

Isha Mehmood
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EDUCATION

American University, Washington D.C.

Expected May 2010

Masters of Science, Justice, Law, & Society

- American University Merit Graduate Study Award, 2008-2010
- CAIR Rosa Parks Civil Liberties Scholarship Recipient
- Graduate Teaching Assistant; Course: Violence and Institutions, The Deprivation of Liberty

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

December 2007

Bachelor of Arts, Communication, Magna Cum Laude

Bachelor of Science, Sociology, Magna Cum Laude

- Phi Beta Kappa, Kappa Omicron Nu Honor Society, Ronald E. McNair Scholar, Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Washington, DC (January 2009- Present)

Intern

- Assist the team with media monitoring and research on relevant civil rights issues
- Responsible for writing articles for Civilrights.org
- Track key legislation on civil rights law and attend congressional hearings and briefings

National Religious Campaign Against Torture, Washington, DC (September 2008-Present)

Intern

- Lobby congressional representatives for legislative reform ending the practice of U.S. sponsored torture and calling for an investigation into U.S. interrogation practices
- Assisted in drafting voter guides on candidate positions for 2008 elections and organize religious congregations and supporters in distributing to constituents

Burness Communications, Bethesda, MD (January 2008 – August 2008)

Communications Coordinator, Health Policy Team

- Assisted the team with media monitoring, media outreach, and research for several clients focused on making progress with respect to cost, quality, and access to health care
- Responsible for newsletter articles for three clients and pitching study releases and events to reporters
- Provided administrative and planning support for high profile events

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Blanket the District, Washington, DC (November 2008- Present)

Co-Founder and Director of Communications

- Co-founded a nonprofit organization committed to collecting and distributing blankets to the homeless in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area
- Responsible for organizing local and individual sponsors and all external communication
- Collected more than 200 blankets in its first year and distributed directly to individuals on the streets

Human Rights & Fair Trade Alternative Break Program, American University, Guatemala (December 29, 2008- January 10, 2009)

- Met with human rights groups, prominent activists, and other organizations that have direct contact with abuse victims and violators
- Spent four days living and working on a Fair Trade and organic certified coffee cooperative owned by ex-guerrilla combatants from Guatemala's civil war and their families