

## PILP Stipend Summary – Meg Heaton

This summer I worked for the International Labor Rights Fund, a non-profit in Washington D.C. which advocates for workers' rights in developing countries. A large part of ILRF's work is litigating human rights abuses committed by American multinational corporations (or, more often than not, their subsidiaries). Our clients face a tremendous obstacle in the form of obtaining jurisdiction in U.S. court over the parent corporations for whose benefit these abuses are perpetrated. Hence, a large part of my responsibilities focused on researching theories of liability which could bring parent corporations within U.S. jurisdiction for liability for their acts overseas. Although this might sound dry and boring, I think it cuts straight to the bone of important questions about what kinds of protection corporations expect from our laws, and whether those expectations are legitimate in the face of a rapidly globalizing economy. Thank you, PILP, for giving me the opportunity to explore these issues, and to allowing me to play a small part in the development of human rights law.