# Race, Gender, and Capitalism



# Beryl Satter

Professor, Department of HistoryAssociate Professor, Department of HistoryAssistant Professor, Department of History

# **CURRENT RESEARCH**

Uncovering the racism as well as the gender bias underlying financial structures and credit allocation

Why is the term "minority" linked with "low income"? In particular, what explains the ongoing impoverishment of so many urban (and inner-ring suburban) black neighborhoods? What role do inherently racialized and gendered beliefs about enterprise, credit worthiness, debt, development, and entrepreneurial energy play in keeping black communities poor -- especially given that such beliefs, which form the bedrock of legislative policy for Democrats and Republicans, lag far behind the economic realities of our increasingly financialized economic system?

These were the issues confronting the deeply knowledgeable and committed activists who innovated community development banking as a solution to black communities' economic vulnerabilities. Dr. Beryl Satter, Professor of History at Rutgers University, aims to uncover and explain, in clear and engaging language, the complex relationships that existed between racism, sexism, and capitalism in the late 20th century by studying the history of ShoreBank (1973-2010), the bank holding company that pioneered community development banking. Particularly interested in the role of banks and of credit in perpetuating or undercutting racism and sexism, Dr. Satter will elucidate both structural economic conditions and how they impacted and were impacted by ShoreBank's leaders and allies, men and women who tried their best to navigate and transform biased economic policies and practices. By doing so, she hopes to illuminate and ultimately help eliminate barriers to true community development in our contemporary moment.

ShoreBank was founded by a group that included civil rights activists, women's rights activists, progressive bankers and urban planners. It...

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### **AFFILIATION**

Rutgers University

### **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. in American Studies 1992, Yale University
- M.T.S. (Master of Theological Studies) in 1986,Harvard Divinity School
- B.A. in Barnard College 1981,Columbia University

#### **AWARDS**

- Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, 2015
- Bridge to Brick City Award for advocacy on behalf of LGBT Youth in Newark, NJ, 2014
- Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Research, 2011
- J Anthony Lukas Book Prize Finalist, 2010
- National Jewish Book Award, 2010
- and 1 more...

# **RESEARCH AREAS**

Humanities, Economics, History, Sociology

# **FUNDING REQUEST**

Your contributions will help support the continued research of Dr. Beryl Satter at Rutgers University as she conducts intensive research and interviews to uncover the relationship between capitalism and racism. Donations will help cover \$20K/semester for research assistants and time required for gathering research materials and writing. Help illuminate the ways that racism and sexism work to create economic inequality; fund Dr. Satter.

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