Beacon Press Publishes “Finding Fernanda”

“Finding Fernanda,” Schuster Institute Senior Fellow Erin Siegal’s narrative portrayal of a Guatemalan family’s struggle to reunite with their daughter, reveals fraud and corruption in international adoption between Guatemala and the United States.

Dogged Reporting By An Independent Journalist

For four years Schuster Institute Senior Fellow Hella Winston’s reporting in The New York Jewish Week kept visible the issue of child sexual abuse in ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities and the failures of religious officials and the Brooklyn District Attorney’s office to hold perpetrators accountable. The New York Times builds on her reporting in a front page two-part series that began yesterday.
Other News

Upcoming & Recent Appearances

May 15, 2012. Schuster Institute Senior Fellow Erin Siegal will speak about child trafficking, adoption fraud in Guatemala, and her book “Finding Fernanda” at the Institute of the Americas, La Jolla, Calif. Register>

May 6–9, 2012. Schuster Institute Senior Fellow E. Benjamin Skinner introduced the panel discussion “Slavery in the Shadows” at the Oslo Freedom Forum on May 8. The panel includes leading experts on modern-day slavery Somaly Mam, Jean-Robert Cadet, Urmila Chaudhary, Kimmie Weeks, and Schuster Institute Advisory Board member, actress and advocate Julia Ormond. The panel was designed to shine “a spotlight on global slavery and human trafficking, featuring testimony from former slaves and the world’s leading activists.”

May 8, 2012. Schuster Institute Senior Fellows Karen Coates and Jerry Redfern left for Southeast Asia to continue their reporting on the devastating impact on Laos of thousands of bombs dropped by the United States during the Vietnam War but that failed to explode on impact.


Awards

Schuster Institute Senior Fellow Erin Siegal has been honored for her work on “Finding Fernanda” by the Overseas Press Club of America with a Robert Spiers Benjamin Award Citation, by the Society of Professional Journalists (No. Calif.) with a James Madison Award, and by the Independent Publishers Book Award with a Gold IPPY.

Schuster Institute Senior Fellow Madeline Drexler and Fellow Rebekah Cowell win Sigma Delta Chi Awards from the Society of Professional Journalists. Press release>

Profiles

Florence Graves, Schuster Institute Founding Director, was featured in “Investigating Power,” a new online presentation of 26 prominent investigative journalists, their independent reporting, and its value to society.

Commentary

“Don’t Adopt from Ethiopia,” by Schuster Institute Senior Fellow E.J. Graff, May 3, 2012, The
"Commentary: Did slaves catch your seafood?" by Schuster Institute Researcher Sophie Elsner, April 12, 2012, GlobalPost.

Reporting


Who we are:

The Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism at Brandeis University, founded in 2004, is the nation's first nonprofit investigative reporting center based at a university, and the only one with a central focus on social justice and human rights.

Watch Brandeis University's video about the Schuster Institute.