Mary Bosworth is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Wesleyan University in Connecticut. She has published extensively on a number of different aspects of imprisonment. Her first book, *Engendering Resistance: Agency and Power in Women’s Prisons* (1999), analyzes contemporary women’s imprisonment in England in light of feminist theory. In contrast, her second book, *The U.S. Federal Prison System* (2002), is designed as a resource for prisoners and their families as well as prisons researchers and practitioners. In it, Bosworth combines academic literature with government reports and firsthand prisoner accounts to explain and analyze key aspects of the federal prison system.

In addition to these two books, Bosworth has published numerous journal articles and book chapters on topics from the history of women’s imprisonment in France to methodological issues in prisons research. She is currently coediting (with Jeanne Flavin) a collection of essays on race, gender, and punishment that will be published in 2005.

After finishing her PhD at the University of Cambridge in 1997, Bosworth started working in the United States in the Sociology and Anthropology Department at Fordham University in New York City. In 2002, she moved to the Sociology Department at Wesleyan University. She has been a visiting library fellow at the School of Criminal Justice at Rutgers University and a visiting scholar at the Maison Suger in Paris. In the summer of 2004, she was a visiting scholar at the Crime Research Centre at the University of Western Australia, and at the Institute d’études européennes at the Université de Montréal, where she conducted a comparative study of the detention of immigrants and foreigners in light of recent legislation. In fall 2004, she became a visiting scholar at the Oxford University Centre for Socio-legal Studies and at Wolfson College to continue this research. In December 2003, Mary Bosworth gave birth to her first child, Ella Michal Bosworth-Gerbino.