

Elena Gutiérrez (UIC): elgut@uic.edu

Elena R. Gutiérrez is an Associate Professor in Gender and Women's Studies and Latin American and Latino Studies at the University of Illinois, Chicago and a Visiting Researcher at the Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice at the University of California Berkeley. Dr. Gutiérrez earned her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Michigan and is a scholar of Latina/o reproductive and sexual health politics, feminism and social activism and Chicana/o Studies. Her book publications include Undivided Rights: Women of Color Organize for Reproductive Justice with Jael Silliman, Marlene Gerber Fried, and Loretta Ross (Boston: South End Press, October 2004) which received the 2005 Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award in the area of bigotry and human rights, and Fertile Matters: The Politics of Mexican origin Women's Reproduction (University of Texas Press, 2008). Fertile Matters documents the involuntary sterilization of Mexican-origin women in Los Angeles in the 1970s and illuminates the ways in which political, social and racial anxieties shaped the construction of the "problem" of Mexican origin women's fertility and reproduction, and In addition to her academic appointments Dr. Gutiérrez has served on the boards of and worked as a consultant with, the National Latina Health Organization, SisterSong, the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health, Mujeres Latinas en Acción, and the Chicago Abortion Fund.

Currently at the Center for Reproductive Rights and Justice she is spearheading research development, primarily through CRRJ's Reproductive Justice Virtual Library, which will serve as a hub or tool and depository for reproductive justice organizing, advocacy and research. She also authored the policy brief, " Bringing Families Out of 'Cap'tivity: The Need to Repeal the Calworks Maximum Family Grant Rule. " which was recognized with an award for high-impact research from ACCESS Women's Health Justice.

Gutierrez is currently working on several research projects, including an oral history project documenting the lives and work of the Mexican American Women's Business and Professional Organization in Chicago.