

DR. KIRAN STALLONE

kiran@ladysmithcollective.com | kiranstallone@gmail.com

HIGHLIGHTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Extensive research experience with qualitative and quantitative methods, including in-depth interviews, data analysis, and archival research.
- Proven ability to work with global research teams, leading projects on topics such as gender, humanitarian crises, armed conflict, climate, social protection policies, and global health.
- Strong communication skills, with the ability to translate and present research findings to the general public and actively engage public policy audiences.
- Strategic, creative, and analytical thinker, with excellent writing and editing abilities.

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley
Ph.D. in Sociology

Berkeley, California
August 2017-September 2023

St. Cross College, University of Oxford
Master of Science in Latin American Studies (distinction honors for MSc thesis)

Oxford, United Kingdom
October 2014-June 2016

Pembroke College, University of Oxford
Visiting Student in Politics and Law

Oxford, United Kingdom
October 2011- June 2012

Barnard College, Columbia University
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (cum laude honors + distinction honors for senior thesis)

New York, New York
August 2009 - May 2013

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS AND WORKING PAPERS

Book:

Zulver, J. and Stallone, K. (eds.) *Brave Women: Fighting for Justice in the 21st Century*. (Forthcoming 2025 with *Palgrave Macmillan*)

Peer-Reviewed Articles:

Stallone, K. (2023). "The Strategic Use of Intimacy in Armed Conflicts." *Third World Quarterly*.

**Shortlisted for Cedric Smith Prize at the Conflict Research Society.

Stallone, K. (2021). "Strategic Submission to Rape is Not Consent: Sexual Violence in the Colombian Armed Conflict." *Violence Against Women*.

Payne, L. and Stallone, K. (2024). "Confessions to intimate violence: FARC testimonies to sexual violations in the Colombian conflict." *International Feminist Journal of Politics*.

Stallone, K., and Zulver, J. (2024). "The Gendered Risks of Social Leadership in Contexts Governed by Armed Groups: Evidence from Colombia." *The Journal of Peace Research*.

Stallone, K. and Braun, R. (2023). "Defiant Conformists: Gender and Resistance Against Genocide." *Theory and Society*.

**Winner: James Coleman Award for Outstanding Article of the Decision-Making, Social Networks, and Society section of the American Sociological Association

Book Chapters:

Kane, G., Moragas, M. and Stallone, K. (2023). "Framejacking Rights Discourse to Undermine Latin American Multilateral Human Rights Institutions." In L. Payne, J. Zulver, and S. Escoffier (eds). *The Right Against Rights*. Oxford University Press.

Braun, R. and Stallone, K. (2023). "Interregional Networks and Conventionalized Gender Roles in Civilian Resistance Against Genocide: Evidence from the Holocaust in the Low Countries." In Jana Krause, Juan Masullo, Emily Paddon Rhoads, and Jennifer Walk (eds). *Civilian Agency and Civilian Protection in Violent Settings*. Oxford University Press.

Stallone, K. and Velazco, Y. "Silences that Speak: Deciphering the Unsaid while Protecting Women in Colombia." In Julia Zulver and Kiran Stallone (eds.) *Brave Women: Fighting for Justice in the 21st Century*. Forthcoming 2024.

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RESEARCH AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Ladysmith Consultancy

August 2023-present

Senior Researcher

Ladysmith is a consultancy that partners with multilateral agencies to design and execute gender-sensitive research projects focusing on humanitarian crises, women's economic empowerment, WPS, gender-based violence, climate issues, family planning, health, and care work. These are some examples of my work for Ladysmith:

- **Save the Children (Gender Equality and Social Justice Division):** Led an analysis on LGBTQI+ children and youth rights in digital spaces that included a literature review, mapping of key stakeholders, and brief with proposed changes to Save the Children documents on the topic.
- **UN Women:** International consultant in evaluation of UN Women's care economy work in East and Southern Africa. Led fieldwork with government stakeholders, communities, and civil society organizations in Ethiopia (Addis Ababa) and Tanzania (Dar Es Salaam, Dodoma, Singida and surrounding areas) to inform future UN Women programming on the topic of care economies.
- **CARE International:** Led the development of a gender-just climate strategy for FCDO in collaboration with CARE International. Responsibilities include convening key stakeholders and crafting specific recommendations for the UK government to address gender and climate challenges.
- **Save the Children (Gender Equality and Social Justice Division):** Led a global analysis of adolescent girls' and young women's leadership (AGYW), aimed at identifying key strategies and gaps. Developed an extensive scoping review of academic and grey literature to produce two learning briefs.
- **UNICEF:** Led a Gender Programmatic Review (GPR) for UNICEF Ethiopia, assessing existing programs and providing targeted recommendations to enhance gender programming. Led fieldwork in Addis Ababa, Afar, and Oromia. Emphasized gender-responsive approaches to humanitarian and climate crises in Ethiopia, with a focus on advancing women's economic empowerment.
- **UN Women:** Writing, editing, and secondary research for UN Women on its 2024 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, focusing on "Harnessing social protection for gender equality, resilience, and transformation".
- **UN Women Civil Society Division:** Project development, interviews, coordination with funders, data collection, analysis, and writing final deliverables for UN Women's Civil Society Division on a project aimed at understanding the global pushback against human rights and gender equality by mapping pro-rights organizations countering this pushback.
- **UNICEF Gender Section:** Developed a global tool for UNICEF's Gender Section to collect, analyze, and present data on gender and immunization barriers and solutions. Supervised multiple team members in creating an innovative methodological and theoretical framework, detailed interview guides, and a comprehensive review of existing tools.
- **UNICEF Gender Section:** Research consultant on gender and health for UNICEF's Gender Section on three separate but related projects focused on gendered barriers to vaccination in Nigeria, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. Responsibilities included project development, research methodology and setup, development of Key Informant Interview (KII) and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) guides, surveys, client interactions, secondary research, supervision of research assistants and interviewers, analysis of findings, final reports, and presenting findings to funders and key stakeholders.

University of Oxford

May 2023-present

International Coordinator and Project Manager

- Establishing a global network of researchers and practitioners for the British Academy-Knowledge Frontiers Project titled "The Rise of the Right against Rights and Global (Dis)Order in Latin America and Beyond," directed by Oxford Professor Leigh Payne. The project examines the backlash against rights for women, LGBT+ communities, BIPOC groups, immigrants, and other marginalized populations. It explores how right-wing movements are targeting rights of women and other minorities, leading to polarized and violent conflicts. It analyzes who drives this backlash, where and why it is happening, and its broader impact on global social order.

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- I am also a strategic advisor on a sub-project focused on anti-rights hate crimes in Chile. My responsibilities include convening regular meetings with team members to develop project goals and agendas, writing grant proposals, and conducting research for additional funding.

TAG International

March 2024-present

Lead Consultant

- Led a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) analysis on gender and the prevention of Serious and Organized Crime (SOC) in Ecuador as part of the Tejiendo Esperanza Project, delivered on behalf of the UK Home Office (HO). Employed an intersectional approach to analyze community interviews, offer recommendations on gendered patterns of violence, and propose targeted solutions addressing gendered gang violence trends in Guayaquil.

UNICEF

October 2023-April 2024

Consultant

- Conducted a gendered analysis of social protection measures under the Gender Responsive and Age Sensitive Research Program (GRASSP), Research Stream 3. The focus was on Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP), a government initiative addressing humanitarian and climate crises. Responsibilities included report writing, interviewing, qualitative analysis of primary interview data, coordinating project management strategies with the UNICEF team, and conducting secondary literature research.

SSHRC Insight Development Grant

January 2022-December 2022

Researcher

- Project: At the Edge of Safety: Comparing Responses to Venezuelan LGBT Refugees in Brazil and Colombia amid COVID-19. Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.
- Supported the Colombia portion of a grant project on how Venezuelan LGBTQI+ asylum seekers/refugees experience human (in)security at the border between Colombia and Venezuela.
- Organized and managed Colombia fieldwork and survey implementation; built connections with local organizations; conducted in-depth interviews and data analysis to be used for final academic and policy publications.

Northwestern University, Political Science Department

Fall 2021

Researcher

- Hired by Professor Ana Arjona to conduct interviews and lead focus groups in seven communities impacted by the Colombian armed conflict. The interviews and focus groups investigated conflict legacies, illicit economies, political participation, and electoral patterns across these different Colombian conflict zones.
- Conducted approximately 75 individual interviews and facilitated seven small group workshops with 6-10 participants each; coordinated and managed data collection on the ground at each field site.

UC Berkeley, Sociology Department

July 2020 – December 2020

Graduate Student Researcher (GSR)

- Archival data collection, coding, data analysis, and secondary literature review for a book chapter and article co-authored with Robert Braun on armed conflict and gendered civilian agency during WWII. The article was awarded the James Coleman Award for Outstanding Article of the Decision-Making, Social Networks, and Society section of the American Sociological Association.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Expert witness for United States asylum hearings; provide country condition reports for Colombians who have been impacted by armed conflict violence and are seeking safety in the United States. Testify in court when necessary.

Reviewer for Journal of Peace Research; Perspectives on Politics; Cooperation and Conflict.

SELECTED PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

DR. KIRAN STALLONE

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- Zulver, J. and Stallone, K. (6 February 2023). Why are Rights Activists Targeted in Colombia? Featured Q&A. *Latin America Advisor (Inter-American Dialogue)*.
- Stallone, K. and Zulver, J. (21 June 2022) Will Gustavo Petro Live Up to His Promises to Colombia's Women? *Al Jazeera*.
- Stallone, K. and Zulver, J. (12 April 2022) A Colombian Town's Spike in Femicides is Linked to Armed Groups. *The New Humanitarian*.
- Moore, S. and Stallone, K. (15 March 2022) In Colombia, Abortion is No Longer a Crime. But Rural Women Will Still Find It Hard to Get One. *Washington Post*.
- Ritholtz, S. and Stallone, K. (3 February 2022) 'It Gives Me Joy': The LGBT Colombians Embracing Visibility in a Town with a Legacy of Abuse. *The Guardian*.
- Stallone, K. and Janetsky M. (12 August 2021) US Put Billions Into Colombia. Five Years After Peace Deal, Violence Has Returned. *USA Today*.
- Stallone, K. and Janetsky, M. (22 July 2021) 'I'm Not Alone': Survivors Organize Against Sexual Violence in Colombia. *The Guardian*.
- Janetsky, M. and Stallone, K. (17 July 2021) Colombia's 'Ghost Towns' Threatened by New Wave of Violence. *Al Jazeera*.
- Stallone, K. and Grattan, S. (1 March 2021) The Midwives Braving Armed Gangs in Colombia. *BBC News*.
- Grattan, S. and Stallone, K. (1 March 2021) In Colombian Port Town, LGBT Community Faces Increasing Threats. *Al Jazeera*.
- Stallone, K. and Zulver, J. (Winter 2017) Is 'FARC Feminism' For Real? *Ms. Magazine*.
- Stallone, K. and Zulver, J. (19 June 2017). Female FARC Fighters' Daily Lives in a Demobilization Camp. *Open Democracy*.
- Stallone, K. (18 May 2017). Yoga en Bogotá: mujeres combatientes de las FARC miran el futuro desde la cárcel. *Democracia Abierta*.
- Stallone, K. (17 May 2017). Yoga in Bogotá: Imprisoned Female FARC Combatants Look to the Future. *Open Democracy*.
- Stallone, K. and Zulver, J. (27 March 2017). The Feminists of the FARC. *The Guardian*.
- Stallone, K. (22 March 2013). Walls Speak in Argentina: Interpreting Political Graffiti About the Dictatorship. *The Nation*.

EDITING EXPERIENCE

Peterson's EssayEdge Online Editing Services, Lincoln, N.E. October 2014-present
Editor and Lead Trainer

- Edit and proofread academic writing and graduate admissions essays on all subjects. Online remote work.
- Train newly hired editors through a self-developed on-boarding process.

Freelance Editor and Translator June 2013-present

- Paid to edit and translate books, dissertations, academic articles, and legal documents for clients from a variety of academic and political backgrounds. Translations from Spanish to English.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Cárcel Buen Pastor (Bogotá Women's Prison), Bogotá, Colombia April 2017-July 2017
Yoga Instructor

- Taught weekly yoga classes in Spanish to female FARC political prisoners in the Bogotá Buen Pastor prison through the Fundación Teatro Interno.

Misión de Observación Electoral (MOE), Bogotá, Colombia October 2016
International Election Observer

- Objectively monitored and reported on the 2 October 2016 Colombian Peace Plebiscite between the government and the FARC-EP.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UC Berkeley Graduate Student Instructor (GSI), Berkeley, California August 2018 – Spring 2019
GSI for UC Berkeley undergraduates in "Introduction to Sociology" in Spring 2019 and Fall 2018.

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Unidad de Víctimas and Fundación Starcop, Bogotá, Colombia

August 2015

Workshop Leader

- Paid to develop materials and teach a workshop on conflict reparations and women's legal rights in Colombia to a group of 20 women community leaders and victims of the Colombian armed conflict.

PAST PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

"Rivers and Feminist Peace in Colombia," NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Workshop on Illicit Economies & Conflict, Bodrum, Türkiye (October 24-26, 2024).

"Complex Women Perpetrators: The Victimization of Female Fighters in Colombia's Armed Conflict," The Politics of Victimization: Citizenship, Agency, and Contestation Among Victims of Violence. Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University, Cambridge. (October 10-11, 2024).

"Recruitment via Intimacy as a Strategic Practice of War: Evidence from Colombia," (Panel: The Social Elements of War in Colombia) Latin American Studies Association (LASA), Bogotá, Colombia (June 2024).

"Confessions to Intimate Violence: FARC Testimonies to Sexual Violations in the Colombian Conflict," (Panel: Intimacies of Violence: Ex-combatants and Post-conflict Memory-making), International Studies Association (ISA), San Francisco, California (April 2024)

"The Gendered Risks of Defending Rights in Armed Conflict: Evidence from Colombia," Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), virtual talk. (August 2023).

"The Gendered Risks of Social Leadership in Contexts Governed by Armed Groups: Evidence from Colombia," Conflict Research Society Annual Conference (CRS), Belfast, Northern Ireland (September 2022).

"Love in War? The Strategic Use of Attraction in Colombia's Armed Conflict," European Conference on Politics and Gender (ECPG), Ljubljana, Slovenia (July 2022).

"A Research Agenda on Gender and Data Collection on Civil War Phenomena." Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference (LASA), virtual panel (May 2022).

"God Gave Us the Victory': Framing Rights Discourse to Undermine Latin American Multilateral Human Rights Institutions," Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference (LASA), virtual panel (May 2022).

"The Gendered Nature of Threats and Murders of Women Social Leaders in Colombia," Feminist Takes on Rebel Warfare and Civil War, Stockholm, Sweden (virtual, March 2022).

"Love in War? The Strategic Use of Attraction in Colombia's Armed Conflict," Decolonising the Research Agenda on the Continuum of Violence against Women in Latin America: Network of Interdisciplinary Gender Studies, Bogotá, Colombia (March 2022)

"Defiant Conformists: Gender and Resistance Against Genocide," (Panel: Dynamics in War, Peace, Resistance and Solidarity), American Sociological Association Virtual Conference (August 2021).

"Gendering War, Gendering Peace: Evaluating the Winners and Losers in Colombia's Peace Process to Date," Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference, Barcelona, Spain (May 2018).

"Sexual Violence in the Colombian Armed Conflict: Strategic Victims in War," (Panel: Colombia After the Peace Accords: New Challenges, New Paths Forward from a Multidisciplinary Perspective), Latin American Centre Conference, University of Oxford (December 2017).

"Alternate Accounts from Women in the FARC: Diverse Realities in Colombia's Armed Conflict," (Panel: Gendering War, Gendering Peace: Women as Perpetrators and Victims in Colombia's Transitional Process), Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference, Lima, Peru (April 2017).

"Female FARC Combatants and Sexual Violence: Challenges and Solutions on the Path to Recognition," (Conference: Women's Social Movements in Contemporary Latin America), Latin American Centre, University of Oxford (January 2017).

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English: Native language | **Spanish:** Full professional fluency (reading, writing, speaking, and comprehension)