

# ERIN THOMAS

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## EDUCATION

### University of Auckland

M.A. in Development Studies

July 2018 - June 2020

Relevant Coursework:

- Development Praxis
- Development Policies and Institutions
- Gender and Development

Thesis: Gender-based Violence in Niue:  
Challenges and Opportunities in  
Assessing GBV in Small Pacific Islands

NZ MFAT Field Research Award Winner  
International Student Scholarship Winner  
Arts Masters Student Scholarship Winner

### American University

B.A. in International Studies

May 2018

GPA: 3.9/4.0

Relevant Coursework:

- Peace and Social Justice
- Gender and Violence
- Cross-Cultural Communications
- Leadership Development Lab

Coca-Cola Scholar 2015  
AXA Achievement Scholar 2015

## LANGUAGE

English (fluent/native)

Spanish (working proficiency)

Vagahau Niue (limited working proficiency)

Te Reo Māori (elementary proficiency)

## EXPERIENCE

### International Center for Advocates Against Discrimination

*Research Coordinator | July 2017 - Present*

- Coordinate partnerships with organizations in the Compact of Free Association states and Guam
- Led field research on gender-based violence in Niue from design to publication and presentation
- Co-facilitated a Train the Trainers workshop in Fiji on sexual harassment policies in the workplace
- Connect with stakeholders in the Pacific for international human rights reports

### Climate Adaption in Post-Disaster Recovery Processes, Fiji

*Research Assistant | November 2018 - August 2019*

- Led field work in Ba, Fiji with semi-structured interviews in 36 households on climate adaptation strategies
- Conducted thematic data analysis using Atlas.ti
- Wrote up data analysis and historical background for publication for the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

### No Means No Worldwide

*Research Intern | January 2018 - May 2018*

- Collaborate to assess the impact of anti-sexual violence programs that engage men and boys
- Analyze and report on the latest anti-sexual violence programs and research

### Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project

*Program Assistant | December 2016 - February 2017*

- Published a guide for advocates on GBV in the A/PI community with the Asian/Pacific Islander GBV Institute
- Led community outreach with 4 new Pacific Islander organizations in the greater DC area

## SELECTED LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES

### **Elevation Weightlifting Club**

*Head Youth Coach | June 2018 - Present*

Coach youth athletes in the fundamentals of Olympic-style weightlifting

- Develop programming to meet the needs of specific athletes

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### **Connecting Bias to Violence: How Bias Shapes Judicial Decisions in Gender-based Violence Cases**

*Collaborating author, under review | 2019*

- To be published by Sisters for Change with the International Center for Advocates Against Discrimination

### **The Politics of Development in Palau**

*Author, published | 2019*

- The International Journal of Development Issues. Vol. 18, No. 2

### **Framing Gender-based Violence and the Climate Crisis in the Pacific Islands**

*Collaborating author, under review | 2019*

- To be published in Open Global Rights

### **Compacts of Free Association in FSM, RMI, and Palau: Implications for the 2023-2024 Renewal Negotiations**

*Author, published | 2019*

- Published in the Human Rights Brief

### **Is Planned Relocation a Viable Solution to Climate Change Adaptation Policy in Fiji?**

*Collaborating author, published and presented | 2018*

- Funded by the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research

### **Gender-based Violence in the Pacific Islands: A Guide to Case Law Analysis of Judicial Sentencing Practices**

*Collaborating author, published | 2017*

- International Center for Advocates Against Discrimination

### **Assessing Gender-based Violence in Niue**

*Author, published | November 2017*

- International Center for Advocates Against Discrimination

### **Universal Periodic Review Stakeholder Report: Tuvalu**

*Author, published | July 2017*

- International Center for Advocates Against Discrimination

### **Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in the Pacific Islander Community**

*Author, published | July 2017*

- Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project
- Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-based Violence