

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

HENRY M. JACKSON SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS

The University of Washington Center for Human Rights (UWCHR) connects departments and schools, faculty and students, and unites them with a powerful focus on welfare and justice for everyone. Founded in 2009 as a state-mandated resource, the Center works on the front lines of human rights. This unique model not only serves the wider human rights community with academic research needed to garner greater impact, but also ensures that scholarly research is deeply informed by frontline insights.

At the core of the Center's mission is its dedication to growing and training the next generation of human rights scholars and practitioners. Graduate and undergraduate students alike have hands-on opportunities to partner with leading human rights practitioners and contribute to real-world social change. Students often go on to become leaders in the field and cite their involvement in the Center as pivotal in their careers.

For organizations that partner with the Center, from the American Civil Liberties Union to small grassroots nonprofits, the benefits are significant and far reaching. Not only is their capacity enhanced by the cutting-edge expertise of UW researchers, but the Center's outreach and educational efforts introduce human rights issues to new audiences.

Whether exposing human rights violations of federal immigration enforcement in Washington state or seeking justice for crimes against humanity in El Salvador, the Center has become an unparalleled resource advancing the study and practice of human rights.



CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

- > The Center's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) research led to the declassification of 400+ U.S. government documents exposing human rights violations in El Salvador.
- > The Center's research is exposing racialized practices of immigration enforcement.
- > The Center was recognized by the city of Seattle with a Human Rights Award for its uniquely transformative work.
- > Founding Center Director Angelina Godoy received a UW Public Service Award in recognition of her and the Center's impact.

THE CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS: SUCCESS STORIES



FOIA student researcher analyzing documents //
Photo Credit: Corinne Thrash

HUMAN RIGHTS AT HOME

In today's climate of heightened anti-immigrant sentiment, it is increasingly important to understand the way shifting federal policies affect human rights in our communities. Working with immigrant rights organizations in WA state, the Human Rights at Home project trains student researchers to obtain and analyze data about enforcement practices and their impact. The findings, published in an ongoing series of memos and reports, shed light on key human rights issues in our state including local law enforcement collaboration with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and Border Patrol dismissal of asylum claims.



Students at Monroe Correctional Complex //
Photo Credit: WA State Reformatory

RETHINKING PUNISHMENT

A joint initiative between the UWCHR and the UW's Law, Societies, and Justice department, Rethinking Punishment seeks new ways of framing problems of violence and mass incarceration. The initiative aims to serve politicians and the public as they consider meaningful reforms to the legal system. Most recently, in collaboration with the Public Defender Association, the Center helped bring forth a new in-state program for restorative justice that fosters accountability and promotes healing among incarcerated men and women.



Students conducting interviews in El Salvador //
Photo Credit: UWCHR

UNFINISHED SENTENCES

Unfinished Sentences supports Salvadoran efforts for truth and accountability for crimes against humanity committed during the country's armed conflict. Through research on wartime records, reports on under-documented human rights violations, online outreach and educational materials, UWCHR is accompanying Salvadoran and U.S. partners in transnational justice campaigns. Today, long-overdue justice proceedings are progressing in El Salvador; UWCHR is helping support these efforts while supporting survivors' access to truth and healing.

INVESTING IN THE CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Generous investments from individuals, foundations, and organizations help make the work of the UWCHR possible. From funding innovative faculty research and programs to supporting student travel and experiential learning opportunities, private funds are crucial for ensuring that the UWCHR remains a major catalyst for the study and practice of human rights. We invite you to partner with us and create change that reaches far beyond the classroom.

CONTACT INFO:

To learn more about how you can partner with us to make an impact, please contact:

Angelina Godoy

Helen H. Jackson Chair in Human Rights
Director, Center for Human Rights
Jackson School of International Studies
agodoy@uw.edu or (206) 616-3585