

SMITH COLLEGE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (FALL 2023)  
2023 Internship Project Description

**(Send to Alex Capobianco [REDACTED])**

Name of Smithsonian Staff Mentor(s): Shannon Perich

Title of Smithsonian Staff Mentor(s): Curator

Phone Number(s): [REDACTED]

Email Address(es): [REDACTED]

Museum/Institute/Office: National Museum of American History

Department/Division/Office (if applicable): Photographic History Collection

Project Title (must be ONSITE): Research Assistant

Project Description – *Please provide as much detail as possible. What will the intern learn? How will this internship benefit the intern and your unit? Please also include any relevant background information on the function of your unit, department, or office:*

**Participate in directed research with the curator. Depending on the state of curator's projects in fall 2023, intern will either contribute to research, writing, collections identification, and suggestions for potential acquisitions related to existing collecting plan related to taboos and photography (gender as seen in photography collections, intimacy and aging, HIV/AIDS, women's reproductive health).**

-Learning Objectives:

- Participate and contribute to an ongoing project; balancing existing project status and goals with personal contributions and idea.
- Learn about the complex ways in which potential collection acquisitions are made in relationship to existing photography collections, other museum collections, and curatorial interests.
- Research and write about different kinds of taboos and their varied relationships to photographs and the function of photography.

- Generally, learn about collections planning related to storage space, existing and new scholarship, and museum goals.
- Explore questions of ethics and gender related to collecting photography