

William Johnson

Field: Law and International Studies

Project Title: Corruption and Impunity in Pakistan

Affiliated Institution: University of Oregon

Abstract:

How do corruption and impunity act as barriers to the implementation of law in Pakistan, and what, if any, correlations can be drawn between levels of corruption and impunity and levels of violence? The goal of this research is to understand Pakistani corruption in a culturally sensitive context while simultaneously comparing it to other seemingly different countries with similar corruption problems. This project builds upon my ongoing research of legal corruption and impunity in El Salvador, and it will further the attempt to reframe these problems as not simply economic inefficiencies impeding development. By framing corruption and impunity as inherently legal problems that cut across all regions of the world, lawyers, scholars, and policy makers can create and implement more successful (and much needed) anti-corruption initiatives. Finally, this project will help promote cross-cultural understanding and partnership between Pakistan and the U.S. in an increasingly volatile moment in our collective history.