

Rene Almeling

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Scholar

University of California, Berkeley/UCSF
School of Public Health
50 University Hall, MC 7360
Berkeley, CA 94720-7360

Phone: (510) 643-0919
Fax: (510) 643-8614
Email: almeling@berkeley.edu
<http://rwj.berkeley.edu/scholars/almeling.php>

Education

2008 Ph.D., Sociology, UCLA

Dissertation Selling Genes, Selling Gender: Egg Donation, Sperm Donation, and the Medical Market in Genetic Material

Committee Gail Kligman (Chair), Ruth Milkman, Abigail Saguy, Carole Browner

2003 M.A., Sociology, UCLA

1998 B.A., *cum laude*, Study of Women/Gender and Religious Studies, Rice University

Employment

2010 - Assistant Professor of Sociology, Yale University

2008 - 2010 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Research Program, University of California, Berkeley/UCSF

Publications

Almeling, Rene. "Gender and the Value of Bodily Goods: Commodification in Egg and Sperm Donation." *Law and Contemporary Problems* (forthcoming).

Timmermans, Stefan and Rene Almeling. "Objectification, Standardization, and Commodification in Healthcare: A Conceptual Readjustment." *Social Science and Medicine* (forthcoming).

2008 Saguy, Abigail and Rene Almeling. "Fat in the Fire? Science, the News Media, and the 'Obesity Epidemic.'" *Sociological Forum* 23: 53-83.

2007 Almeling, Rene. "Selling Genes, Selling Gender: Egg Agencies, Sperm Banks, and the Medical Market in Genetic Material." *American Sociological Review* 72: 319-340.

Abridged version reprinted in *Intimate Labors: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Care, Sex, and Domestic Work*, edited by Eileen Boris and Rhacel Salazar Parreñas (forthcoming from Stanford University Press).

- 2006 Almeling, Rene. "Why do you want to be a donor?": Gender and the Production of Altruism in Egg and Sperm Donation." *New Genetics and Society* 25: 143-157.
- 2000 Almeling, Rene, Lauren Tews, and Susan Dudley. "Abortion Training in U.S. Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Programs, 1998." *Family Planning Perspectives* 32: 268-271, 320.

Book Reviews

- Review of *Gender and Health: The Effects of Constrained Choices and Social Policies* by Chloe Bird and Patricia Rieker. *Sociological Inquiry* (forthcoming).
- 2009 Review of *Cold Intimacies: The Making of Emotional Capitalism* by Eva Illouz. *Contemporary Sociology* 38: 184-185.
- 2006 Review of *Last Best Gifts: Altruism and the Market for Human Blood and Organs* by Kieran Healy. *European Economic Sociology Newsletter* 8: 44-45.

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

- 2008 ASA Medical Sociology Section, Roberta G. Simmons Outstanding Dissertation Award
- 2008 ASA Sex and Gender Section, Distinguished Article Award - Honorable Mention
- 2007 - 2008 UCLA Graduate Division, Dissertation Year Fellowship
- 2005 - 2008 UCLA Center for Society and Genetics, Graduate Fellow
- 2007 ASA Economic Sociology Section, Outstanding Student Paper Award (Co-Winner)
- 2007 UCLA Center for the Study of Women, Elizabeth Blackwell, M.D. Award (Co-Winner)
- 2006 - 2007 National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant
- 2006 - 2007 UCLA Sociology Department, Graduate Fellowship
- 2006 UCLA Center for the Study of Women, Jean Stone Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 2004 - 2005 UCLA Graduate Division, Dr. Ursula Mandel Scholarship
- 2004 UCLA Graduate Division, Summer Research Mentorship Program
- 2001 - 2002 UCLA Sociology Department/Leroy Neiman Center, Graduate Fellowship

Selected Presentations

- 2009 "How Social Context Shapes Egg and Sperm Donors' Experiences of Commodification."
 - Science, Technology, and Society Center, University of California, Berkeley
 - Institute for Health and Aging/Social and Behavioral Sciences Colloquium, UCSF
 - Bringing the Body Back In: Toward a Corporeal Social Science, Sociologists for Women in Society Conference, University of Arizona
 - American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco (to be presented)
- 2009 "The Meaning of Motherhood in the 21st Century: Changing Reproductive Stakes." Panel Discussion, Beatrice Bain Research Group, University of California, Berkeley

- 2009 "Altruism and Its Limits: A Conversation with Rene Almeling and Jenny Reardon." Science and Justice Working Group, University of California, Santa Cruz
- 2008 "Grant Writing for Sexualities Research and Other Controversial Topics in the Current Political Climate." Research Support Forum, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Boston
- 2007 "Shots and Surgery vs. Scheduled Sexuality: Egg and Sperm Donation in Daily Life." Interdisciplinary Conference on Intimate Labors, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2006 "Selling Genes, Selling Gender: Comparing Egg and Sperm Donors." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal
- 2005 "A Comparative History of Egg and Sperm Donation." Society for the History of Technology Annual Meeting, Minneapolis
- 2005 Saguy, Abigail and Rene Almeling. "Fat Panic! The 'Obesity Epidemic' as Moral Panic." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia
- 2005 "Experiencing Commodification: Comparing Egg Donors and Sperm Donors." Reproductive Disruptions: International Conference on Childlessness, Adoption, and other Reproductive Complexities, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- 2004 "Gendering Commodification: How Egg Donation Agencies and Sperm Banks Structure Medical Markets in Genetic Material." Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, San Francisco

Professional Activities

- 2008 - 2009 ASA Medical Sociology Section, *Outstanding Dissertation Award Committee*
- 2008 - 2009 ASA Sex and Gender Section, *Distinguished Article Award Committee*
- 2008 - 2009 ASA Economic Sociology Section, *Graduate Student Representative*
- 2002 - 2008 UCLA Sociology Department, *Peer Mentor*
- 2007 - 2008 UCLA Sociology Department/Center for Society and Genetics, *Search Committee*
- 2006 - 2007 ASA Sex and Gender Section, *Graduate Student Representative*
- 2006 - 2007 Mephistos Graduate Student Conference, *Organizing Committee*
- 2002 - 2007 UCLA Sociology AKD Undergraduate Student Conference, *Discussant*
- 2004 - 2005 UCLA Sociology of Health and Medicine Working Group, *Co-Coordinator*
- 2002 - 2005 UCLA Sociology of Gender Working Group, *Co-Coordinator*
- 2003 - 2004 UCLA Sociology Graduate Student Association, *Co-President*
- 2002 - 2003 UCLA Qualitative Strategies Working Group, *Co-Founder/Co-Coordinator*
- 2001 - 2002 UCLA Sociology Graduate Student Association, *First Year Representative*
- Member American Sociological Association, Sociologists for Women in Society
- Reviewer American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, Economic and Social Research Council (UK), Social Science and Medicine, Sociology of Health and Illness, Sociological Forum, Sociological Inquiry, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Fertility and Sterility