

Jennifer L. Jefferis

- Robertson School of Government, Regent University
- Ph.D. Candidate • Department of Political Science • Boston University

EDUCATION

2002 - Present Boston University, PhD Candidate, Political Science
Fall 2006 Arabic Language Institute, American University in Cairo
1998 - 2002 Grove City College, BA Political Science, Communication

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Instructor

- ◇ Boston University, *Research and Writings in American Foreign Policy: 1945 - Present*, Spring 2006, Spring 2005.
- ◇ Boston University, *Writings in American Foreign Policy: 1776-1914*, Fall 2005, Fall 2004.
- ◇ Boston University, *Introduction to Political Science*, Summer 2004.

Teaching Fellow (2002-2004)

- ◇ Boston University, *Introduction to International Relations*.
- ◇ Boston University, *Introduction to Political Science*.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◇ Graduate Writing Fellowship, Boston University, 2004 - 2005.
- ◇ Outstanding Teaching Award, 2003 - 2004, Boston University Department of Political Science.
- ◇ Teaching Fellowship, Boston University, 2002 - 2004.
- ◇ Elected Ritual Chair of Crown and Scepter, Grove City College Women's Academic Honorary, 2000.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

- ◇ Intelligence Analyst for British Aerospace Engineering, Summer 2007

Worked on DARPA funded project to increase intelligence analysis efficiency in multiple languages. Provided Arabic translation support, assisted in linguistic annotation of intelligence, and compiled reports of political events relevant to a variety of queries.

- ◇ Assistant Editor of the American Political Science Association's *Quantitative Research Newsletter*, Summer 2003 - Winter 2004.

Worked with Professor John Gerring to establish a newsletter for the new branch of APSA. Reviewed and edited submitted articles.

Created, organized, and maintained extensive book and article recommendation pages. Coordinated potential authors and submissions.

- ◇ Volunteer Coordinator for Bauer for President 2000 Campaign.

Attended and assisted with candidacy announcement tour throughout the Midwest. Assisted in internship coordination for the campaign. Coordinated numerous phone-banks, fundraising calls and polling. Organized volunteers to attend straw polls through the East coast. Delivered address at press conference. Organized supervised large college volunteer network for fall networking conference.

PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

- ◇ Research: Religion and Violence in Politics; Islam in Politics; Politics of Middle Eastern States; Terrorism and American Foreign Policy Social and Opposition Movements; Development of Democracy; Security Policy Development.
- ◇ Teaching: International Relations; Foreign Policy; Middle Eastern Politics; American Politics; Islam in Politics; Comparative Development/Politics.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- ◇ Arabic: Intermediate Advanced – two years college level training, one semester intensive immersion program in Cairo, Egypt.
- ◇ French: Limited Reading Knowledge

RESEARCH

- ◇ “Sacred Protest: Understanding Religiously Motivated Political Violence” PhD. Dissertation (Expected Completion: Fall 2007)

Using the cases of the Christian Coalition in contrast to the Army of God in the United States and the Muslim Brothers in contrast to *Gama'at al Islamiyya* in Egypt, I am seeking to identify the conditions under which religiously-motivated political action is transformed into political violence. In the finished product, I expect to demonstrate that the structure of religious organizations is extremely important in

influencing the methods used in pursuit of political ends. Indeed, organizations structured in such a way as to allow frequent interaction of their members with the society or system targeted for change are far less likely to use violence than those which isolate themselves from their targets. This research has important implications for both academic and policy oriented understandings of the variegated relationship between religion, politics and violence.

- ◇ “Power’s God-Shaped Hole: Understanding the Dramatic Ascension of the Muslim Brothers in Egyptian Politics.”

Invited to present this paper at Political Science Conference at McGill University, May 2007

This paper seeks to explore the relationship between legitimacy and the distribution of power in authoritarian states. It argues that the Brotherhood has been successful in siphoning power away from the state because of their ability to establish legitimacy through religious belief rather than rule of law. The Brotherhood has cultivated a renewed level of religious awareness in Egyptian society, and in so doing has created a “God-shaped hole” that state powers are ill-equipped to fill. The consequence of this change in society is that while the state apparatus still holds the traditional trappings of power, it lacks legitimacy in the eyes of the majority of its citizens. And thus, efforts toward repressing the Brotherhood are entirely counter-productive as they only serve to emphasize the illegitimate nature of the power of the existing state.

- ◇ “Veiled Threat: Will the Egyptian Hijab Sew Democracy’s Demise?”

*Presented at conference sponsored by the Center for Vision and Values.
Published by the same organization.*

This paper analyzes prospects for democracy in Egypt based on the reemergence of the veil. I concludes that the veil may well be a positive predictor for democratic prospects when considered from economic, sociological and rational choice based perspectives.

- ◇ “Deception in American Foreign Policy in the Middle East” with Professor Irene Gendzier, Political Science, Boston University, Summer 2004.

I investigated Congressional records to trace the accusations and instances of deception during the first Gulf War and examined United States trade policy documents in an attempt to better understand the American role in arming Iraq.

- ◇ *The Seven Laws of Presidential Leadership* with Professor Charles W. Dunn, Dean of Arts and Letters, Grove City College, 2000 - 2002.

I composed a paper entitled “Morality as a Law of Presidential Leadership,” tracing the thread of morality from the conception of American government to the present. Attempted to assess the importance of morality as a law of successful Presidential leadership.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- ◇ McGill University Graduate Student Conference. Delivering paper entitled “Power’s God-Shaped Hole” May 2007
- ◇ Grove City College Vision and Values Conference. Delivered paper entitled “Veiled Threat: Will the Egyptian Hijab Sew Democracy’s Demise?” May 2006
- ◇ Delivered the Student Address at Grove City College 125th Anniversary Celebration, 2002.

One of four students selected to speak. Delivered address titled, “Somewhere Over the Rainbow: Where should Grove City College be in the next 25 years?”

GRADUATE RESEARCH PAPERS

- ◇ *The Elephant in the Living Room: Politicization of Women in Iran.*

A comparison of the process of politicization of women in Iran with women in the United States. Uncovered a number of similarities in the processes and concluded that while at different points on a continuum, the differences between the two are not so significant as is often believed.

- ◇ *Understanding the Peace Process: Egypt and Israel.*

Traced the steps that led President Sadat on the surprising path that towards peace. Considered the simultaneous influences of domestic opposition groups, economic status and international standing.

- ◇ *Determining United States Foreign Policy: The Case for Intervention in Iran and Yugoslavia.*

Sought to understand the theoretical underpinnings of American foreign intervention. Accomplished this by looking at two cases, one in which the United States intervened and one in which they did not. Attempted to draw out the differences between the two situations in an effort to identify a means of predicting future policy actions.

◇ *The Development of the Middle Eastern State.*

Examined the history of the Middle Eastern state system, paying particular attention to the difference between the evolution of the Middle Eastern state and its European counterparts. Looked closely at the role of feudalism in Europe, which sparked the gradual development of cities and then states in a bottom-up fashion. Found this to be in dramatic contrast to the top-down establishment of government that occurred in many Middle Eastern states.

◇ *The Evolution of Strategy: A Study of the Muslim Brotherhood.*

Investigated the methods used by the Egyptian branch of the Muslim Brotherhood to maintain their existence despite significant opposition. Found that although the Society adhered to certain ideological principles quite consistently, its strategies of how best implement these principles changed according to state oppression. This willingness to change contributed to its continued existence.

◇ *Up In Arms: The Story of the Tornado, the F-15 and Al Yamamah I & II.*

Considered the role of arms trade as a tool of foreign policy by looking at the interesting triangle that developed between the United States, Britain and Saudi Arabia over the F-15 and the Tornado. Examined the American domestic factors that led to the profitable trade between Britain and Saudi Arabia, as well as the strain on relations between Britain and the US as these trade lines were being developed.

◇ *The Boys Who Cry Wolf: Accusations of Terror as a Tool of American Foreign Policy.*

Evaluated the impact of accusations of terror on American foreign relations. Detailed numerous case studies in American history when accusations of terror were made, and evaluated the policy ramifications of such accusations. Specifically considered the hindrance that false accusations cause in subsequent relations between United States and accused states.

◇ *Exceptionalism in American Welfare Policy.*

Investigated why the United States has never developed into a welfare state similar to its European counterparts. Considered the exceptionalism of American ideology and revealed that the welfare state liberal America pursues is dramatically affected by this exceptionalism. Concluded that it is virtually impossible that an American welfare state will ever develop to the level of its European equivalents.

