

Please join #AltAc's meet and greet with its next rock star: Dr. Jen Peirce

“THERE'S NO NEED TO CHOOSE, PLAYING IN ALL THE SANDBOXES”

Dr. Peirce has done it all – and we mean all. She's worked in government, multilateral, academic, and nonprofit organizations. And, she has a tip: you, too, can do it all. Join Dr. Peirce as she talks about her journey as a writer, researcher, and human rights activist, and offers a few hot takes for graduate students who might be interested in taking the (more lucrative) road less traveled.

Keywords: Non-profit research, think tank, consulting, international work, soft money

Dr. Jennifer Peirce is a senior research associate at the Vera Institute of Justice, where she leads mixed-methods research on ways to reduce criminalization and the use of jails, especially at the local/county level. She is also a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Toronto. Jennifer completed her PhD in criminal justice at John Jay College / the CUNY Graduate Center in 2021. Her dissertation analyzed incarcerated people's perceptions of prison reforms and conditions in the Dominican Republic. Previously, Jennifer worked for over a decade in the international development sector, with NGOs in Central America, the Canadian foreign ministry, and the Inter-American Development Bank, mainly on human rights, crime, and violence issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. She has continued to work as a part-time consultant in this field and is a co-founder of the Americas Prisons Research Network. Jennifer's writing appears in academic journals, policy reports, and media outlets, including *Foreign Affairs* and *Insight Crime*.

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Resources Shared by Dr. Peirce

<https://beyondprof.com/how-to-write-a-resume-when-you-have-an-academic-cv/>

<https://www.vera.org/downloads/publications/a-technical-guide-to-jail-data-analysis-report.pdf>