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My research interests center on law and society and gender and women's studies. More specifically I am interested in how law and policy development and processes of globalization impact women's lives. International laws and conventions to protect the rights of different groups are sometimes not honored at the national level, where some groups lack legal rights. Yet national level policies such as welfare, labor, or immigration law, may reinforce inequalities based on distinction such a race, class, gender, and nation of origin. My current dissertation research focuses on the intersections between constructions of criminality and belonging, immigration policy and law, and Mexican origin immigrant women's lives in the Chicago area.