

Lara B. Gerassi, MSW, LCSW, Ph.D. (*she/her*)
1350 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53706
Email: gerassi@wisc.edu

EDUCATION

- 2013-2017** **Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Social Work**
Washington University in St. Louis
Brown School of Social Work
- 2009-2010** **Master of Social Work (MSW)**
Washington University in St. Louis
Brown School of Social Work
- 2005-2009** **Bachelor of Social Work (BSW); Minor in Sociology**
New York University
Silver School of Social Work

CURRENT POSITION

- 2017-Present **Assistant Professor**, Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work,
University of Wisconsin – Madison
- 2022-Present **Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health
(BIRCWH) Scholar** (NIH K12 appointment), Sandra Rosenbaum School
of Social Work, University of Wisconsin – Madison

Academic Affiliations

- 2022-Present **Executive Committee**, Global Association of Human Trafficking
Scholars (GAHTS).
- 2022-Present **Faculty Affiliate**, Institute for Research on Poverty; University of
Wisconsin-Madison
- 2020-Present **Faculty Council**, Sexual Violence Research Initiative; Center for
Research on Gender & Women; University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2017-Present **Director of Sex Trafficking and Exploitation Research**
4W Initiative: Women & Wellbeing in Wisconsin & the World
University of Wisconsin – Madison
- 2017-Present **Faculty Affiliate**, Department of Gender and Women’s Studies;
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2017-Present **Faculty Affiliate**, Center for Violence Injury and Prevention, Brown
School of Social Work; Washington University in St. Louis
- 2014-2016 **TranSTAR T32 Doctoral Scholar**, National Institute of Drug Abuse
(NIDA); Washington University in St. Louis
- 2013-2016 **Doctoral Student Affiliate**, Center for Violence Injury and Prevention,
Brown School of Social Work; Washington University in St. Louis. PI: Dr.
Jonson-Reid [CDC 1R49CE001510-01]

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS & HONORS

- 2023 **Chancellor’s Inclusive Excellence Award**
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Distinguished teaching award recognizing achievements in diversity and inclusion.

- 2022 ***Influential Scholar Award*** (September 2022).
International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference
Award recognizing exceptional achievements in the human trafficking research.
- 2022-2024 ***Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) Scholar***, National Institutes of Health K12 Award
University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2021 ***Exceptional Mentorship Award***
Undergraduate Research Scholars Program.
University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2020 ***Social Work Symposium Keynote Speaker***
University of Wisconsin-Madison. *Event cancelled due to COVID-19.*
- 2018-2019 ***Morgridge Community-Engaged Research Fellowship***
Morgridge Center for Public Service, the University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2018 ***Social Work Commencement Speaker Nominee***
University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2009-2010 ***Whitney M. Young Fellowship for Commitment to Improving Race Relations***
Washington University in St. Louis
Full academic scholarship
- 2009 ***Founder's Award Recipient for Commitment to Academics***
New York University
- 2005-2009 ***Dean's List Award***
New York University.
- 2005-2009 ***Merit Scholarship***
New York University.
Partial academic scholarship

RESEARCH

BOOK

Gerassi, L. & Nichols, A. (2017). *Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation: Prevention, Advocacy, and Trauma-Informed Practice*. New York, NY: Springer.

PUBLICATIONS

(Indicates *graduate student, ^undergraduate student, +master/bachelor-level practitioner)

27. **Gerassi, L.B.,** Lowe, S. & Walsh, K. (2022) University Students who Report Exchanging Sex for Money or Other Compensation: Findings from a Public University Sample. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*.
- Nichols, A.J. & **Gerassi, L.B.,** *Gilbert, K. & *Taylor, E. (2022) Provider Challenges in Responding to Retrafficking of Juvenile Justice-Involved Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Survivors. *Child Abuse & Neglect*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2022.105521>
25. **Gerassi, L.B.,** *Cheng, S.Y., *Muentner, L. & +Benson, M. (2021). Prevalence and Associated Characteristics of Youth Who Trade Sex in a Representative Sample of High School Students. *Journal of Adolescence*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2021.09.008>
- Gerassi, L.B. & Nichols, A.J..** (2021). Social Work Education that Addresses Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation: An Intersectional, Anti-Oppressive Framework. *Anti-Trafficking Review*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.14197/atr.201221172>
- *Pedersen, A. & **Gerassi, L.B.**(2021). Healthcare Providers' Perspectives on Relevance and Utility of Sex Trafficking Indicators. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. DOI: 10.1111/jan.15019
- Gerassi, L.B.,** *Klein, L.B., & ^Rosales, M.D.C. (2021) Moving Toward Critical Consciousness and Anti-Oppressive Practice Approaches with People at Risk of Sex Trafficking: Perspectives from Social Service Providers. *Affilia*. DOI: 10.1177/08861099211025531
- Hudson, D., McCrary, S., Murugan, V., **Gerassi, L.B.,** & Proctor, E.K. (2021). Documenting Behavioral Health Needs in an Urban Setting. *Frontiers in Public Health*. DOI: 10.3389/fpubh.2021.493884
20. **Gerassi, L.B. & *Pedersen, A.C.** (2021). Have you ever traded sex for money or drugs?": Healthcare Providers' Perspectives on Sex Trafficking Risk Assessments in Clinics. *Journal of Health Services Research & Policy*. DOI: 10.1177/1355819621997478.
- Gerassi, L.B. & *Pedersen, A.C.** (accepted in 2020, in press). Knowledge of and Practice with LGBTQ+ people at risk of sex trafficking: Perceptions (and Assumptions) from Social Service Providers in a Midwest Region. *Social Work Research*.
- Gerassi, L.B. & ^Esbensen, K..** (2020). Motivational Interviewing (MI) among providers in a Midwest region: Perceived use, applicability, and challenges to engagement with individuals at risk of sex trafficking. *Journal of Social Work*. DOI: 0.1177/1468017320919856
- Gerassi, L.B. & ^Skinkis, S.** (2020). An Intersectional Content Analysis of Inclusive Language and Imagery among Sex Trafficking Related Services. *Violence and Victims*. DOI: 10.1891/VV-D-18-00204
- Gerassi, L.B.** (2019). How Adult Women Who Trade Sex Navigate Social Services: A Grounded Theory Study. *Feminist Criminology*. DOI:10.1177/1557085119885444
15. **Gerassi, L.B.** (2019). Experiences of Racism and Racial Tensions among African American Women Impacted by Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Practice: A Qualitative Study. *Violence Against Women*. DOI: 10.1177/1077801219835057

- Gerassi, L.B., Nichols, A.J., +Cox, A., ^Goldberg, K.K. ^Tang, C..** (2018). Examining Commonly Reported Sex Trafficking Indicators from Practitioners' Perspectives: Findings from a Pilot Study. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. DOI: 10.1177/0886260518812813
- Gerassi, L.B., +Colegrove, A., +McPherson, D.K..**(2018). Addressing Race, Racism, and Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Practice through an Action-Based Research Partnership. *Action Research*. 17:2, 220-236. DOI 10.1177/1476750318807545.
- Gerassi, L.B..** (2018). Barriers to Accessing Detox Facilities, Substance Use Treatment, and Residential Services among Women Impacted by Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking. Special issue, "Health and Human Trafficking." *Behavioral Medicine*. 44:3, 199-208. DOI 10.1080/08964289.2017.1384360
- Gerassi, L.B., Fabbre, V., +Howard, A.S., Edmond, T.E., & Nichols, A.J.** (2018). How sex trading identities shape experiences of service provision: insights from adult women with lived experiences and service providers. *Journal of Human Trafficking*. DOI 10.1080/23322705.2018.1447198
10. Nichols, A., **Gerassi, L.B., & *Snider, K..** (2018). What's in a Name? Benefits and Challenges of Anti-Trafficking Language from Social Service Provider Perspective. *Journal of Human Trafficking*, 4:1, 73-85, DOI: 10.1080/23322705.2018.1423448
- Gerassi, L.B. & Nichols, A.** (2017). Heterogeneous perspectives in coalitions and community-based responses to sex trafficking and commercial sex. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 44 (1). DOI 10.1080/01488376.2017.1401028
- Gerassi, L.B., Edmond, T.E., Fabbre, V., +Howard, A., & Nichols, A.J.** (2017). Disclosing sex trading histories to providers: Barriers and facilitators to navigation of social services among women impacted by commercial sexual exploitation (CSE). *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. DOI 10.1177/0886260517746130
- Gerassi, L.B., Nichols, A., & ^Michelson, E.** (2017). Lessons Learned: Benefits and Challenges in Interagency Coalitions Addressing Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation. *Journal of Human Trafficking*, 3(4), 285-302. DOI: 10.1080/23322705.2016.1260345
- Gerassi, L.B., Jonson-Reid, M., Plax, K., & +Kaushik, G.** (2016). Trading sex for compensation: Findings from a STI clinic sample. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment, & Trauma*. DOI: 10.1080/10926771.2016.1223245
5. **Gerassi, L., Edmond, T., & Nichols, A.** (2016). Design strategies from sexual exploitation and sex work studies among women and girls: Methodological considerations in a hidden and vulnerable population. *Action research*, 15(2), 161-176. DOI 10.1177/1476750316630387
- Gerassi, L., Jonson-Reid, M., & Drake, B.** (2015). Sexually transmitted infections in a sample of at-risk youth: Roles of mental health and trauma histories. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Trauma*, 9 (3), 209-216. DOI: 10.1007/s40653-015-0074-8
- Gerassi, L.** (2015). A heated debate: Theoretical perspectives of sexual exploitation and sex work. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, 42 (4), 79-100.

Garwood, S., Gerassi, L., Jonson-Reid, M., Plax, K., & Drake, B. (2015). More than just poverty: Child abuse reports and teen pregnancy. *Journal of Adolescent Medicine*, 57 (2), 164-168. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2015.05.004>

1. Gerassi, L. (2015). From exploitation to industry: A review of domestic sex trafficking, exploitation and sex work among women and girls. *Journal of Human Behavior in Social Environment*, 25 (6), 591-605. DOI:10.1080/10911359.2014.991055

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS (@denotes co-first author)

Gerassi, L.B., *Cruys, S.C., ^Hendry, N. & ^Rosales, M.D.C.. (in revision). How do providers assess young people for risk of sex trafficking? Observed indicators, follow-up, and assessment questions from a web-based survey.

Gerassi, L.B. & *Cruys, S.C., ^Hendry, N. & ^Rosales, M.D.C.. (under review). Toward a nuanced understanding of sex trading: Findings from a survey of young people with lived experiences.

@Cheng, S.Y. & @Gerassi, L.B. (under review). Examining the poly victimization and poly strengths framework in a community-led, high school sample: Roles of teen dating, violence, and school connectedness on mental health.

Gerassi, L.B. et al. (in progress). How people with lived experiences of sex trading and homelessness become social service leaders

Gerassi, L.B., Walsh, K. et al. (in progress). Toward a multi-item measure to identify in-person and virtual sex trade(s): Perspectives from university students.

BOOK CHAPTERS & CONTRIBUTIONS

Gerassi, L. & +Howard, A.. (2019). Risk of Sex Trafficking & Commercial Sexual Exploitation in LGBTQ+ Relationships: Case Examples & Implications. In E.C. Heil & A.J. Nichols (Eds.), *Broadening the Scope of Human Trafficking Research: A Reader*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press.

Gerassi, L. & +Howard, A. (2018). How do we help? A clinical and empirical review of challenges to service provision for sexually exploited clients. In A.J. Nichols, T.E. Edmond, & E. Heil (Eds.), *Social Work Practice with Survivors of Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.

Gerassi, L. (2016). Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), a cognitive behavioral treatment, in trauma-care: Potential treatment for trafficked and exploited individuals. In A. Nichols (Au.). *Sex Trafficking in the United States: Theory, Research, Policy, and Practice*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.

RESEARCH SUPPORT

2022-2024: *Innovative Approaches to Understanding How, Why, and Under What Conditions University Students Trade Sexual Contact*

National Institutes of Health: Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health Program (K12)

Role: **Scholar/ Multiple Principal Investigator** (with Dr. Kate Walsh)

2021-2022: *How do People with Lived Experiences of Housing Instability and Sex Trading Become Social Service Leaders?*

Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (\$42,316)

Role: **Principal Investigator**

2020-2022: *Preparing Practitioners to Identify and Address Sex Trafficking in Northeast Wisconsin*

Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment (\$116,254)

Role: **Principal Investigator**

2020-2021: *Youths' Perspectives on Sex Trafficking Indicators and Assessment Strategies*

Morgridge Center for Public Service Community-Based Research Grant (\$5,000)

Role: **Principal Investigator**

2020-2021: *Partnering to Enhance Services for Survivors: An Evaluability Assessment and Formal Evaluation of Safe Horizon's Anti-Trafficking Program*

National Institute of Justice Research and Evaluation on Trafficking in Persons (\$390,522)

PI: Rebecca Macy, Ph.D., L. Richardson Preyer Distinguished Chair for Strengthening Families, UNC-Chapel Hill

Role: **Expert Advisory Group Member**

2019-2020: *Barriers to Identifying Potentially Sex Trafficked Patients: A Collective Case Study at Planned Parenthood in Wisconsin*

Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (\$40,697)

Role: **Principal Investigator**

2018-2019: *Responding to Suspected and Confirmed Cases of Sex Trafficked Children & Youth*

Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment Seed Grant (\$4,000)

Role: **Principal Investigator**

2018-2019: *Barriers to Identifying Potentially Sex Trafficked Patients: An Exploratory Case Study at Planned Parenthood (PP) in Madison*

4W Innovation Award (\$2,500)

Role: **Principal Investigator**

2016-2017: *Barriers and facilitators to social services among women involved in commercial sexual exploitation*

Joseph H. & Florence A. Roblee Foundation (\$7,250)

Dissertation Committee: Tonya Edmond, Ph.D. (Chair), Renee Cunningham-Williams, Ph.D., Melissa Jonson-Reid, Ph.D., Vanessa Fabbre, Ph.D., Andrea Nichols, Ph.D.

Role: **Principal Investigator** (Dissertation Study)

2015-2016: *Human Trafficking in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area: A quantitative approach*

Washington University Public Health Cubed Seed Initiative (\$20,000)

Co-PIs: Rumi Price, Ph.D. and Tonya Edmond, Ph.D., Co-PIs

Role: **Key Personnel**

2014-2016: *Exploring Substance Use among Women who Trade Sex*
TransSTAR Doctoral Fellowship, National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)
Washington University in St. Louis
PI: Dr. Cunningham-Williams, PI [DA015035]
Role: **Ph.D. Student/Trainee**

2013, 2017: *Understanding Pathways of Women who Trade Sex*
Brown School Doctoral Fellowship
Washington University in St. Louis
Role: **Student Scholar**

PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

International:

- Gerassi, L.B. & *Cruys, C.** (September 2022). Toward a Nuanced Understanding of Sex Trading and Provider Screening Practices, from the Perspectives of Young People with Lived Experiences. Oral presentation, *International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference*.
- Gerassi, L.B.** (July 2022). Sex Trafficking Indicator and Assessment Strategies in the U.S. Oral presentation and workshop given to invited trafficking scholars' symposium, *Developing New Knowledge on Help-Seeking and Help-Related Experiences of Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth*. Tel Aviv, Israel.
- Gerassi, L.B., *Cruys, S.C., ^Hendry, N. & ^Rosales, M.D.C.** (September 2021). Social Service Providers' Use of Assessment Questions and Perceived Sex Trafficking Indicators: Findings from a Survey of Social Service Providers. Oral presentation, *International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference*: delivered virtually due to COVID-19.
- Gerassi, L.B.** (September 2020). Sex Trading Prevalence and Associated Characteristics in a Representative Sample of High School Students. Oral presentation, *International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference*: delivered virtually due to COVID-19.
- Gerassi, L.B. & *Pedersen.** (September 2020). Addressing patients' sex trafficking risk in a high-risk healthcare setting: Findings from a collective case study in the Midwest. Oral presentation, *International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference*: delivered virtually due to COVID-19.

National:

- Gerassi, L. & Cruys, C.** (January 2023). Toward a Nuanced Understanding of Sex Trading and Provider Screening Practices, from the Perspectives of Young People with Lived Experiences. Oral Presentation and Conference Session Moderator, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. Phoenix, AZ.
- Gerassi, L. & Cruys, C.** (January 2022). Social Service Providers' Perceived Sex Trafficking Indicators and Use of Risk Assessment Questions: Findings from a Survey of Social Service Providers. Oral Presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. Washington, D.C.
- *Pederson, A. & Gerassi, L.B.** (June 2021). Knowledge of and Practice with LGBTQ+ people at risk of sex trafficking: Perceptions (and Assumptions) from Social Service Providers in a Midwest Region. Oral presentation, LGBTQ Research Symposium, Center for LGBTQ+ Research and Advocacy. Delivered virtually due to COVID-19.
- *Muentner, L., *Cheng, S.Y., & Gerassi, L.B.** (January 2021). Sex Trafficking Risk in a Representative Sample of High School Students: Prevalence and Associated Characteristics

of Youth who Trade Sex. Oral Presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*.
Delivered virtually due to COVID-19.

- Gerassi, L.B. & *Pedersen.** (April 2020, 2021). Knowledge of and Practice with LGBTQ+ people at risk of sex trafficking: Perceptions (and Assumptions) from Social Service Providers in a Midwest Region. Oral presentation, *4W Conference: Resistance and Reimagination: Gender, Change, and the Arts Conference*. Madison, WI. Event cancelled due to COVID-19 in 2020 and delivered virtually in 2021.
- Gerassi, L.B. & Skinkis, S** (January 2020). Toward Inclusive Social Services for Trafficked Individuals: A Content Analysis. Poster presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. Washington, DC.
- Gerassi, L.B.** (January 2020). Examining Commonly Reported Sex Trafficking Indicators from Practitioners' Perspectives: A Pilot Study. Poster presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. Washington, DC.
- Gerassi, L.B.** (April 2018). Barriers and Facilitators to Social Services Among Women Involved in Commercial Sexual Exploitation. Poster presentation, *4W Summit on Women, Gender, and Wellbeing*. Madison, WI.
- Gerassi, L.** (January 2018). Barriers to Accessing Detox Facilities, Substance Use Treatment, and Residential Services among Women Impacted By Commercial Sexual Exploitation & Trafficking. Oral presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. Washington, D.C.
- Gerassi, L.** (January 2018). How Do I Fit? Understanding Barriers and Facilitators to Social Services Among Women Involved in Commercial Sexual Exploitation. Poster presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. Washington, D.C.
- Gerassi, L. & Nichols, A.** (January 2017). Benefits, Challenges, and Lessons Learned from Coalitions Organizing Against Sex Trafficking and Exploitation. Poster presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. New Orleans, LA.
- Gerassi, L. & Nichols, A.** (November 2016). Lessons learned: Benefits and Challenges in Community-Based Responses to Sex Trafficking/Exploitation. Oral Presentation, *Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Conference*. Atlanta, GA.
- Gerassi, L. & Nichols, A.** (January 2016). Coalition Heterogeneity in Community Based Responses to Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sex. *Grand Challenges of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare Initiative*. Invited poster presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. Washington, DC.
- Gerassi, L. & Edmond, T.** (January 2016). Practitioner Perceptions of Evidenced-Based Treatments and Barriers to Implementation in Rape Crisis Centers. Poster presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. Washington, DC.
- Gerassi, L. & Auslander, W.** (January 2015). Systematic Review of Interventions for Women with Trauma and Substance Abuse: Potential Treatment for Sexually Trafficked Women. Poster presentation, *Society for Social Work Research Conference*. New Orleans, LA.

TEACHING

Sex Trafficking & Sex Trading. Elective course, School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Spring 2022

Sex Trafficking & Social Work. Elective course, School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Spring 2020, Spring 2021

Practice with Individuals, Families & Groups. Undergraduate and graduate foundational course, School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2022

Race & Ethnicity- Diversity, Oppression and Social Justice in Social Work. Graduate foundational course, School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Spring 2018

Human Trafficking. Elective course, School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Fall 2017

Social Justice and Human Diversity. Graduate foundational course, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis.

Fall 2015, Fall 2016

Select Invited Guest Lectures:

Gerassi, L.B. (October 2022). “*Trajectory to Anti-Oppressive Research*.” Presentation given to Doctoral Professional Development Seminar, Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Gerassi, L.B. (May 2022). “*Strengths and Limitations of Using Intersectional Approach in Research*.” Presentation given to Social Theories Seminar, Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Gerassi, L.B. (April 2020). “*Knowledge of and Practice with LGBTQ+ people at risk of sex trafficking: Considerations for Social Work Practice*.” Presentation given to Social Work with LGBTQ+ People, School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Gerassi, L.B. (February, 2018). “*Introduction to Sex Trafficking: Considerations for Social Work Practice*.” Presentation given to Field Seminar Course, School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Gerassi, L.B. (February 2018). “*Community-Based Responses to Sex Trafficking: Interagency Collaboration Barriers and Potential Solutions*.” Presentation given to Sex Trafficking Course, Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis.

Gerassi, L.B. et al. (December 2013). “*Social Work Practice with Groups & Communities: Lessons Learned*.” Presentation given to Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities, Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis.

Gerassi, L.B. et al. (June 2011, June 2012) “*Social Work Practice with Immigrant Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence*.” Presentation given to Intimate Partner Violence Course, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Teaching Trainings, Consultations, and Mentorship

Presenter (January 2023). *Using a Critical Paradigm in Micro-Level Courses*. Presentation given to the Winter Teaching Retreat at the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work.

Co-Presenter and Consultant (Fall 2022). *Use of Reproductive Justice Framework into Social Work Classes*. Assembled materials and provided consultations for instructors at the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work.

Mentor (Fall 2020-2021). *Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups Teaching Mentorship*. Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Presenter (March 2020). “*Integrating Diverse Perspectives into Coursework*.” Presentation given to teaching faculty and staff, School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Co-Presenter (February 2020). “*Considerations for Organizing a Course*.” Presentation given to doctoral students, School of Social Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Consultant (January 2018). Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Curriculum for Child Abuse and Family Violence course. Xavier University School of Social Work.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Journal and Conference Proposal Reviews

Manuscript Reviewer. Justice Quarterly; Qualitative Health Research; Affilia- Feminist Inquiry in Social Work; Violence and Victims; Journal of Family Violence; Journal of Developmental Studies; Journal of Rural Mental Health; Journal of Women, Politics & Policy; Journal of Human Trafficking; Journal of Action Research; Journal of Interpersonal Violence; Feminist Criminology; Journal of Child Sexual Abuse; Journal of Aggression, Conflict & Peace Research; Psychology, Crime and Law; Crime & Delinquency; Journal of Substance Use Treatment.

Conference Proposal Reviewer. International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference; Council on Social Work Education Conference (Violence Against Women and their Children Track); Society for Social Work Research (Violence against Women and Children Track; Gender Track).

In the Media

Science Vs Podcast (consult) on sex trafficking in the U.S. (2020).

Medium.com on human trafficking in the Midwest. Featured in: Guarino, M. (2018, January 17). Human trafficking in the Midwest: A dark business in the heartland. Retrieved from <https://medium.com/@markguarino10/human-trafficking-in-the-midwest-54ed9fba7a3>

The Cap Times on sex trafficking in Dane County. Featured in: Becker, A. (2017, December 06). 'There are people for sale here': Madison authorities struggle to support victims of sex trafficking. Retrieved from http://host.madison.com/ct/news/local/crime-and-courts/there-are-people-for-sale-here-madison-authorities-struggle-to/article_a7582aed-f9c2-5007-b2ff-e79ba6efc18c.htm

PBS Frontline, consult for on sexual abuse in substance use treatment programs (November-December 2017).

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Student Advising & Mentorship

Committee Member (Current). How childhood trauma and ACEs lead to delinquent behaviors for Black girls. Ph.D. Student in Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Chair and Advisor, Caro Cruys (Current). Kinship Care What factors impact caregiver-of-origin relationship quality among LGBTQ foster care-involved young people? Understanding relationality and risk abatement through a queer theoretical lens. Ph.D. Student in Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Scholar Mentor (2020, 2022-2023). Coffee with a Scholar- Society for Social Work Research Mentorship Program.

Committee Member, Logan Knight (Current). A Grounded Theory of Resilience in Survivors of Sex Trafficking. Ph.D. Student in Social Work at the Ohio State University.

Committee Member, Benjamin Eithun (Current). Identification of Children at Risk of Torture. Ph.D. Student in Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Committee Member, Sakara Wages (Current). Black Women's Experiences of Oppression in Academia. Ph.D. Student in Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Committee Member, Anna Pederson (Current). Clinical Decision Making with Sex Workers. Candidate for Ph.D. in Counseling at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Committee Member, Lauren Vollinger (2022). Impact of sex industry experiences on social service engagement. Candidate for Ph.D. in Community Psychology at Michigan State University.

Professional Development Advisor (2021). IMPACT Program in Boston (designed for postdocs and advanced pre-doctoral trainees build skills and professional networks).

Committee Member, Michelle Turner (2022). Certified Nurse Midwives Integration in Wisconsin Hospitals. Candidate for Ph.D. in Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Committee Member, Christina Lepianka (2021). Understanding the health care needs of women who are sex trafficked in the United States. Candidate for Ph.D. in Nursing at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA.

Committee Member, Emma Carpenter (2020). Queering Pregnancy: Understanding the Role of Queer Identity in Pregnancy Desires and Decisions. Candidate for Ph.D. in Social Welfare at University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Other Advising or Supervision (*Doctoral students are pre-preliminary committee stage*)

Current:

- Mai Xiong, Ph.D. Student in Social Welfare
- Laura Zimmerman, PhD Student in Social Welfare
- Jelani Williams, Undergraduate Research Scholar
- Jason Hill, Undergraduate Research Scholar

Past:

- Maria del Carmen Rosales, Undergraduate Research Scholar & Sophomore Research Scholar
- Anna Pederson, Ph.D Student in Counseling Psychology
- Stephanie Skinkis, MSW Student
- Nicole Hendry, 4W STREETS Undergraduate Research Intern
- Karyn Esbensen, BA Student

University Presentations and Committees

Co-organizer (2022-2023). Reproductive Justice: What do social workers need to know? Convened materials and resources for instructors and organized event hosted by the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work.

Advisor (September 2020-Present). Social Work Student Union.

Member (September 2018-May 2020; September 2022-Present). Social Workers Confronting Racial Injustice Conference Committee, Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work.

Member (September 2020-May 2021). Curriculum Committee. Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work.

Presenter (December 2019). "Opportunities for Sex Trafficking Research Collaboration." Presentation given to School of Human Ecology.

Member (September 2017-May 2019; September 2021-May 2022). Committee on Diversity. Diversity Dialogue Planning Subcommittee (September 2017-18). Integrating Diversity into Teaching Subcommittee (September 2018-19).

- Guest Committee Member* (October -November 2019). Societal Aspects of Sexual Violence Cluster Faculty Hire Search Committee. University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Guest Panelist* (February 2018). “Navigating the Academic Job Market.” Ph.D. Student Seminar, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Presenter* (February 2018). “Sex Trafficking: Research & Practice.” Presentation given to the 4W Board of Directors, the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Co-Panelist* (February 2018). “Pathway to Graduate School and Academia.” Panel provided to the 4W EmpowerHour, School of Human Ecology.
- Presenter* (January 2018). “How do I address racial tensions and experiences of racism among participants in practice? Toward an anti-oppressive practice model.” Workshop given at the Social Workers Racial Injustice Conference.
- Invited Member* (December 2017-January 2018). Diversity Retreat Planning Committee, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Invited Speaker* (November 2017). “Pathway to Practice & Research on Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation.” Alumni Breakfast. School of Social Work.
- Organizer* (September 2017-present). Community-Building Series for Junior Faculty, Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work.
- Senator/Alternate Senator* (September 2017- May 2019/ September 2018-2021). Faculty Senate – University of Wisconsin- Madison.
- Presenter* (August 2017). “Sex Trafficking and Use of Data.” Presentation given to eLUCID Conference, the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Service to Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis

- Guest Panelist* (March 2017). “Navigating the Academic Job Market.” Presentation given to the Brown School of Social Work.
- Ph.D. Program Ambassador & Panelist* (February 2017). “Student Panel Q & A.” Presentation at Brown School of Social Work.
- Facilitator* (August 2016). “Diversity Dialogue for Self-Awareness.” Training at Brown School of Social Work.
- Co-Facilitator* (August 2013; August 2010). “Diversity Dialogue for Self-Awareness.” Training at Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis, MO.

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

National and International Service

- Co-panelist* (January 2023). “Power Sharing and Anti-Oppressive Research in a Hierarchical Context.” Dialogue facilitated by the Global Association of Human Trafficking Scholars.
- Co-panelist* (November 2022). Gender-based Violence, Sexism, and Sex Trafficking. Presentation hosted by the Global Association of Human Trafficking Scholars.
- Consultant* (September 2022). Youth Underground Organization. Consultation regarding the outreach materials and education in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Consultant* (August 2022). Safe Harbor Program, Violence Prevention Programs Unit. Minnesota Department of Health. Consultation regarding the intersection of substance use and sex trading/sex trafficking.
- Presenter* (December 2020). “Addressing Racism and Judgments about Sex Trading in Practice Settings.” Virtual presentation given to the Greater New Orleans HT Task Force Training in New Orleans, LA.

Presenter (September 2020). “Addressing Race and Racism in Sex Trafficking Research.” Online presentation given to the Human Trafficking Research and Data Advisory Roundtable in San Diego, CA.

Consultant (April 2020). National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women.

Consultation on providing expert testimony for sex trafficking victim defense proceedings.

Presenter (July 2020). “Community-Engaged Approaches in Women’s Sex Trafficking Research.” Online presentation given to the Research Committee of Health Education Advocacy Linkage (HEAL).

Presenter & Work Group Session Facilitator (July 2018). “Trafficking Identification: Strengths, Challenges, & Next Steps in Community-Based Research and Practice” Human Trafficking in the Context of Migration: Research to Practice International Forum (Social Transformations to End Exploitation and Trafficking for Sex).

Consultant (January 2018). Human Trafficking Training for Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) Department of Defense SafeHelpline.

Wisconsin State-Wide Service

Organizer (February-May 2022). Collaborated with provide trainings on sex trafficking and gender-inclusive practices the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System to, which provides professional development training opportunities for the state’s youth-oriented case workers and providers.

Workgroup member (March 2022). Improving State Policies for Sex Trafficking Victims. Multidisciplinary workgroup convened by the Social Transformations to End Exploitation and Trafficking for Sex.

Consultant (December 2021). Evaluation and referral tools. Briarpatch Youth Street Outreach Services.

Consultant (April 2020-Present). Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative.

Consultant (August 2018). Wisconsin Department of Administration, Division of Executive Budget and Finance.

Consultant (October 2017-Present). Ongoing consultant work on evidence-based and evidence-informed practices in anti-human trafficking practice. Outagamie County Department of Health and Human Services.

Member (November 2017-Present). Dane County Coordinated Community Response to the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.

Select Wisconsin Community Presentations

Gerassi, L.B. (January 2023). Using Data to Improve Motivational Interviewing Practices for Potentially Sex Trafficked People. Presentation given to Motivational Interviewing Wisconsin State Motivational Interviewing Trainees.

Gerassi, L.B. (June 2022). *Sex Trafficking: Indicators, Assessments, Responses*. Training provided to the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System.

Gerassi, L.B. (November 2021). *Practice Considerations for People at Risk of Sex Trafficking*. Presentation given staff of Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) in Madison, WI.

Gerassi, L.B. (May 2021). *How to Providers Identify Sex Trafficking Indicators and Assess for Trafficking? Survey Findings*. Presentation given staff of Department of Health and Human Services in Outagamie County.

- Gerassi, L.B.** (May 2021). *Sex Trafficking Risk Assessments: Basics, Red Flags & Assessment Strategies*. Presentation given staff of Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin.
- Gerassi, L.B.** (December 2020). "Addressing Racism and Judgments about Sex Trading in Practice Settings." Virtual presentation given to social service providers in Madison, WI.
- Gerassi, L.B.** (March 2020). "*Understanding Challenges in Addressing Children and Youth at Risk of Sex Trafficking*." Presentation given to Department of Human Services in Appleton, WI.
- Gerassi, L.B.** (July 2018). "*Addressing Sex Trafficking in Social Work Practice for Child Protective Services & Youth Justice Social Workers*." Presentation given to Outagamie County Youth and Family Services.
- Gerassi, L.B.** (May 2018). *Sex Trafficking: Indicators, Questions, & Next Steps*. Presentation given to Ho Chunk Nation Behavioral Health.
- Sabe Phyu, M., Loerzel, E., Araceli, A., & **Gerassi, L.B.** (April 2018). *Indigenous Women Confronting Exploitation Locally and Globally*. Moderated plenary panel discussion (open to the public) at *4W Summit on Women, Gender, and Wellbeing*, Madison, WI.
- Gerassi, L.B.** (January 2018). "Addressing Sex Trafficking in Social Work Practice." All-day training given to Community Care Resources (foster care organization), Middleton, WI.

Missouri State-Wide Service

- Executive Committee Member* (June 2014-May 2017). Coalition Against Trafficking and Exploitation (CATE), St. Louis, MO.
- Executive Committee Member* (July 2011-June 2014). Rescue & Restore Anti-Trafficking Coalition, St. Louis, MO.
- Founder and Chairperson* (Aug. 2011-June 2013). Human Trafficking Committee of the St. Louis Ending Violence Against Women Network (SLEVAWN), St. Louis, MO.
- Co-chairperson* (Feb. 2010-June 2013). Women Speaking Other Languages than English (WomenSOLE) Task Force of St. Louis Ending Violence Against Women Network (SLEVAWN), St. Louis, MO.

Missouri Community Presentations

- Gerassi, L.B.** (May 2017). "How do I fit? Sexually exploited women's navigation of addiction treatment and related services." St. Louis Ending Violence Against Women Network, St. Louis, MO.
- Gerassi, L. & Nichols, A.** (February 2016). "Heterogeneous Perspectives in Coalitions and Community Based Responses to Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sex." Coalition Against Trafficking & Exploitation (CATE), St. Louis, MO.
- Nichols, A, **Gerassi, L.**, Howard, A., & Colegrove, A. (April 2015). "Sex Trafficking and Exploitation: Policies, Perspectives, and Future Directions." Brown School Policy Forum, Washington University in St. Louis. MO.
- Gerassi, L., Elliot, K., & Colegrove, A.** (November 2014). "Definitions & Criteria for Human Trafficking among our Organizations." Coalition Against Trafficking & Exploitation (CATE), St. Louis, MO.
- Gerassi, L.** (April 2012). "Advanced Economic Advocacy: Working with Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence." Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV), Jefferson City, MO.
- Gerassi, L. & Fallon, L.** (Nov. 2011). "Recognizing Human Trafficking at Our Organizations: Intersection Between Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence." Presentation at Legal Services of Eastern Missouri (LSEM), St. Louis, MO.

- Gerassi, L.** (April & May 2011). "Furthering Diversity Work: Improving Intimate Partner Violence Services for Immigrants and Refugees." Presentation at Kathy J. Weinman Shelter and Alternatives to Living in Violent Environments (ALIVE), St. Louis, MO.
- Cortes, N., **Gerassi, L.**, Kim, J.E., Mahajan, G., & Ravi, K. (December 2010) "The Search for Safety: Women Seeking Asylum on the Grounds of Gender-Based Violence in the United States." Presentation at Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis, MO.
- Gerassi, L.** (April & May 2010). "Cultural Competency: An Introduction to Working with Immigrants and Refugees" Presentation at Women's Safe House, Lydia's House, Redevelopment Opportunities for Women (ROW), St. Martha's Hall, St. Louis, MO.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

- 2013- Present Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), State of Missouri
2011-2013 Licensed Masters Social Worker (LMSW), State of Missouri

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

- 2011-2013 *Program Facilitator*
Redevelopment Opportunities for Women (ROW), St. Louis, MO
- 2010 *Multilingual Access Project (MAP) Evaluator*
Redevelopment Opportunities for Women (ROW), St. Louis, MO
- 2008-2009 *Case Manager*
African Services Committee (ASC), Harlem, NY
- 2008 *School Foods Project Tri-lingual Outreach Worker*
New York State Department of Education, New York, NY
- 2007- *Advocate*
Courtroom Advocates Project, Brooklyn, NY

LANGUAGE QUALIFICATIONS

- Native English
Fluent French
Proficient Spanish
Basic Italian

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

- Freedom Network (2023-Present)
Global Association of Human Trafficking Scholars (2020-Present)
Council on Social Work Education (2015-2017)
Society for Social Work and Research (2013-Present)
Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (2010-2017)
Saint Louis Ending Violence Against Women Network (2010-2017)
American Society of Criminology Division on Women and Crime (2015-2016)