

JUSTICE THROUGH THEIR EYES: THE LEGAL JOURNEY OF RELEASED PRISONERS OF THE RWANDAN GENOCIDE



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Yolande Bouka is part of a small group of emerging young scholars on social justice, power, and resistance in the African Great Lakes Region. Bouka's work investigates the reintegration of released prisoners of the Rwandan genocide and analyzes their experiences in the transitional justice system. Her research aims to understand how power relations in transitional justice mechanisms allow the state to control and structure conceptions of criminality, justice, and truth. In the course of her research, she spent four months interviewing released prisoners of the Rwandan genocide. She completed a master's degree in international relations from the School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University, where she specialized in global

health and security and placed a particular focus on issues related to HIV/AIDS prevalence in African militaries and humanitarian interventions. While completing her degree, she worked as an adjunct faculty in the Modern Languages Department, served as an intern for the Africa program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies; worked as a research associate for the Public International Law and Policy Group; and had the pleasure to work for the U.S. Institute of Peace in their Rule of Law Department. Bouka received a BA in both international studies and French with a minor in Middle East studies from Brigham Young University. She and her husband, Koffi, and their son Elijah live in Washington, D.C.