

# Genese Marie Sodikoff

120 Donaldson Street  
Highland Park, NJ 08904  
[sodikoff@andromeda.rutgers.edu](mailto:sodikoff@andromeda.rutgers.edu)

Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
601 Hill Hall  
360 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
University Heights  
Newark, NJ 07102-1801  
(973) 353-5331 (office); (973) 353-5310 (fax)

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## INTERESTS

Political ecology; conservation and development; labor regimes; colonialism; human-animal relations; extinction (biotic and cultural); green capitalism; medical anthropology; Madagascar; Africa; United States.

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## CURRENT RESEARCH

The politics of extinction; ex situ conservation, captive animal breeding, and international relations (U.S. and Madagascar)

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2005-Present     Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Rutgers University, Newark  
2006-Present     Member of Graduate Faculty, Department of Anthropology, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

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## EDUCATION

2005             Ph.D. Anthropology, University of Michigan  
2000             M.A. Anthropology, University of Michigan  
1998             M.A. Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University  
1996             M.A. International Development and Social Change, Clark University  
1989             B.A. English and Cultural Anthropology, University of California at Santa Barbara

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## FELLOWSHIPS and AWARDS

2006             Junior Scholar Award, Anthropology and the Environment Section, American Anthropological Association  
2006-2007       Richard Carley Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship, Wenner-Gren Foundation  
2006-2007       Faculty Fellowship, Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University, New Brunswick  
2003-2004       Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan  
2001-2002       Fulbright-Hays Fellowship  
2001-2002       International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council  
1994-1995       IIE Fulbright Scholarship  
1993-1996       Peace Corps Fellowship, Clark University

## GRANTS

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- 2008 Research Council Grant, Research and Sponsored Programs, Rutgers University
- 2002 Labor and Globalization Research Grant, Program in Labor and Global Change, the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Michigan
- 2000-2001 Horace Rackham Dissertation Research Grant, University of Michigan
- 2000-2001 Dissertation Research Grant, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
- 1999 International Institute Research Grant, University of Michigan
- 1997 Predoctoral Research Grant, Institute for Global Studies in Culture, Power, and History, The Johns Hopkins University

## PUBLICATIONS

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### PEER-REVIEW ARTICLES

- In preparation Sodikoff, Genese. "The Low-Wage Conservationist: Biodiversity and Perversities of Value in Madagascar." *American Anthropologist*
- Revising for resubmission Sodikoff, Genese. "Animal Taboo: Extinctions and Proscriptions in Madagascar." *Cultural Anthropology*.
- 2007 Sodikoff, Genese. "An Exceptional Strike: A Micro-history of 'People versus Park' in Madagascar." *Journal of Political Ecology* 14: 10-33.
- 2005 Sodikoff, Genese. "Forced and Forest Labor in Colonial Madagascar, 1926-1936." *Ethnohistory*, 52(2): 407-435.
- 2004 Sodikoff, Genese. "Land and Languor: Ethical Imaginations of Work and Forest in Northeast Madagascar." *History and Anthropology* 15(4): 367-398.
- 2003 Sodikoff, Genese. "The Case of the Lace Leaf: Nineteenth Century Naturalism and the Containment of Malagasy Species." *Michigan Discussions in Anthropology* 14: 167-192.
- 2003 Crossland, Zoe, and Sodikoff, Genese. "Introduction." *Lova/Inheritance: Past and Present in Madagascar*. Edited by Zoe Crossland, Genese Sodikoff, and Will Griffin. *Michigan Discussions in Anthropology* 14: 1-9.
- 2001 Thomas-Slayter, Barbara, and Sodikoff, Genese. "African Women and Sustainable Development: Institutional Trends in Natural Resource Management Projects." *Development in Practice*, 11(1): 45-61.

### ARTICLES IN EDITED VOLUMES

- Forthcoming Sodikoff, Genese. "Ethics." In *Encyclopedia of Environment and Society*, edited by Paul Robbins. Sage Publications.
- 2008 Sodikoff, Genese. "Forest Conservation and Low-wage Labour." In *Greening the Great Red Island: Madagascar in Nature and Culture*, edited by Jeffrey C. Kaufmann. Pretoria: Africa Institute of South Africa.
- 2007 Sodikoff, Genese. "Forced Labor in Colonial Africa." *New Encyclopedia of Africa, 2nd Edition*,

edited by John Middleton and Joseph C. Miller. Farmington Hills, MI: Charles Scribner's Sons/Thomson Gale.

### BOOK REVIEWS

- In preparation Sodikoff, Genese. *Sectes et Crises Religieuses à Madagascar*, by Adolphe Rahamefy (Karthala). *Anthropologica*.
- 2008 Sodikoff, Genese. *Lost People: Magic and the Legacy of Slavery in Madagascar*, by David Graeber (Indiana University Press, 2007). *International Journal of African Historical Studies*.
- 2005 Sodikoff, Genese. Review of Joshua Hotaka Roth's *Brokered Homeland: Japanese Brazilian Migrants in Japan*, Cornell University Press, 2002. *Journal of Asian Business* 20(2):

### DISSERTATION

- 2005 Sodikoff, Genese. *Reserve Labor: A Moral Ecology of Conservation in Madagascar*. Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.

### MASTERS THESIS

- 1996 Sodikoff, Genese. *Plunder, Fire, and Deliverance: A Study of Forest Conservation, Rice Farming and Eco Capitalism in Madagascar*. Masters Thesis, Program for International Development and Social Change, Clark University. Worcester, MA.

### BOOK MANUSCRIPTS

- Sodikoff, Genese. *Workers of the Vanishing World: Rain Forest Conservation and Labor in Madagascar*. Pending review by Indiana University Press.
- Sodikoff, Genese, ed. *Extinction Encounters: Dying Forms and the Ethics of Retrieval*. (Ten papers collected, manuscript in preparation.

### ETHNOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

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- 2000-2002 Dissertation fieldwork, Mananara-Nord, Madagascar (14 mos.). Ethnographic research on Malagasy conservation project workers of UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Examined their status as "peasant-worker," straddling wage work of conservation and swidden agricultural economy.
- 1999 Summer preliminary fieldwork (1 mo.), Mananara-Nord, Madagascar. Began ethnographic research on labor issues with employees of UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve project.
- 1997 Summer preliminary fieldwork, Andasibe, Madagascar (2 mos.). Ethnographic research on lives of low-wage workers of the local conservation and development project.
- 1994-1995 Masters thesis fieldwork, Andasibe, Madagascar (10 mos.). Ethnographic research on Betsimisaraka farmers' and project workers' involved in a USAID forest conservation and development project.

### COURSES

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Introduction to Cultural Anthropology  
Peoples and Cultures of Africa  
Cultural and Political Ecology  
Anthropology of Development

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Medical Anthropology  
Human-Animal Relations  
Science, Technology, and Society

## FOREIGN LANGUAGES

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French (fluent); Malagasy (advanced); German (fluent); Comoran (basic)

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

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- October 2008 "Extinction Encounters: Vanishing Forms, Human Rights, and the Ethics of Retrieval." Conference Organizer, Department of Anthropology, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology (New Brunswick), the Center for Genocide and Human Rights (Newark), with a grant from the Rutgers University Research Council.
- November 2007 "In Event of Extinction: Cultural Apprehensions of Species Death." Invited Session, Anthropology and the Environment Section. Panel Organizer, American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C.
- November 2007 "Global Insecurities: Ecological asylums and transnational flows in the early 21st century." Panelist, American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C.
- October 2007 "Time, Work-Discipline, and Industrial Conservationism in Madagascar." Panelist, African Studies Association, New York, NY.
- September 2007 "The Low-Wage Conservationist: Biodiversity and Perversities of Value in Madagascar." Invited paper; African Seminar; Johns Hopkins University.
- November 2006 "Animal Salvation: Redefining the Moral Landscapes of Protected Areas." Double Panel Organizer. American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA.
- November 2006 "Our Moral Menageries: Animal Taboos and Environmental Expiations in Madagascar." Panelist. American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA.
- May 2006 "A Labor Theory of Environmentalism." Panelist, *Translations of Value*. Society for Cultural Anthropology, Milwaukee, WI.
- March 2004 "Land and Languor: Ethics of Work in a Colonized Forest, Madagascar," Public presentation. Labor and Global Change Program, the Institute for Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
- February 2004 "Land and Languor: Ethics of Work in a Colonized Forest, Madagascar." Panelist, *Trans/Formations of the Disciplines: Evaluating the Project of Anthropology and History*. Doctoral Program of Anthropology and History, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
- November 2003 "Labor in an Era of Global Environmentalism." Panel Organizer and Chair, American Anthropological Association, Chicago, IL.
- November 2003 "The Dialectics of Conservation: Producing Global Nature Reserves in Madagascar." Panelist, American Anthropological Association, Chicago, IL.
- November 2002 "Workers of the Biosphere: Natural Heritage Protection and the Division of Labor in Madagascar." Panelist, American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- April 1999 "The Aliases of Memory." Panel Co-organizer, Central States Anthropological Society, Chicago, IL.
- April 1999 "Frames of Entrancement: Amnesia, Memory, and the Hypnoid State." Panelist, Central States Anthropological Society, Chicago, IL.

- April 1999 "Reserve Laborers: On the Work of Forest Conservation in Madagascar." Panelist, Touching Ground Conference, University of Michigan, Program in Anthropology and History, Ann Arbor, MI.
- March 1998 "Reserve Laborers: The Invisible Agents of Forest Conservation in Madagascar." Panelist, Association of American Geographers, Boston, MA.
- April 1997 "The Eco-Capitalist Mystique: Taboo, Development, and Wildlife Conservation in the Mantadia Forest of Madagascar." Panelist, Central States Anthropological Society, Milwaukee, WI.
- November 1996 "Putting Women on the Record: Some Undeniable Facts of African Women's Contributions to Sustainable Development." Panelist, African Studies Association, San Francisco, CA.
- April 1996 "Zones, Borders, and Wild Frontiers: Considerations of Space and Access in the Mantadia Forest of Madagascar." Panelist, Association of American Geographers, Charlotte, NC.

## SERVICE

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### Reviews of Journal Articles

*Comparative Studies in Society and History*  
*Michigan Discussions in Anthropology*  
*Conservation and Society*  
*Culture and Agriculture*

- 2008 Judge in Social Sciences for the Beacon Conference for Student Scholars at Two-Year Colleges. Bergen Community College, Paramus, NJ.
- 2008 Judge, Junior Scholar Award, Anthropology and Environment Section of the American Anthropological Association
- 2007 Judge, Junior Scholar Award, Anthropology and Environment Section of the American Anthropological Association

## PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT—ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

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- 1998 **Summer Intern, The World Bank.** Worked in the Africa Environment Division reviewing, summarizing, and providing a data bank of National Environmental Action Plans and Environmental Support Project documents for Sub-Saharan African countries.
- 1991-1993 **Supervisor, San Francisco Conservation Corps.** Worked with minority young adults and middle school students in San Francisco teaching job skills in environmental fields and environmental education, and supervising after-school environmental job activities.
- 1989-1991 **Volunteer, US Peace Corps, The Comoros.** Taught English as a Foreign Language in Comoran high school for one year. Developed the country's first environmental education curriculum for primary schools. Implemented lesson plans in collaboration with Comoran teachers and CARE International on island of Anjouan.

## MEMBERSHIPS

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American Anthropological Association  
 Anthropology and Environment Section  
 American Ethnological Society  
 Society for Cultural Anthropology

African Studies Association

New York Academy of Sciences, Anthropology Section