**MITALI THAKOR**

Assistant Professor

Science in Society Program

Wesleyan University

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EXPERIENCE

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| *2018 -* | **Wesleyan University** |
| *2016-2018* | **Northwestern University**  Postdoctoral Fellow, Sexualities Project at Northwestern (SPAN)  Department of Anthropology and Program in Gender & Sexuality Studies |
| *2010-2016* | **Massachusetts Institute of Technology** |
|  | **Ph.D., Program in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology & Society**  ***"Algorithmic Detectives Against Child Trafficking: Data, Entrapment, and the New Global Policing Network”***  **Committee: Heather Paxson, Michael Fischer, Graham Jones, and Mary L. Gray** |
| *2005-2009* | **Stanford University** |
|  | B.A. Anthropology with Honors, B.A. Feminist Studies with Honors  Michelle Rosaldo Prize for Social Science Research in Gender & Sexuality Studies |

AWARDS

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| **2018** | Center for the Humanities Fellowship, Wesleyan University |
| **2018** | Faculty Research Grant, Northwestern Undergraduate Research Program |
| **2016** | Finalist, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (APLA) student paper prize |
| **2016** | Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (awarded/declined) |
| **2016** | Siegel Essay Prize for Science & Technology Studies, MIT university-wide contest |
| **2015** | HASTS Siegel Teaching Prize for "Human Trafficking & Modern-Day Slavery" |
| **2015** | Kelly Douglas Fund and MIT Graduate Student Council Traveling Fellowships |
| **2014-2016** | **Hugh Hampton Young Memorial Fund Research Fellowship, MIT** |
| **2015** | MIT Karl Taylor Compton Prize (highest student honor) |
| 2015 | Woodrow Wilson Foundation Dissertation Fellowship in Women's & Gender Studies |
| **2014-2015** | **Harvard Berkman Center for Internet & Society Research Fellowship** |
| **2013-2015** | **NSF Doctoral** Dissertation Research Grant, STS Division |
| **2013** | **Futures Without Violence, National Campus Leader** |
| **2012** | NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention |
| **2010-2012** | MIT Presidential Fellowship |

RESEARCH & WRITING

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| ***Book Project*** | Facing the Child (Solicited, *Duke U Press*, *U Minnesota Press, MIT Press*) |
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***Journal Articles (Published and In Preparation)***

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| *In Preparation* | Policing Child Exploitation Across Digital Territory. STHV: Science, Technology, and Human Values. Series on “Cybersecurity and Digital Territory: Nation, Identity, and Citizenship.” (in preparation; editors Winnie Poster and Norma Möllers) |
| 2018 | Digital Apprehensions: Policing, Child Pornography, and the Algorithmic Management of Innocence. Catalyst. Series on “Whiteness and Technoculture” (compilation of 4S 2017 panel with Neda Atanasoski, Lilly Irani, Patrick Keilty, Lilly Nguyen, Felicity Schaeffer-Gabriel, and Kalindi Vora) |
| 2017 | "Genealogies and Futures of Queer Science and Technology Studies." Co-authored with Stephen Molldrem. Special issue on "Science Out of Feminist Theory," Ed. Banu Subramanian and Angie Willey. CATALYST: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience 3(1): 1-15. |
|  | How to Look: Apprehension, Forensic Craft, and the Classification of Child Exploitation Images. IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Apr-June, pp. 6-8. |
| 2016 | Book Review of *Trafficked Children and Youth in the United States: Imagining Survivors*,by Elżbieta M. Goździak. Refuge: Canada’s Journal on Refugees*,* 32:3, pp. 150-151. |
| 2013 | Networked Trafficking: Reflections on Technology and the Anti-Trafficking Movement. Co-authored with danah boyd (Microsoft Research). Dialectical Anthropology, Special Issue on "Anti- Anti-Trafficking," 37:2, pp. 277-290. |

***Chapter Contributions***

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| *In Preparation* | “Recognition is Pleasure.” Your Computer is On Fire!, ed. Thomas Mullaney. Marie Hicks, Ben Peters, and Kavita Philip. (Stanford University Press) |
|  | “Deception by Design: Carceral Lures and Interventions into Child Sexual Exploitation.” Captivating Technology: Reimagining Race, Resistance, and Carceral Technoscience, ed. Ruha Benjamin (Duke University Press) |
| 2017 | “The Allure of Artifice.” Queer Feminist Science Studies: A Reader. Ed. Cyd Cipolla, Kristina Gupta, David A. Rubin, Angela Willey. Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press. Pp. 141-156. |

***Policy Publications***

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| 2015 | “Problematizing the Dominant Discourse on Children & the Internet,” |
|  | Article commissioned by Association for Progressive Communications for Global Information Society Watch, special issue on "Sexual Rights & the Internet." Presented at 10th annual meeting of the Internet Governance Forum 2015 in João Pessoa, Brazil. |

***Web-Based Publications***

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| 2014 | “Between Protection & Privacy: Anti-Trafficking & Data Science”  UN Action for Cooperation Against Trafficking in Persons, Bangkok, Thailand |
| 2012 | Human Trafficking & Technology: A Framework for Understanding the Role of Technology in the Commercial Exploitation of Children in U.S.  Co-authored with danah boyd, Heather Casteel, and Rane S. Johnson. Microsoft Research Human Trafficking Project. Cambridge, MA and Redmond, WA |

TEACHING

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| Fall 2019 | Introduction to Science as Culture, Wesleyan University |
|  | **Skin, State, Sex, Software: Surveillance & Society**, Wesleyan University, Freshman Seminar |
| Spring 2018 | **Sex and Surveillance**, Northwestern University. Cross-listed under Anthropology and Gender & Sexuality Studies |
| Fall 2017 | **Queer Robotics: Cyborgs in Science Fiction and Anthropology**, Northwestern University. Cross-listed under Anthropology and Gender & Sexuality Studies |
| Spring 2017 | **Risky Borders: Sex, Race, Surveillance, and Techniques of Border Control**, Northwestern University, Cross-listed under Anthropology and Gender & Sexuality Studies |
| Winter 2017 | **Queer Robotics: Cyborgs in Science Fiction and Anthropology,** Northwestern University. Cross-listed under Anthropology and Gender & Sexuality Studies |
| Spring 2015 | **Slavery and Human Trafficking in the 21st Century**  Designed syllabus and taught an undergraduate seminar with 19 students on feminist studies of trafficking, labor exploitation, capitalism, and sex work. Cross-listed under MIT Anthropology and MIT Women’s & Gender Studies. Open to MIT and Wellesley College undergraduates. Awarded MIT STS Siegel Teaching Prize by faculty and student nomination. Published on MIT OpenCourseWare: http://tinyurl.com/traffickingMIT |
| Fall 2013 | **The Anthropology of Capitalism (Teaching Assistant)**  Instructor Prof. Christine Walley, MIT Anthropology. Advising/Grading role. |
| Spring 2013 | **The Stakes of International Development (Teaching Assistant)**  Instructor Prof. Christine Walley, MIT Anthropology. Teaching/Advising role. |
| Spring 2012 | **Introduction to Anthropology (Teaching Assistant)**  Instructor Prof. Graham Jones, MIT Anthropology. Teaching/Advising role. |
| Fall 2011 | **Language and Technology (Teaching Assistant)**  Instructor Prof. Graham Jones, MIT Anthropology. Advising/Grading role. |

# INVITED TALKS

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| Nov 2018 | Situated Knowledges Symposium, UC Berkeley |
| March 2018 | Your Computer is On Fire, Special Interest Group for Computing, Information and Society (SIGCIS), Stanford University |
| Sept 2017 | University of Michigan Bicentennial Symposium on the Digital Future, Invited speaker, Ann Arbor, Michigan |
| March 2017 | **Digital Vigilantism and the Pleasure of Outing Pedophiles**, Invited talk at California Institute for Integral Studies, San Francisco, CA |
| March 2017 | **“Command Lines: Software, Power, and Performance,”** Invited panelist at meeting for Special Interest Group for Computing, Information and Society (SIGCIS) of Society for the History of Technology, Computer History Museum, Mountain View, CA |
| Feb 2017 | **“Queer STS, Sex Trafficking, and Digital Media**,” Invited panelist at Queer Internet Studies Symposium, hosted by Jessa Lingel and Jack Gieseking, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA |
| Oct 2016 | **“Algorithmic Detectives, Artifice, and Entrapment in the Digital Porno-Tropics,”**  Buffett Institute Faculty and Fellows Colloquium, Northwestern University, IL |
| Feb 2016 | **"Making Sweetie: Artificiality, Digital Sex Decoys, and Virtual Policing"**  "Feminist and Queer Perspectives on the Computational Turn" seminar series, Bates College, Lewiston, ME |
| Oct 2015 | **"Avatar Design and the Policing of Child Exploitation Online"**  Feminist STS Initiative, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Amherst, MA |
| June 2015 | **"Toward Critical Feminist Technology Studies of Youth Safety"**  Harvard Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Cambridge, MA |
| Oct 2013 | **"Carceral Feminism and Child Pornography"** |
|  | Harvard Berkman Cyberscholars Meeting. Cambridge, MA |
| Jan 2013 | **Human Trafficking and Technology Panel**, Invited panelist for Human Trafficking Awareness Day, New England Law School, Boston, MA |
| Oct 2012 | **"Networked Trafficking"** |
|  | Working Group on Human Trafficking & Modern-Day Slavery,  Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, MA |

CONFERENCE PAPERS

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| Nov 2018 | , Panel on Artfir |
| Nov 2018 | **Roundtable, “Whiteness & Technoculture,”** American Studies Association, Atlanta |
| Dec 2017 | **A Feeling for the Image: Content Moderation and Review of Child Pornography**  All Things in Moderation: The People, Practices, and Politics of Online Content Review—Human and Machine, UCLA, CA |
| Nov 2017 | **Queer Robots, Digital Vigilantism, and the Pleasure of Outing Pedophiles**  Panel, “Digital Deception and the Queer Life of Data” at American Anthropological Association Meeting, D.C. |
| Sept 2017 | **Deception by Design: Carceral Lures and Interventions into Child Sexual Exploitation**  Panel, “Captivating Technology: Race, Technoscience, and the Carceral Imagination”  at Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Meeting, Boston |
| Sept 2017 | **Digital Apprehensions: Content Moderation and the Policing of Child Pornography**  Panel on Whiteness and Technoculture at 4S Meeting, Boston |
| Nov 2016 | **Avatars Unbound: Digital Policing, Algorithmic Detectives, and the New Surveillance of Child Sexual Abuse**  Panel, “Policing Un/Bound” at American Anthropological Association Meeting, Minneapolis, MN |
| Sept 2016 | **The New Global Policing Network: Algorithmic Detectives, Artifice, and Entrapment in the Digital Porno-Tropics**  Panel, “Disciplining Unruly Bodies,” at MidweSTS Workshop, Chicago, IL |
| Aug 2016 | **Proximate Evil: Algorithmic Detectives and the New Digital Surveillance of**  **Child Exploitation**  Panel, “Cybersecurity” at 4S Meeting, Barcelona |
| Nov 2015 | **"The Work of Anti-Trafficking"**  Panel, “Activist Politics” at American Anthropological Association Meeting, Denver |
| Nov 2015 | **"'Proactive Policing' of Child Exploitation Online"**  Panel, “Policing Online Identities” at 4S Meeting, Denver, CO |
| April 2015 | **"Queering Science & Technology Studies; Avatars, Algorithms, and the Policing of Child Sexual Abuse Images"**  Panel, “Speculative Visions and Visual Speculations in Art, Film, and Digital Media” at Queer Speculations Conference, Univ. of Maryland. College Park, MD |
| Dec 2014 | **"CGI Pornography, Carcerality, and Queer Viewing"**  Panel, “Digital Media and Visual Ethics,” at American Anthropological Association Meeting. Washington DC |
| Oct 2013 | **"Carceral Feminist Technologies & the Automated Detection of Child Pornography."** Panel, “Feminism & Media Infrastructures,” at Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Meeting. San Diego, CA |
| April 2012 | **"Trafficking Networks & Corporate Social Responsibility"**  Panel, “Regime as Technology,” at Gender, Bodies and Technology Conference. Roanoke, VA |
| Nov 2011 | **"Technosociality, Trafficking Networks, & Corporate Responsibility"**  Panel, “Cunning Tools for Crafting Futures,” at American Anthropological Association Meeting. Montreal, QC, Canada |

ACADEMIC SERVICE

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| April 2018 | **Co-Organizer, Annual Workshop of the Sexualities Project at Northwestern** |
| Aug 2017 | **Co-Organizer of Queer STS Meetup at 4S Conference, Boston, MA** |
| April 2017 | **Co-Organizer, Annual Workshop of the Sexualities Project at Northwestern**  On “Stigma,” featuring keynote speaker Prof. Kane Race. Evanston, IL |
| March 2017 | **National Selection Committee, TheDream.US**  Scholarship and college access program for DREAMer students |
| Aug 2016 | **Co-Organizer of Queer STS Meetup and Roundtable at 4S Conference**  Fundraised and organized second annual Queer STS gatherings at 4S, with 100 attendees, at annual meeting held in Barcelona, Spain. With Stephen Molldrem (University of Michigan American Studies) |
| Nov 2015 | **Co-Organizer of Queer STS Meetup at 4S Conference**  Coordinated and fundraised for first student and early career scholar workshop on Queer STS at annual meeting for the Society for the Social Studies of Science, Denver. |
| Nov 2015 | **Chair of “Materialities of the Digital” panel series, 4S Conference**  Coordinated and co-chaired three-panel session track at annual meeting of 4S, Denver |
| Oct 2015 | Invited Rapporteur for **Data & Civil Rights: A New Era of Policing and Justice**, co-hosted by Data & Society Research Institute, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and Upturn. The Newseum, Washington, DC. |
| Feb 2014 | **Co-Organizer of MIT Symposium on Gender & Technology**  First student and faculty symposium at MIT on Feminist STS research. Presented research paper, "Carceral Biopolitics and the Traffic in Child Pornography" |
| April 2013 | **Organizer of MIT Workshop on Sex Trafficking & Technology**  Lead organizer of first activist-academic symposium at MIT on sex trafficking |
| 2013-Present | **Co-Founder of MIT Working Group on "Digital STS"**  MIT graduate students and early career scholars workshopping and reviewing new literature on digital studies, media theory, Internet studies, and science and technology |
| Jan 2013 | **Faculty Search, World History (South Asian History), Student Representative** |
| Oct 2012 | **Co-Organizer of MIT Workshop on Gender, Technology, & Development**  Convened by MIT Anthropology, D-Lab, and Women’s & Gender Studies |
| Fall 2012 | **Research Assistant, World History Online Course with SUTD**  Compiled syllabi and materials for "The World since 1400," MIT History Department course in partnership with Singapore University of Technology and Design |
| 2011-2013 | **MIT Women's & Gender Studies Steering Committee**  Graduate student representative at meetings on curriculum and event planning |
| 2012-Present | **PLEASURE @ MIT**  Founding member of student peer educator organization on healthy relationships, sexuality, and sexual health. Formerly named SAFER2. Supported by MIT Office of Violence Prevention and Response |
| 2011-2013 | **Graduate Women @ MIT**  Co-President of 1,500-member student-led group to promote personal and professional development and make MIT a more inclusive & supportive community |
| 2011-2013 | **MIT Graduate Resident Tutor**  Resident tutors are live-in mentors and leaders on various health, wellness, and educational issues for undergraduate students. Maseeh Hall is MIT's largest and most diverse student dormitory |

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Anthropological Association, Society for the Social Studies of Science, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology, Association for Feminist Anthropology, Society for Cultural Anthropology, American Studies Association

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Gujarati (oral fluency), Spanish (3 years of instruction; working proficiency), Hindi (2 years of instruction; working proficiency), Thai (six months of instruction; novice)

Professional Birth Doula (Chicago Volunteer Doulas; Third Coast Birth Center)