**SPECIAL ISSUE: 2017 CBSM JUNIOR SCHOLARS JOB MARKET CANDIDATES**

In advance of the ASA meetings in Montreal, the CBSM section is publishing this special edition as a service to members to inform you about the exciting junior candidates who study social movements. Individuals featured in the following profiles will help shape our discipline for years to come. As you read their impressive profiles, remember you heard about them first in *Critical Mass*!

Joshua Bloom  
*CBSM Publications Committee Chair  
Sociology, University of Pittsburgh*

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**CBSM at the 2017 ASA Annual Meeting**

The CBSM Business Meeting will be held Saturday, August 12, from 3:30 to 4:10 p.m. Please plan to attend as we will honor our section award winners, welcome new members, and discuss the various service roles in the section.

All section members also are invited to attend the joint CBSM and Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities (SREM) Reception, which will be held at the [Bier Markt-Montreal](#) on Sunday, August 13, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Bier Markt is located at 1221 Rene-Levesque Blvd W.

For more information about the 2017 ASA annual meeting, visit the [ASA website](#). For a list of CBSM-related events, review the Spring 2017 issue of *Critical Mass*, beginning page 10.

*The Critical Mass co-editors thank incoming editor Daniel McClymonds for his collaboration on this special issue.*
Candidate Statement

My research examines the cultural undercurrents of political life in the U.S. My dissertation synthesizes theory from cultural sociology and social movements to understand a complex empirical puzzle: the inability of progressive religious movements to build political power beyond the local level. I show that grassroots religious coalitions construct a “collective moral imaginary” that integrates marginalized communities’ economic interests with broader religious narratives of dignity and justice, facilitating collective action across racial, religious, and socioeconomic difference. This process is fleshed out in my recent article in the *American Journal of Cultural Sociology* (with Michelle Oyakawa). Yet I also find that cultural frictions among racial and religious subconstituencies hamper coalitions’ organizing efforts. As a result, progressive religious movements face significant challenges in producing the moral unity and political efficacy they aspire to. This work amplifies our understanding of the subtle cultural mechanisms through which racial and socioeconomic difference impedes social movement organizing on the American left.

Beyond my dissertation, I am involved in ongoing work to understand how the role of religious identity in shaping Americans’ visions of national belonging is being transformed as U.S. society grows more secular. Two articles from this project are currently under review.

**Selected Publications**


*Under Review and In Progress*


**Contact Information**

[https://cla.umn.edu/about/directory/profile/dele0068/dele0068@umn.edu](https://cla.umn.edu/about/directory/profile/dele0068/dele0068@umn.edu)
Sarah Gaby

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Candidate Statement

I study recruitment and participation in social movements with a specific focus on youth. My research draws on and contributes to scholarship on organizations, political sociology, inequality, and the sociology of education. My dissertation examines how organizations engage and politicize youth participants. Although the reach of youth civic organizations is vast—by some estimates over one third of U.S. youth participate in voluntary organizations—little is known about whether these experiences empower youth or have lasting impacts on their civic and political engagement. I focus on the structure of activities and styles of adult interaction with youth to examine participatory practices in youth civic organizations. I examine the impact of these practices on responses to organizational dilemmas around inequality, the long-term civic engagement of youth, and organizational effectiveness. This work is based on original survey data combined with a year of ethnographic fieldwork, interviews, and focus groups.

I am also a dedicated teacher who engages students inside and outside of the classroom in critical thinking, conducting research, and engaging with their communities. I have taught several courses including Social Movements, Social and Economic Justice, and Introduction to Sociology Through Film. I received the Wilson Award for Excellence in Teaching, a competitive prize awarded by faculty at UNC as well as the SAGE Teaching Innovations & Professional Development Award.

Selected Publications


Influences on Organizational Efficacy.” Revise and Resubmit.

Contact Information

gaby.web.unc.edu
sgaby@unc.edu

Anya M. Galli Robertson

University of Maryland – College Park

Candidate Statement

I study social movements and environmental sociology, with a particular emphasis on movement tactics, environmental politics, and qualitative methods. I have published four papers on these subjects in peer-reviewed journals. My single-authored paper, “How Glitter Bombing Lost its Sparkle: The Emergence and Decline of a Novel Social Movement Tactic,” was awarded the 2017 CBSM Mayer N. Zald Student Paper Award. I will receive my PhD in Sociology from the University of Maryland in early 2018. My dissertation explores the foundations of environmental privilege in the US coal-fired power industry by analyzing political discourse and environmental policymaking surrounding the 2016 election. I am currently an RA for the Climate Constituencies Project, which studies policy networks and political polarization around climate and clean energy through a grant from the MacArthur Foundation. I am also a Fellow at the Program for Society and the Environment, where I have researched climate activism, civic participation, and environmental stewardship. I have taught undergraduate courses in Social Problems, Introduction to Sociology, and Sociological Theory with an emphasis on teaching innovation and active learning. I received a BA from St. Olaf College in 2008 and an MA in Sociology from the University of Maryland in 2012.

Selected Publications


Under Review and In Progress
Fisher, Dana R., Anya M. Galli Robertson, and William Yagatich. “Onto the Street and Into the Movement: Understanding how Social Movements Expand their Reach through Large-Scale Protest Events.” Under review.


Galli Robertson, Anya M. “Privileged Accounts and Coal-Fired Power in the US.”


Candidate Statement
My dissertation examines pathways of motivation and commitment of cause lawyers and aims to refine our understanding of how movements’ emotional dynamics come to bear on movement professionals’ trajectories of involvement. In addition to emotions and legal mobilization, my research interests include qualitative methods, racial inequality, intersectional social movements, and policy. I am a recipient of Florida State University’s 2016-2017 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award for the Sociological Theory and Collective Behavior & Social Movement courses I independently designed and executed as instructor of record. As a 2017-2018 Program for Instructional
Excellence Teaching Associate, I apply my expertise to develop the skills of other teaching assistants at FSU. I aspire to hold a position at a liberal arts college where I can contribute to a tradition of exemplary instruction, apply innovative teaching practices, mentor undergraduate students and cultivate their research capabilities, and advance my research agenda. Beyond my roles in the field and classroom, I strive to build upon my experience as a Victim Advocate and reproductive justice activist to advance public sociology.

Selected Publications


Contact Information

HJG09@my.fsu.edu
Twitter: @haleyjogentile

Candidate Statement

My research specializations are social movements, gender/feminist studies, culture, and global studies. My current work focuses on the Occupy Wall Street Movement (Occupy) in the US and globally. I also research activism supporting Bernie Sanders, feminism within mixed-gender movements, global feminism, leadership, and activism using new social media. I have published and have forthcoming articles or book chapters on all of these topics. I am trained in and teach qualitative and quantitative methods.

My work brings together theories in social movements and gender/feminist studies. My research reveals how fledgling social movement organizations that strive to create democratic movements often continue to reproduce gender, race, and class hierarchies. My work theorizes why gender conflict influences social movement leadership, tactics, and collective identity. My research also extends theorizing about how feminism persists within mixed-gender social movements.

I value collaborative learning in the classroom and with my undergraduate research assistants. At Barnard College I teach Global Activism, Women and Leadership, and Gender and Organizations. At University of California Santa Barbara where I earned my PhD, I taught Social Movements, Women and Work, Global Inequalities, and TAed 15 additional courses. At Barnard in 2017, I was nominated for the Emily Gregory Award for teaching.

Selected Publications


Wall Street Movement.” Under review for a peer reviewed journal.

**Hurwitz, Heather McKee.** In progress. *Women Occupy: Gender Conflict and Feminist Mobilization in the Occupy Wall Street Movement.* Book prospectus and manuscript.


**Hurwitz, Heather McKee.** In progress. “The Outcomes of Occupy Oakland 2012-2016.” Peer reviewed journal article.


**Contact Information**

http://www.heathermckeehurwitz.com
hhurwitz@barnard.edu

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**Daniel Jaster**

*The University of Texas at Austin*

**Candidate Statement**

I focus on understanding the role utopian imaginings and pragmatic theory play in helping us to understand social movement morphology, particularly in conservative, reactionary, and rural movements. My dissertation explains why some protesters attempt to re-create a bygone era, what I call refigrative politics. To do this I synthesize theories on the Polanyian double movement, sociological pragmatism, prefigurative politics, and utopian thought and action. I use this theoretical synthesis to help us understand the dynamics of the Farmers’ Holiday Association in the 1930s American Midwest, with brief comparisons to the 1980s Farm Crisis and the Ostalgie movement in post-unification Germany. My future research will continue to follow my main research line through two major projects. First is a study of movements that try to restructure their social worlds via retreating from society. The second explores how understandings of the past motivate the Sagebrush Rebellion, a movement in the Western U.S. that began in the 1970s and continues to percolate, e.g. the early 2016 occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon. Other research veins include exploring the roots and future of pragmatic theory, and how pragmatic theory can advance social movement research.

**Selected Publications**

**Published and Forthcoming Publications**


**Under Review and In Progress**


**Jaster, Daniel** and Michael Young. In progress. “Pragmatism and Protest Tactics.”

**Contact Information**

jaster@utexas.edu
Candidate Statement

When do pro-democracy movements succeed, and when do they fail? And when they succeed, what makes for a lasting, durable legacy? This work grows out of my own experience as a participant-observer of the pro-democracy movement in Iran, but my research agenda moves outward from this case to explore these issues on a global scale, using case studies, comparative-historical methods, and statistical analyses.

In my dissertation, I investigate the impact of democracy movements on the durability of their achievements to investigate whether mass mobilization during political transitions affects the survival of young democracies. Based on event-history analysis of original data I collected on 112 young democracies between 1960-2010, as well as extended case studies of six of these new democracies, I find that sustained mobilization increases the likelihood that new democracies will endure. I argue that this is largely because sustained democracy movements are forced to develop an organizational structure that provides a leadership cadre for the new regime and strengthens civil society in the post-transition period. During my postdoc, I have extended the line of argument in this research by going beyond the durability of minimal electoral democracy and looking at the depth of democracy after the transition.

Selected Publications


Contact Information

http://watson.brown.edu/people/postdocs/kadivar
Kadivar@brown.edu
CriticalMass

Preethi Krishnan Ramaswamy

Purdue University

Candidate Statement

Research interests: Gender and intersections with race, caste, and class, social movements, violence against women and the law, globalization, development, and South Asia, particularly India.

Dissertation: By examining women’s claims for basic needs in the context of neoliberalism, I argue that state institutions are hegemonic in facilitating and hindering people’s radical entitlement claims. State interventions - whether neoliberal policies or welfare initiatives - affect inequities at the local level to influence how people interpret their entitlement to basic services. Building on scholarship about strategic choices of frames by challengers, I delineate how state policies and social inequities of gender, caste, and class influence frames women choose for claiming basic services. Utilizing two concepts that I develop - frame appropriation and reactive adoption - to examine variations in women’s claims-making, I analyze the case of the Indian government’s welfare initiative, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), which provides food and care for children through local centers (Anganwadis) managed by women workers. Based on five months of fieldwork in rural Tamil Nadu (India), I utilize observations and 50 semi-structured interviews with mothers, Anganwadi workers, union leaders, and state representatives to argue that state policies related to privatization and welfare influence how different groups of women interpret (frame) their entitlements for basic services at the local level. This research is funded by Purdue Research Foundation (PRF) fellowship and PROMISE award.

Selected Publications

Peer-reviewed Publications


Subramaniam, Mangala, Preethi Krishnan Ramaswamy and Christopher Bunka. 2014. “Women’s Movement Groups in State Policy Formulation: Addressing Violence against Women.” Indian Anthropologist (Special Issue on State and Public Policy) (note: this is a national journal).
CriticalMass

Book Chapters

Policy Briefs


Manuscripts in Progress

Subramaniam, Mangala and Preethi Krishnan. “Gender, Caste, and Class: Intersectional Struggles in the Indian Women’s Movement.”

Krishnan, Preethi and Mangala Subramaniam. “Dowry, Domestic Violence and Gender: Legal interpretations by India’s Supreme Court.”

Contact Information

www.preethikrishnan.net
pkrishn@purdue.edu

Diego F. Leal

University of Massachusetts – Amherst

Candidate Statement

I'm a Ph.D. candidate in Sociology at the University of Massachusetts – Amherst. My research makes contributions to the fields of immigration, social movements, race and ethnicity, organizations, public health, and Latin American Studies. Methodologically, I’m interested in social network dynamics, including both statistical analysis and agent-based modeling, and mixed methods. My research program can be organized under four domains: (1) social movements and protest tactics; (2) international migration flows; (3) social determinants of health; (4) collaboration between organizations. In terms of my research on social movements, I study mass transit shutdowns in order to understand how protestors resort to highly disruptive tactics. My research shows that the individual-level perceived effectiveness of protest tactics is a key social-psychological mechanism to link activists’ actions and their perceptions of the environment. I understand perceived effectiveness as the individual's perception
that a tactic will achieve high levels of visibility and/or create high levels of disruption. I show that these individual-level perceptions are shaped by activists’ social networks, political attitudes, and resources. This is a mixed-methods paper, based on new cross-sectional survey data and semi-structured interviews collected during three months of fieldwork in Colombia, with revised & resubmit status at Social Forces.

Selected Publications

Peer-Reviewed Publications


Revise & Resubmit

Leal, Diego F. “‘Shut the Damn Thing Down!’ Linking Individual Perceptions to Action in the Context of Highly Disruptive Tactics in Bogotá, Colombia.” Revised & Resubmitted to a peer-reviewed journal.

Under Review


Leal, Diego F., Steven A. Boutcher and Anthony Paik. “Status and Network Conformity: Isomorphism in Pro Bono Affiliations among Elite Law Firms.” (Equally contributing authors).

Contact Information

www.diegoleal.info
dleal@umass.edu

Soon Seok Park

Purdue University
Candidate Statement

I am currently a PhD candidate in Sociology at Purdue University. I study social movements, politics, and international political economy and teach both substantive and methodological courses.

My dissertation, “Threat, Memory, and Framing: The Development of South Korea’s Democracy Movement, 1979-1987,” helps us better understand the link between a robust civil society and democratization. Drawing on archival data that I collected from several archives in Korea, I illustrate the mechanisms through which pro-democracy movements develop under repression. In my other work, I have also used national and cross-national datasets (e.g., the U.S. General Social Survey and the Comparative Welfare States Dataset) to examine environmental activism, the social movement society thesis, and the notion of a critical mass for legislators (i.e., inside claims-makers). In my future research, I will continue to explore the relationship among claims-makers, the evolution of social movements, and social change.

As a teacher, my main objective is to help my students become independent researchers. In addition to standard lectures, active learning exercises help students achieve this goal. Using this approach, I have independently constructed and taught courses on Social Problems and Sociological Methods. I also have additional teaching interests including Statistics and Global Sociology.

Selected Publications


Contact Information

http://park460.wixsite.com/spark
park460@purdue.edu

Marcos Emilio Perez

Postdoctoral Fellow, Colby College
PhD, University of Texas at Austin

Candidate Statement

My research explores the processes through which individuals develop attachment to collective action. In my dissertation, I draw upon participant observation and life history interviews to study the trajectories of
current and former members of the Unemployed Workers’ Movement in Argentina. I argue that a key attraction of participation in this movement is the opportunity to engage in routines associated with a blue-collar lifestyle threatened by deindustrialization. These findings suggest the need for a more nuanced and complex theory of political participation, focusing not only on the worldviews of activists but also on their practices, paying closer attention to the interaction between personal backgrounds and experiences while mobilized, and incorporating ideas from other areas of Sociology.

My dissertation fieldwork received several awards, including a Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant from the National Science Foundation. In addition, I won the Mayer Zald Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award from the CBSM Section of ASA in 2016.

As a side project, I have conducted research on the experiences of undocumented activists in the United States. I published findings from this work in *Invisible in Austin*, a book I coauthored with other members of the Urban Ethnography Lab at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Selected Publications**

*Peer-Reviewed Publications*


*Book Chapters*

Candidate Statement

I am currently Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Grinnell College and 2017 Young Southeast Asia Fellow of the Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG). I study collective behavior and social movements, migration, and race and ethnicity from a global and transnational perspective. I received my PhD in Sociology from the University of Pittsburgh in August 2016.

I have published my research on diaspora mobilization, U.S. immigration discourse, multilateral trade negotiations, and anti-free trade campaigns in edited volumes and peer-reviewed journals. My article, “Homeland-Hostland Relations and Mobilization Dynamics: Comparing Filipino Diaspora Activism in the US and the Netherlands,” received the 2016 Martin O. Heisler Graduate Student Paper Award from the Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Migration Section of the International Studies Association and an Honorable Mention for Best Graduate Student Publication from the Section on Human Rights of the American Sociological Association. I am currently developing my dissertation into a book, tentatively titled “Revolution From Afar: Mobilizations for Regime Change and the Making of the Filipino Diaspora, 1965-1992,” where I argue that diasporas are outcomes, rather than causes or agents, of transnational mobilization. My next project investigates the social origins of political conservatism and authoritarian nostalgia among Filipino immigrants.

I have taught courses in Introduction to Sociology, Research Methods, Peace Movement, Sociology of Asian America, and Statistics.

Selected Publications


Contact Information

http://sharonquinsaat.com
quinsaat@grinnell.edu
smquinsaat@gmail.com
Heidi Reynolds-Stenson

University of Arizona

Candidate Statement

My research lies at the intersection of social movements, culture, and law, with a primary focus on the repression of protest. I bring a keen sensitivity to the cultural and emotional dynamics underlying repression and its effects on mobilization. My dissertation draws on recent advances in social movements theory on emotions and culture to help solve a long-standing empirical puzzle in the area of social movement repression: whether (and when) repression tends to deter protest or to “backfire” and galvanize activists. Using in-depth interviews with individuals who have experienced state repression, I examine how activists culturally mediate these experiences in efforts to prevent deterrence and encourage backfire and how this mediation varies for different forms of repression. In doing so, I also provide insight into how movement cultures may shape actors’ perceptions of the costs and benefits of participation in collective action. My other research projects and papers take up various questions related to social movement repression and the cultural and emotional dynamics of protest and examine these questions both quantitatively and qualitatively.

Selected Publications


Contact Information

http://reynolds-stenson.yolasite.com/
hstenson@email.arizona.edu

Lauren Richter

Northeastern University
Candidate Statement

My work focuses on environmental inequality and fluid multinational corporate strategy. In my dissertation, *Unseen Science: The Social Re-Discovery of Per- and Polyfluorinated Compounds*, I investigate the relationship between multinational chemical corporations, the Environmental Protection Agency, and contaminated communities. I trace efforts to promote and restrict a class of widely used hazardous chemicals, per- and polyfluorooalkyl substances (PFASs). Through in-depth interviews, corporate archival research, and participant observation, I examine how two corporations render these compounds scientifically imperceptible. This project is distinct in examining the intentional production of ignorance by elite actors positioned to truncate the accumulation of information necessary to produce analyzable data. My research is funded by a 2017 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement grant, and a 2017 fellowship from the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation.

My second research area uses critical race theory to examine the failure of institutional recourse in contaminated communities of color. Modeled on critical analyses of institutional retrenchment post-civil rights victories, I examine corporate elision of environmental law. I argue that environmental inequality can be understood as a mechanism of racial capitalism. I develop the concept of white corporate personhood to examine the strategic deployment of white racial frames to further corporate interests.

Selected Publications

Peer-reviewed Publications


Under Review
“Constructing Insignificance? Applying Critical Race Theory to Institutional Failure in Environmental Justice Communities.” Revise and Resubmit for a peer-reviewed journal.

“Non-Stick Science: Sixty Years of Research and (In)Action on Fluorinated Compounds.” Under review for a peer-reviewed journal. With Alissa Cordner and Phil Brown.


Other Publications


Contact Information

laurenrichter.com
richter.l@husky.neu.edu
Misty Ring-Ramirez

University of Arizona

Candidate Statement

My research brings together social movements, organizational theory, and social network analysis. In my dissertation, I tackle a question that has previously been difficult to answer outside of simulations, due to data limitations: how do macrostructural network features influence micro-level processes? I leverage social network analytics and social influence models to predict tactical diffusion in a network of social movement organizations active in New York between 1960 and 1995, considering not only the immediate network of an organization but also network characteristics of the entire sector of advocacy-oriented organizations. In my article in *Mobilization*, my coauthors and I use social network analytic techniques to uncover how protest tactics cluster into sets with distinct roles. We also find that radical tactics do not make up a distinct, shared role; rather, they cluster together with other, non-radical tactics. Current research outside of my dissertation progresses in a similar trend, investigating questions related to social movement organization survival and the use of big data in social movement research, and using quantitative and social network analytic techniques in both established and innovative ways.

Selected Publications


Contact Information

http://mistyring.com/
mring@email.arizona.edu

Michael Roll

University of Wisconsin—Madison

Candidate Statement

My research interests include political sociology, movements and organizations, global and development sociology, and comparative-historical sociology. I study how collective action leads to institutional change when the political conditions are stacked against change, particularly in countries of the global South. My dissertation *Rebel Bureaucracies: Corruption Networks, Organizational Change, and Effective Government Agencies in Nigeria* examines the transformation of three agencies which are positive outliers in a context of systemic corruption and dysfunctional governance. Why and how have these agencies managed to defy corruption and provide the public services they are supposed to provide unlike other government agencies in the same environment?
Using a pragmatist framework, I find that executive directors who were outsiders to patrimonial administrative networks gradually forged creative compromises between performance expectations and existing organizational logics. When organizational performance and reputation improved, staff aligned in a collective process. To protect the agencies against government capture, directors also strategically mobilized and cooperated with civil society and international organizations. In other work, I examine ‘vigilante movements’ in peripheral spaces in the global South and discuss how they fit into social movement theory. My work has been supported by the National Science Foundation and the Social Science Research Council, among others.

Selected Publications


Contact Information

www.michaelroll.net
mroll@wisc.edu
Didem Türkoğlu

University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill

Candidate Statement

I am a PhD Candidate in sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. My research interests are in political sociology, social movements, public policy, and media in a comparative perspective. I have two sets of research agendas: the processes of political meaning making & their effect on political structures, and the impact of social movement alliances on policy outcomes.

My dissertation is a comparative analysis of higher education policies and tuition protests in the OECD countries, with a special focus on England, Germany, Turkey, and the United States. I focus on the trajectories of resistance to tuitions and the outcomes of opposition to tuition hikes. Using a unique dataset I compiled on tuition protests and position of the political parties in the OECD, I analyze different paths countries took in enforcing tuition hikes. I also analyze case studies to illustrate different processes that lead to those paths based on the archival and interview data I gathered during my fieldwork in the four countries I mentioned above. My analyses demonstrate that rather than simply partisan politics, dynamics of insider-outsider alliance-building determine the outcome of opposition to tuition hikes in the past two decades.

Selected Publications


Contact Information

http://turkoglu.web.unc.edu/
turkoglu@unc.edu
Todd Vachon

University of Connecticut

Candidate Statement

I study societal problems and social inequalities of contemporary capitalism in affluent societies, both internationally and within the U.S. My interest in these issues and movements to address them stems from a deep commitment to social justice; a commitment that is evident in my participation in the labor and environmental movements, including my role in helping to organize the graduate employee union at my University and serving as founding president. My research agenda engages in macro analyses of country-level data and micro-level analyses of interactive processes in dynamic institutional settings, and encompasses a range of methods, including longitudinal modelling of country-level data, analyses of survey data, and use of ethnographic methods such as participant observation and in-depth interviewing. My dissertation, “Clean Air and Good Jobs: U.S. Labor and the Struggle for Climate Justice,” focuses on the nascent labor-climate movement that is promoting climate protection and working-class environmentalism within the labor movement. Using a multi-institutional perspective, I examine the framing processes of SMOs at three levels: local, national, and international. In their pursuit of a just transition for workers and the environment, these SMOs are simultaneously reshaping regulatory and cultural norms within society and the American labor movement.

Selected Publications

Vachon, Todd E. “Clean Air and Good Jobs: U.S. Labor and the Struggle for Climate Justice.” Dissertation research in progress.


Candidate Statement

My research focuses on surprising situations where people who would otherwise be completely supportive of a protest might find themselves experiencing sudden shifts in cognition and emotion which radically alter their judgments. Specifically, through my in-depth ethnography with an activist religious movement, I explain how objects can have multiple meanings and skew judgments and interactions during protest events, depending upon how the audience creates meaning. Understanding how people form judgments is important because social movement research frequently utilizes newspaper data. This newspaper data is written by reporters who are co-present with activists during protest events. What I add is an understanding of how people, like journalists or bystanders, form judgments in situ and how these judgments influence decisions and interactions which may determine how events are represented or whether one supports a cause and chooses to participate. More generally, my research reveals how and when situations become problematic for some audiences but not for others.

Selected Publications


**Contact Information**

http://www.justinvanness.com
jvanness@nd.edu

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**Stacy J. Williams**

*New York University*

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**Selected Publications**


Blair-Loy, Mary and Stacy J. Williams. 2017. “Devoted Workers, Breadwinning Fathers: The Case of...


Contact Information

www.stacyjwilliams.com
sjw006@ucsd.edu