threat Assessment, February 24, 2005,  
<http://www.wws.princeton.edu/ppns/papers.html>.

## **AWARDS, HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

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Peace Scholar Dissertation Fellowship, United States Institute of Peace (2008-2009)

Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University

Zukerman Fellowship and Predoctoral Fellowship (2008-2009)

Predoctoral Fellowship (2005-2006)

Organizational Learning for Homeland Security Graduate Fellowship (2004-2005)

Geballe Dissertation Prize Fellowship, Stanford Humanities Center (2008-2009) (Declined)

Awarded to eight Stanford graduate students per year in the School of Humanities and Sciences

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (\$12,000) (2007-2008)

Morris J. Abrams Award for Dissertation Research in International Relations (2007)

Graduate Dissertation Fellowship, Clayman Institute for Gender Research, Stanford University (2007-2008)

O’Bie Shultz Dissertation Research Travel Grant, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University (2007-2008)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting Graduate Travel Grant (2007)

Graduate Research Opportunity Grant, Stanford University (2006-2007)

Award for Outstanding Legal Assistance, Counterterrorism Section, U.S. Department of Justice (2002)

Best Senior Honors Thesis in American Politics, Political Science Department, Brown University (2001)

Barbara Anton Senior Honors Thesis Research Grant, Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, Brown University (2000)

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS**

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“Sexual Violence During Civil War: A Cross-National Dataset,” to be presented at the 2008 American Political Science Association Meeting in Boston, MA, August 28-31, 2008.

“The Role of Female Combatants in Armed Groups: Women and Wartime Rape in Sierra Leone,” invited presentation at the Working Group on Repertoires of Violence, Sante Fe Institute, July 13-20, 2008 and to be presented at the Rape in Wartime: A History to be Written conference, University of Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne, May 11-13, 2009.

“Understanding Sexual Violence in the Sierra Leone Civil War,” invited presentation at the Workshop on Sexual Violence During War, Yale University, November 2-4, 2007.

“Explaining Sexual Violence During Civil War,” presented at the 2007 American Political Science Association Meeting in Chicago, IL, August 30-September 2, 2007.

Institute for Qualitative and Multimethod Research, Arizona State University, January 2-12, 2007.

“The (Occasional) Importance of Foreign Policy in Elections: Evidence from the U.S. House, 1972-1994,” presented at the 2006 American Political Science Association Meeting in Philadelphia, PA, August 31-September 3, 2006.

“Red Herring? Fishing Disputes, Regime Type and Interstate Conflict,” (with Jessica Weeks), presented at the 2006 International Studies Association Annual Convention in San Diego, CA, March 22-25, 2006.

“Crisis Bureaucracy: Homeland Security and the Multiple Politics of Institutional Design,” (with Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar and Barry Weingast), presented at the 2006 International Studies Association Annual Convention in San Diego, CA, March 22-25, 2006.

New Era Foreign Policy Conference, University of California, Berkeley, March 6-7, 2006.

## **TEACHING**

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Teaching Assistant, IIS 199: CISAC Interschool Honors Program in International Security Studies  
 Professors Paul Stockton, Michael May (2008-2009)  
 Professors Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar, Paul Kapur, Scott Sagan (2005-2006)

Head Teaching Assistant, PS 1: Introduction to International Relations (Fall 2006)  
 Professor Kenneth Schultz

Teaching Assistant, PS 114S: International Security in a Changing World (Winter 2005)  
 Professor Scott Sagan

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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2004-2005      Head Research Assistant, Professor Scott Sagan, CISAC, Stanford University

2005            Research Assistant, Princeton Project on National Security, Princeton University, Relative Threat Assessment Working Group

## **RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE**

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2003            Summer Intern, Economic Policy Section, United States Department of State, London, U.K.

2001-2003      Paralegal Specialist, Outstanding Scholars Program, Counterterrorism Section, United States Department of Justice, Washington D.C.

## **DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

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2005-2006      Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Political Science  
 2006-2007      Faculty Search Committee, Department of Political Science

**LANGUAGES** : English (native); Spanish (conversational); Portuguese (beginner)

*Last Updated: August 1, 2008*