

**Scott Kloeck-Jenson International Internship Fellowship
Report from Summer 2019**

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With support from the 2019 SKJ International Internship Fellowship, I spent three months in the United Kingdom to conduct archival research on the British policing of gender and sexuality in colonial East Africa, and to learn firsthand about the process of seeking asylum in the UK today. This summer allowed me to investigate the availability and quality of data sources, which will serve as a strong foundation for planning the next year of my dissertation fieldwork and writing the first chapters of my dissertation. I located key colonial administrative records, police ethics and training manuals, and prison logs that informed the first chapter of my dissertation, which I presented at a conference right after this fieldwork in the UK.

The most relevant material to my research was housed at the UK National Archives, the London University Institute of Commonwealth Studies, the Senate House Library and Archives, and the British Library. Many of the colonial documents, such as those in the “Migrated Archive,” a collection of 20,000 government files that were sent to the Colonial Office before countries’ independence, could only be accessed in the archives’ reading rooms. Online catalogues typically excluded items before a certain date as well (e.g., the UK National Archives omits items before 1926). Therefore, being able to physically visit these collections allowed me to identify and access critical material for my research that I otherwise could not access. I also gained informative material from exhibits at the City of London Police Museum, the Imperial War Museum, and the British Museum.

While in the UK, I also worked at a human rights organization that supports LGBTQ+ and other marginalized individuals claiming asylum, experiencing discrimination, and seeking justice. At this organization, I collaborated with local and internationally renowned human rights advocates, attended restorative justice trainings, managed casework for people seeking asylum and experiencing discrimination, connected and supported individuals over email and in person, and assisted with the planning of events to aid in asylum cases, including London Pride. I learned invaluable insights while working to support individuals seeking asylum due to their gender identity and/or sexual orientation. Despite recent waves of legal reforms ushering in rights and protections, gender and sexual minorities still experience violence around the world.

Support from the generous SKJ Fellowship allowed me to complete this foundational stage in my dissertation research and gave me the important opportunity to support individuals implicated in the systems of privilege and oppression that I study. I am indebted to the generous gifts that made this possible. I hope to continue to offer my own knowledge and experience with these injustices to advocate alongside others and transform broader global systems of power.