

**Susan Jennifer Pearson**

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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Department of History, 2004

M.A. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Department of History, 1999

B.A. Oberlin College, Women's Studies, *summa cum laude*, 1996

**EMPLOYMENT**

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Northwestern University, September 2004 -Present

Museum Assistant, Chapel Hill Museum, Chapel Hill, NC, June 2001-June 2002

Teaching Assistant, Department of History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, January 1998-May 2001

Research Assistant, Dr. Jacquelyn Hall, Department of History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Summer 1999

Research Assistant, Dr. Rachel Willis, Department of American Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Summer 1998

**PUBLICATIONS**

*The Rights of the Defenseless: Animals, Children, and Sentimental Liberalism in Nineteenth-Century America* (under contract, University of Chicago Press)

"Infantile Specimens: Showing Babies in Nineteenth-Century America," *Journal of Social History* (forthcoming, December 2008)

"Does The Animal Exist? Toward a Theory of Social Life with Animals," (with Mary Weismantel) in *Beastly Natures: Animals at the Intersection of Cultural and Environmental History*, edited by Dorothee Brantz (University of Virginia Press, forthcoming 2008). The article is also translated and will appear in a German book: *Tieres, allzu Tierisches: Beiträge zur Kulturgeschichte* (Paderborn: Schöningh, forthcoming 2008)

"Animal Rights Activism," in *Speaking Out With Many Voices: A Documentary History*, edited by Heather Thompson (Prentice Hall, forthcoming 2007)

"Better Baby Contests," in *Encyclopedia of North Carolina*, edited by William Powell (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006)

"The Cow and the Plow: Animal Suffering, Human Guilt and the Crime of Cruelty." In *Toward A Critique of Guilt: Perspectives from Law and the Humanities*, Studies in Law, Politics and Society 36 (2005): 77-10

## BOOK REVIEWS

Erica Fudge, *Brutal Reasoning: Animals, Rationality, and Humanity in Early Modern England* (Cornell University Press, 2006), in *Journal of British Studies* 47 (January 2008)

Diane L. Beers, *For the Prevention of Cruelty: The History and Legacy of Animal Rights Activism in the United States* (Ohio University Press/Swallow, 2006), in *Journal of American History* 94 (June 2007)

Katherine C. Grier, *Pets in America: A History* (University of North Carolina Press, 2006), in *Kentucky Historical Register* 104 (Fall/Winter 2006)

## PRESENTATIONS

"Sentiment and Savagery: Linking Animals and Children in Nineteenth-Century America," Plenary Address, British Animal Studies Network, Middlesex University, April 26, 2008

"The Rights of the Defenseless: Protecting Animals and Children in Gilded Age America," Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Conference: The Emergence of Human Rights, Marquette University, April 5, 2008

"Speaking Bodies, Speaking Minds: Debates about Animal Language in Nineteenth-Century America," Intellectual History Seminar, University of Notre Dame, September 7, 2007

"Out of Emotion Comes Action: Sympathy, Suffering, and the Transformation of the Liberal State," Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 30, 2007 (Panel Organizer, "The Afterlife of Feeling: Sentimentalism after the Civil War," Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 30, 2007)

"The Arm of the Law: Protecting Animals & Children in Gilded Age America," Legal History Seminar, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Law School, February 5, 2007

"Of Sinners, Moral Idiot and Sadists: From Christian to Criminological Concepts of Cruelty in the United States," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, January 7, 2007

Commentator, "Defecation Fictions: Circulation and the Invisible Economy of the Prison Camp," Labor History Seminar, Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, December 15, 2006 (paper by Scott Nelson)

"The Arm of the Law: Protecting Animals & Children in Gilded Age America," Chicago Legal History Seminar, American Bar Foundation, September 21, 2006

"The Inalienable Rights of the Beasts: Organized Animal Protection and the Language of Rights in America, 1865-1900," Fourth Annual Law and Humanities Junior Scholars Workshop, University of Southern California Law School, June 6, 2006

Commentator, "How I suffered: Industrial Violence and the Remaking of Working-Class Childhood, 1880-1930," Labor History Seminar, Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, November 11, 2005 (paper by James Schmidt)

"Are Animals Ever More than Symbols? Toward a Theory of Social Life with Animals," *Animals in History*, University of Cologne, May 19-21, 2005 (joint presentation with Mary Weismantel, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University)

Commentator, "Factories for Turning Out Criminals: Convict Labor, Torture, and the Invisible World of Prison Punishment in New York, 1860-1900," Labor History Seminar, Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, November 12, 2004 (paper by Timothy Gilfoyle)

"The Unequivocal Physiognomy of Pain': Animal Pain and Animal Rights in the Nineteenth-Century Animal Protection Movement," American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Hartford, CT, October 16-19, 2003

"The Unequivocal Physiognomy of Pain': Animal Suffering, Human Guilt and the Crime of Cruelty," Guilt: A Conference on Law and Humanities, University of New England, June 14, 2003

"Something More than Mere Property': Animal Protection, Anticruelty Laws, and the Problem of Intent," Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, June 5-8, 2003 (Panel Organizer, "Rights and Remedies in Animal Law," Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, June 5-8, 2003)

"Making Babies Better: Pediatric Professionalization and the Standardization of Childhood," Mid-Atlantic American Studies Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 23, 2002 (Panel Organizer, "Charting Children: Testing, Standardization, and Normalcy in Measuring America's Youth," Mid-Atlantic Studies Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 23, 2002)

"Progressive Reform and the Marketing of Childhood," Border Subjects IV: Growing Up (Post)Modern, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, October 7-8, 1999

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Visiting Scholar, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 2008-2009 (declined)

Lane Humanities Professor, Northwestern University, Winter Quarter 2007

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of North Carolina, 2003-2004

Future Faculty Fellow, University of North Carolina, Summer 2003

Mellon Fellowship for Dissertation Research in Original Sources, Council on Library and Information Resources, 2002-2003

Mellon Foundation Research Fellow, Historical Society of Pennsylvania & Library Company of Philadelphia, 2002

Mowry Award, Department of History, University of North Carolina, 2002

Clifford Prize for Graduate Research, Department of History, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, 2001.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Founder and Editor, H-Animal, an H-Net Listserv

Manuscript Reviewer: *Society & Animals; Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*; Pearson-Longman; Rowman & Littlefield

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Historical Association

American Studies Association  
Organization of American Historians  
Society for the History of Childhood & Youth