



Teri Polo

⚠ This is an **old revision** of this page, as edited by **47.34.144.161** (talk) at 00:15, 13 July 2017 (→*Early life*). The present address (URL) is a **permanent link** to this revision, which may differ significantly from the **current revision**.

Theresa Elizabeth "Teri" Polo (born June 1, 1969) is an American actress. She starred as Pam Byrnes-Focker in the *Meet the Parents* trilogy (2000–2010). She was one of the stars of the sitcom *I'm with Her* (2003–2004), had a recurring role as Helen Santos on the political drama series *The West Wing* (2005–2006) and currently plays the lead role of police officer Stef Adams Foster in the ABC Family series *The Fosters* (2013–present).

Early life

Polo was born Theresa Elizabeth Polo in Dover, Delaware. Her mother, Jane (née Gentry), is a homemaker, and her father, Vincent Polo, is a stereo systems designer.^[1] She studied ballet for 13 years beginning at age five. By age 13, she was attending New York's *School of American Ballet*. After winning a modeling contest, she moved to New York City at the age of seventeen to pursue an acting career

Career

Polo's acting debut was in *TV 101*. She also starred in the 1990 miniseries *The Phantom of the Opera* as Christine Daae. Polo became a regular cast member on the last season of *Northern Exposure*. She later played Detective Ash on the TV series

Brimstone. She appeared in a recurring guest role in the sixth and seventh seasons of *The West Wing* playing the role of *Helen Santos*, the wife of Democratic presidential candidate *Matt Santos* (Jimmy Smits).

In February 2005, Polo not only appeared on the cover, but posed naked in *Playboy*. The appearance was linked to the release of *Meet the Fockers*, with cover text that made similar plays on words such as "She's one hot Focker". She was ranked #40 on the *Maxim* Hot 100 Women of 2002.^[2] She was also featured in *InStyle*. She also starred in the Lifetime Movie Network 2006 movie, *Legacy of Fear*. In 2007, she starred in a Hallmark Channel movie "Love Is A Four Letter Word". In 2009, she starred in the feature film *2:13* and the Hallmark Channel TV movie *Expecting a Miracle* with Jason Priestley and Cheech Marin. That same year she also starred in *The Beacon* (2009).^[3]

Teri Polo



Polo in April 2014

Born	Theresa Elizabeth Polo <div>June 1, 1969</div> <div>Dover, Delaware, U.S.</div>
Occupation	Actress
Years active	1986–present
Spouse	Anthony Moore (m. 1997–2005)
Partner	Jamie Wollam (2007–2012)
Children	2

She was in the 2009 television pilot for *Washington Field*. The show was about the National Capital Response Squad, a unit of the FBI composed of elite experts in different areas who travel around the world, responding to events that concern American interest. In 2010, Polo reprised her role as Pam Focker in *Little Fockers*, the sequel to *Meet the Parents* (2000) and *Meet the Fockers* (2004). She appeared in the 1980s-styled horror fantasy film, *The Hole*. She currently is in the ABC Family series *The Fosters*.^[4] Polo plays San Diego police officer Stef Adams Foster, a mother to three children (one from a previous marriage) and the wife of Lena Adams Foster (Sherri Saum), along with the two being foster parents to two children.

Polo has guest-starred on many TV shows, including *The Practice*, *Felicity*, *Chicago Hope*, *Numb3rs*, *Sports Night*, *Frasier*, *Ghost Whisperer*, *Medium*, *Law & Order: LA*, *Castle* and *Criminal Minds*.

Personal life

In April 1997, Polo married photographer Anthony Moore. They have a son together, Griffin (born 2002). In 2005, Polo and Moore divorced.

In 2006, while on the set of a video, Polo met drummer Jamie Wollam (of the bands Avion, Venice and recently Drake Bell). They have a daughter together, Bayley (born 2007). The couple separated sometime in 2012.^[5]

In April 2014, Polo filed for bankruptcy, declaring less than \$50,000 in assets and debts in excess of \$800,000.^{[6][7]}

Filmography

Film

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1991	<i>Born to Ride</i>	Beryl Ann Devers	
1991	<i>Mystery Date</i>	Geena Matthews	
1992	<i>Passed Away</i>	Rachel Scanlan	
1993	<i>Aspen Extreme</i>	Robin Hand	
1993	<i>Quick</i>	Quick	
1993	<i>The House of the Spirits</i>	Rosa del Valle	
1994	<i>Golden Gate</i>	Cynthia	
1996	<i>The Arrival</i>	Char	
2000	<i>Meet the Parents</i>	Pam Byrnes	
2001	<i>The Unsaid</i>	Barbara Lonigan	
2001	<i>Domestic Disturbance</i>	Susan	
2003	<i>Straight From the Heart</i>	Jordan Donovan	
2003	<i>Beyond Borders</i>	Charlotte Jordan	
2004	<i>Meet the Fockers</i>	Pam Byrnes-Focker	
2007	<i>Full of It</i>	Mrs. Moran	
2009	<i>2:13</i>	Amanda Richardson	
2009	<i>The Hole</i>	Susan	
2009	<i>The Beacon</i>	Bryn Shaw	
2010	<i>Little Fockers</i>	Pam Focker	
2012	<i>Beyond</i>	Sarah Noble	
2012	Christmas Angel		
2013	<i>Final Recourse</i>	Brooke Holton	
2013	<i>The Last Session</i>	Elizabeth Queen	Short film
2014	<i>Authors Anonymous</i>	Colette Mooney	
2014	<i>A Bit of Bad Luck</i>	Amanda	
2014	<i>Mr Maple Leaf</i>	Alex	Short film
2015	<i>Blood Shy</i>	Liz Steadman	Post-production
2016	<i>Outlaws and Angels</i>	Ada Tildon	

Television

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1986	<i><u>Loving</u></i>	Kristin Larsen	TV series
1988–1989	<i><u>TV 101</u></i>	Amanda Hampton	13 episodes
1990	<i><u>The Phantom of the Opera</u></i>	Christine Daaé	TV movie
1990	<i>People Like Us</i>	Justine Altemus Slatkin	TV movie
1994	<i><u>Due South</u></i>	Stephanie Cabot	Episode: "They Eat Horses, Don't They?"
1994	<i><u>Tales from the Crypt</u></i>	Sheila	Episode: "Revenge Is the Nuts"
1994–1995	<i><u>Northern Exposure</u></i>	Michelle Schodowski Capra	15 episodes
1995	<i><u>Chicago Hope</u></i>	Nurse Sarah Jane Petty	Episode: "Heartbreak"
1996	<i><u>Full Circle</u></i>	Tana Roberts	TV movie
1997	<i>Van Helsing Chronicles</i>	Helena Harker	TV movie
1997	<i>A Prayer in the Dark</i>	Janet Hayworth	TV movie
1997	<i><u>House of Frankenstein</u></i>	Grace Dawkins	TV movie
1998	<i>Texarkana</i>		TV movie
1998	<i><u>A Father for Brittany</u></i>	Kim Lussier	TV movie
1998	<i><u>The Outer Limits</u></i>	Sally McCoy	Episode: " <u>Identity Crisis</u> "
1998	<i>The Marriage Fool (Love After Death)</i>	Susan Prescot	TV movie
1998–1999	<i><u>Brimstone</u></i>	Det. Sgt. Delilah Ash / Ashur Badaktu	6 episodes
1999	<i><u>Sugar Hill</u></i>		TV series
1999	<i><u>Felicity</u></i>	Maggie Sherwood	5 episodes
1999–2000	<i><u>Sports Night</u></i>	Rebecca Wells	8 episodes
2000	<i><u>Frasier</u></i>	Abby Michaels	Episode: "Legal Tender Love and Care"
2002	<i><u>Second String</u></i>	Connie Heller	TV movie
2003	<i><u>Straight from the Heart</u></i>	Jordan Donovan	TV movie
2003	<i><u>L.A. Dragnet</u></i>	Jessie Ross	Episode: "All That Glitters"
2003	<i><u>The Practice</u></i>	Sarah Barker	5 episodes
2003–2004	<i><u>I'm with Her</u></i>	Alex Young	22 episodes
2005–2006	<i><u>The West Wing</u></i>	Helen Santos	18 episodes
2006	<i>Welcome to the Jungle Gym</i>		TV movie
2006	<i>For the Love of a Child</i>	Yvonne	TV movie
2006	<i>Legacy of Fear</i>	Det. Jeanne 'JJ' Joyce	TV movie
2007	<i><u>Numb3rs</u></i>	Rachel Willons	Episode: " <u>Nine Wives</u> "
2007	<i>Love Is a Four Letter Word</i>	Emily Bennett	TV movie

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2007	<i>The Wedding Bells</i>	Jane Bell	4 episodes
2008	<i>Finnegan</i>	Det. Erin Finnegan	TV movie
2008	<i>Law & Order: Special Victims Unit</i>	Dana Kelley	Episode: "Confession"
2008	<i>CSI: Miami</i>	Jill Walsh	Episode: "Gone Baby Gone"
2009	<i>Expecting a Miracle</i>	Donna Stanhope	TV movie
2009	<i>Ghost Whisperer</i>	Nikki	Episode: "This Joint's Haunted" Episode: "Body of Water"
2009	<i>The Storm</i>	Danni Nelson	Episode: "The Storm: Part 1"
2009	<i>Drop Dead Diva</i>	Jillian Ford	Episode: "The Magic Bullet"
2009	<i>Monk</i>	Stephanie Briggs	Episode: "Mr. Monk Is the Best Man"
2009	<i>Washington Field</i>	SA Amanda Diaz	TV movie
2010	<i>Medium</i>	Mary-Louise Graff	Episode: "It's a Wonderful Death"
2010	<i>Glory Daze</i>	Prof. Larsen	Episode: "Pilot" Episode: "Fake Me Home Tonight"
2010–2011	<i>Law & Order: LA</i>	Casey Winters	Episode: "Echo Park" Episode: "Zuma Canyon" Episode: "Hayden Tract"
2011	<i>Castle</i>	Kayla Baron	Episode: "Pretty Dead"
2011	<i>We Have Your Husband</i>	Jayne Valseca	TV movie
2011	<i>Man Up!</i>	Theresa Hayden Keen	10 episodes
2012	<i>A Taste of Romance</i>	Sara Westbrook	TV movie
2012	<i>Criminal Minds</i>	Maggie Hallman	Episode: "I Love You, Tommy Brown" as a Spree Killer
2012	<i>The Christmas Heart</i>	Ann Norman	TV movie
2012	<i>Christmas Angel</i>	Melinda Davis	TV movie
2013–present	<i>The Fosters</i>	Stef Adams Foster	Lead role
2014	<i>Law & Order: Special Victims Unit</i>	Cordelia Bauer	Episode: "American Disgrace"
2014	<i>The Christmas Shepherd</i>	Sally Brown	TV movie
2015	<i>Romantically Speaking</i>	Penny	TV movie
2015	<i>Love, Again</i>	Chloe Baker	TV movie
2016	<i>Royal Pains</i>	Diana Underhill	Episode: "Stranger Danger"
2016	<i>The \$100,000 Pyramid</i>	Herself (celebrity guest)	Episode: Teri Polo vs. <u>Zachary Levi</u>
2016	<i>JL Ranch</i>	Rebecca Landsburg	TV film; in post-production
2016	<i>Conviction</i>	Penny Price	Episode: "Mother's Little Burden"

References

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External links

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