SARA E. ABIOLA, PH.D., J.D.
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EDUCATION

Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, PhD, 2011
- Co-Editor, Recent Developments, *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*
- Harvard Graduate Prize Fellowship
- Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching & Learning, Harvard University
- Thesis: Empirical evaluation of politics, public health law, and health outcomes in domestic and international populations

Harvard Law School, JD, 2007
- Fellow, Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology & Bioethics
- Member, Harvard Law & Healthcare Society

Yale University, BA, Psychology and International Studies, 2003
- Double Major, with Distinction

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

The Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA
Associate Teaching Professor, Biobehavioral Health, August 2025–present
- Courses: *Behavior, Health & Disease* (~100 students); *Women's Health Issues* (~30 students); *Health Promotion II* (~50 students)
- Service
    - Biobehavioral Health Scholarship & Awards Committee, 2025–present
    - Keynote Speaker, Penn State Diversity in Healthcare Conference, March 2026

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY
Executive Director and Associate Professor, Laurie M. Tisch Center for Food, Education & Policy, January 2022–September 2022
- Course: *Community Nutrition* (~50 students), Spring 2022
- Directed the Center's research and policy agenda on food, education, and policy in New York City

Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY
Assistant Professor of Health Policy & Management, August 2012–April 2021
- 2013–2020 Courses: *Governance, Law, and Ethics* (~50 students); *Public Health Law* (~80 students)
- 2015–2020 Courses: *Innovations in Health Policy* (~30 students); *Integration of Science and Practice* (~25 students, 2018–2020)
- 2021 Courses: *Advanced Health Policy: Public Policy and the Social Determinants of Health* (~35 students); *Personal Leadership in Public Health* (~20 students); *Food Law and Policy* (~20 students)
- Research
    - Co-Director, The Better Health Systems Lab, January 2018–April 2021, directing three research streams: noncommunicable disease policy surveillance; food policy surveillance and innovation, including legal mapping of SNAP and racial equity frameworks in food systems; and health and social services policy integration.
- Service
    - Faculty Steering Committee, September 2016–August 2019
    - Food Policy Certificate Working Group, September 2018–April 2021
    - Foundations in Public Health Committee, June 2018–May 2019
    - Faculty Search Committee, Department of Health Policy & Management, 2016–2017
    - Incarceration Prevention Working Group, 2012
    - Faculty Co-Facilitator, Department of Health Policy & Management Practicum Day, October 2012–April 2021

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Public Health Law in Context: Public Policy and the Social Determinants of Health (Cognella) (under contract; manuscript due Dec. 2027)

The Corporate Diet: The Unhealthy Consequences of Failed Antitrust Enforcement (Kendall Hunt) (under contract; manuscript due May 2027)

Articles

Multilevel Legal Approaches to Obesity Prevention: A Conceptual and Methodological Framework, 14(10) PLoS ONE e0220971 (2019) (with M.M. Mello)

Obesity Prevention Policies, LawAtlas (2019) (with M.M. Mello)

The Politics of HPV Vaccination Policy Formation in the United States, 38(4) J. Health Pol. Pol'y & L. 645 (2013) (with J. Colgrove & M.M. Mello)

Pharmaceutical Companies' Role in State Vaccination Policymaking: The Case of Human Papillomavirus Vaccination, 102(5) Am. J. Pub. Health 893 (2012) (with M.M. Mello & J. Colgrove)

Evidence-Based Policymaking in a Polarized Context: Can the IPAB Bridge the Gap?, Health Affairs (2012) (with R.J. Blendon & J.M. Benson)

Survey in Sub-Saharan Africa Shows Substantial Support for Government Efforts to Improve Health Services, 30(8) Health Affairs 1478 (2011) (with R. Gonzales, R.J. Blendon & J.M. Benson)

HPV Vaccination Mandates—Lawmaking Amid Political and Scientific Controversy, 363(8) New Eng. J. Med. 785 (2010) (with J. Colgrove & M.M. Mello)

Reports and Shorter Works

New York Food 20/20: Vision, Research, and Recommendations During COVID-19 and Beyond, Hunter College NYC Food Policy Center, Laurie M. Tisch Center for Food, Education & Policy & CUNY Urban Food Policy Institute (Sept. 2020)

The SSTAR Initiative: A Policy Proposal for a Full, Equitable Recovery from COVID-19, Bill of Health, Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School (July 2020) (with Z. Rosen)

Getting Under the Skin: Using Knowledge About Health Inequities to Spur Action, Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at Harvard Law School (May 2010) (with S. Eaton)

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008: "First Major Civil Rights Bill of the Century" Bars Misuse of Genetic Test Results, 36(4) J.L. Med. & Ethics (2008)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Creating the Corporate American Diet: Courts and the Architecture of Externalization (draft on file with author; arguing that judicial opinions about administrative deference, antitrust, and commercial speech have allowed corporate power in the food system to take hold with minimal resistance and externalize the costs of food-related harms).

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Keynote Speaker, *Preventative Care & Healthcare Professionals: Improving Public Health with Law and Public Policy*, Penn State Diversity in Healthcare Conference, State College, PA (Mar. 1, 2026)

Invited Speaker, *AI and Food Systems Innovation: Implications for Food Insecurity and Food Waste*, Yale School of Public Health, New Haven, CT (Feb. 18, 2025)

Presenter, *NY Food 2025: Policy Recommendations for a Stronger, Healthier, More Just, and Sustainable Food System in NYC*, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY (Mar. 16, 2022)

Presenter, *Food Systems, Food Policy, and Public Health*, Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY (July 9, 2020)

Presenter, *Creating Just Food Systems to Advance Equity and Public Health*, Columbia University Institute of Human Nutrition, New York, NY (July 7, 2020)

Presenter, *Testing a New Terminology System for Health and Social Services Integration*, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Systems 4 Action Research-In-Progress Webinar (May 27, 2020) (with M. Laugesen)

Invited Speaker, *The Policy Pathway to Clean Food: Creating Just and Sustainable Food Systems in the Context of Climate Change*, Weill Cornell Medicine David Rogers Health Policy Colloquium, New York, NY (May 6, 2020)

Presenter, *Redefining Nutrition: Food in the Era of Climate Crisis*, Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY (Nov. 19, 2019)

Presenter, *Civil Litigation and Youth Obesity Prevention in the United States*, Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY (Oct. 18, 2019)

Presenter, *The Opioid Epidemic in Legal Context*, Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY (Sept. 17, 2019)

Presenter, *The Role of Law in Promoting Health Equity*, Columbia Summer Health Professionals Education Program, New York, NY (July 10, 2018)

Invited Speaker, *The Role of Law in Promoting Health Equity*, International Symposium on Public Health and Health Equity, Seoul, South Korea (Oct. 30, 2017)

Presenter, *The Role of Law in Promoting Health Equity*, Institute of Human Nutrition, Columbia University, New York, NY (Oct. 16, 2017)

Presenter, *Civil Litigation and Youth Obesity Prevention in the United States*, McCabe Centre for Law and Cancer, Union for International Cancer Control, Melbourne, Australia (Mar. 3, 2016)

Presenter, *First Amendment Rights and NCD Prevention in the US Context*, McCabe Centre for Law and Cancer, Melbourne, Australia (Feb. 25, 2016)

Presenter, *An Empirical Evaluation of Public Health Law Approaches to Youth Overweight and Obesity*, Division of Law, Ethics, and Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, NY (Dec. 7, 2012)

Presenter, *An Empirical Evaluation of Public Health Law Approaches to Youth Overweight & Obesity*, AcademyHealth 2012 Annual Research Meeting, Orlando, FL (June 24, 2012)

Presenter, *An Empirical Evaluation of Public Health Law Approaches to Youth Overweight & Obesity*, 2011 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL (June 2011)

Presenter, *The Politics of HPV Vaccination Policy Formation in the United States*, 26th International Papillomavirus Conference & Clinical Public Health Workshops, Palais des Congrès, Montreal, Canada (July 6, 2010)

Presenter, *The Politics of HPV Vaccination Policy Formation in the States: What's Driving Policy Outcomes?*, AcademyHealth 2010 Annual Research Meeting, Boston, MA (June 28, 2010)

Presenter, *Sex, Drugs and Public Health Law: The Politics of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine Policy in the United States*, PhD in Health Policy Research Seminar, Harvard University, Boston, MA (Sept. 15, 2009)

MEDIA ACTIVITY

Post-Pandemic Food Insecurity, The Brian Lehrer Show WNYC Radio (National Public Radio) (Apr. 2022)

How to Revitalize New York City's Food System Beyond the Pandemic, Gotham Gazette (Mar. 2022)

Expand Food Assistance During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Columbia News (May 2020)

On Coronavirus, China and WHO Show They've Learned Little After 2003 SARS Outbreak, Fox News (Apr. 2020)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Harvest Boxes, CNN en Español (Feb. 2018)

Obesity Series: Advertising, Social Media, and the Obesity Epidemic, The Takeaway WNYC Radio (National Public Radio) (Jan. & Mar. 2017)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

NIH Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health Services Research, National Institute on Drug Abuse, 2017–2021

- *Potential Effects of Marijuana Decriminalization on Social Determinants of Health Among Young Marijuana Users*

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- *A New Terminology System for Health and Social Services Integration*

HPM Faculty Research Support, Better Health Systems Lab, Columbia Mailman School of Public Health
- *Policy Surveillance to Promote Population Health & Health Systems Transformation: Creating an NCD Prevention Policy Index*

Columbia University Provost's Grant for Faculty Who Contribute to the Diversity Goals of the University, 2015–2016

Harvard Dissertation Completion Grant, 2010–2011

Harvard Graduate Prize Fellowship, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 2008–2009

HONORS AND AWARDS

Keynote Speaker, Penn State Diversity in Healthcare Conference, Mar. 2026

Invited Guest, AWS re:Invent, Las Vegas, NV, Nov. 2023

Inaugural "Just Do It" Award, AWS Cloud Institute, Sept. 2023

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Amazon Web Services (AWS) Training & Certification, Senior Manager, Curriculum Development & Delivery, Washington, DC, 2022–2024
- Led 40+ person global curriculum development and delivery team to build AWS cloud technical training and certification programs with introduction to artificial intelligence (AI).

Open Society Institute & Soros Foundation Network, Law & Policy Consultant, New York, NY, 2008
- Researched and wrote memoranda advising Law and Health Initiative team on judicial interpretation of limitation clauses on fundamental human rights as they appear in national constitutions and international and regional covenants.

Clifford Chance LLP, Summer Associate, Washington, DC, Summer 2005
- Drafted memoranda advising clients regarding: compliance with Security Exchange Commission rulings; protection of assets in the context of government contracts; maintaining non-profit status.

OTHER TEACHING

Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA
Teaching Fellow, Spring 2008 & Spring 2009
- Course taught: *Public Health Law* (~45 students)

Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, MA
Teaching Fellow, September 2007–December 2007
- Course taught: *Inequalities in Health Care* (~60 students)

COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Professional Memberships
- The Network for Public Health Law, 2012–present
- Society for Empirical Legal Studies, 2011–present
- American Society for Law, Medicine, and Ethics, 2016–present
- Society for Prevention Research, 2016–present
- The Obesity Society, 2020–present

Service and Mentorship
- World Health Organization Violence Prevention Alliance, 2016–2021
- National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine, 2019
- Columbia Emerging Women's Leadership Team, Faculty Advisor and Boot Camp Leader, 2018

- Racial Health Disparities Panel, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, Faculty Moderator, April 2017
- HPM Healthcare Conference, Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, Faculty Moderator, April 2016
- *Public Health Law for Non-Lawyer Public Health Professionals*, McCabe Centre for Law and Cancer, program developer, March 2016