Citizenship and Medicine

My interest lies in the intersections of medical science and citizenship within Latin America and the Caribbean.

My research will explore how meanings of hygienic citizenship were renegotiated by international health organisations as philanthropic bodies ceased funding global public health ventures.

I will explore how international health organizations mined the language of colonialism to invest Caribbean bodies with properties making them amenable to control.

Yaws Disease, Hygienic Citizenship and International Health in Haiti and Jamaica, 1914-1970

Yaws Disease

My research will explore how bodily deformity was repeatedly conceptualised in terms of native ‘irrationality’ within colonial, philanthropic and WHO endeavours to eradicate yaws disease.

I will explore how the dissemination of biomedical knowledge promoted an individualism which encouraged Haitians and Jamaicans to actively renegotiate the parameters of national citizenships based on adherence to ‘rational’ public health habits.

Future Research

At doctoral level, I will continue to explore the rise of chronic disorders within the politico-economic agendas of international health agencies. I will focus on renegotiations of Central American citizenship instigated by U.S.-led endeavours to combat malnutrition in the region from 1930 to 1977.

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