

Bio for Judith Blau

Judith Blau is Professor Emerita of Sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, retiring January 1, 2013 after a teaching career that spanned 40 years. She moved to the Cape in April 2014. She is past president of the Southern Sociological Society, founder and President of the U.S. chapter of Sociologists without Borders, co-founder of its Think Tank (an international interactive site devoted to human rights), was co-chair of the Human Rights and Global Justice Section of the International Sociological Association, and chair of the American Sociological Association Section on Human Rights. She is former editor of the journal, *Societies without Borders: Human Rights & the Social Sciences* and the editor of an international social science journal, *Social Forces*.

She was one of the founding members of the Human Rights Coalition of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and continues to contribute to this coalition on an occasional basis. She was awarded the 2012 Distinguished Career Award by the American Sociological Association and Orange County (N.C.)'s Pauli Murray Award in 2014.

Judith was founder and director of an NGO -- the Human Rights Center of Chapel Hill & Carrboro (2008 - 2013). The Center worked closely with Rogers Eubanks Neighborhood Association - a historically-black community center - on matters relating to racism and environmental justice, and also with university and high school students to champion the rights of undocumented workers and refugees. We successfully petitioned both Chapel Hill and Carrboro to adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (thereby becoming Human Rights Cities) and to promote Fair Trade as a matter of both practice and policy. She has traveled extensively as one of her main interests is to understand how human rights are framed in different societies and cultures.

Her books include *Human Rights: Beyond the Liberal Vision* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2005), *Justice in the United States: Human Rights and the US Constitution* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006), *Freedoms and Solidarities: In Pursuit of Human Rights* (2007); *Human Rights: A Primer* (Paradigm Publishers, 2009); *The Leading Rogue State (2110)*; *Human Rights and Sociology* (Sage, 2011). Her earlier books include *Race in the Schools* (recipient of Oliver Cromwell Cox Award in race studies), *Architects and Firms, Social Contracts and Economic Markets, The Shape of Culture, Public Sociologies Reader, The Blackwell Companion to Sociology*, and *Social Roles and Social Institutions*. She has written over a hundred articles that have been published in refereed, scholarly journals as well as short pieces for online media, including the *Huffington Post* and *Commondreams.org*.

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