

# Critical Mass *Bulletin*

Newsletter of the Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements, American Sociological Association

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## Message From the Chair

Rory McVeigh

Nancy Reeves Dreux Professor

Department of Sociology

University of Notre Dame

This is my final greeting to you as Chair of the section. Your new chair, Deana Rohlinger, is fired up and ready to go. I am excited about the new energy and experience she brings to the position. I have enjoyed my time as chair and have gained even more appreciation for the work that our

elected leaders and others do, without fanfare, to improve and maintain the section and to serve the outstanding scholars who make up our membership. This summer issue of *Critical Mass* is special because it highlights the members who are on the job market this fall. Many years ago, I became interested in social movements in large part because scholars working in the field were developing tools that could help me study a broad range of questions. As a result, I was able to present myself on the job market as a legitimate candidate for almost any job, regardless of the area of specialization. Study of social change, conflict, inequality---these play out in research in every sociological subfield and study of social movements can provide a unique perspective that can broaden our understanding of all the things that sociologists care about. (Continued on Page 2)

## IN THIS ISSUE

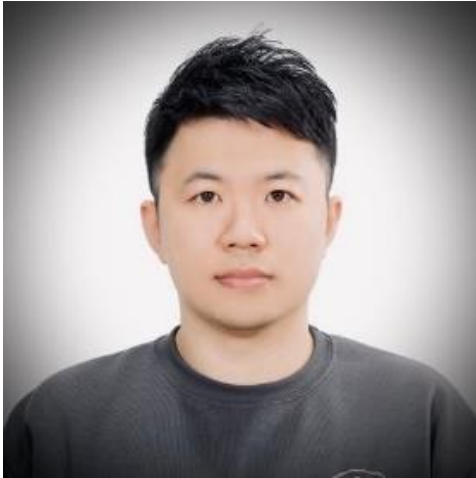
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So please take time to read the profiles of our outstanding job candidates and do what you can to create space for them in your departments. Good luck to all of the candidates! And thanks to Julia and Mario for putting this important issue together.

## Job Market Candidates

### Hyunsik Chun

*University of Iowa*



#### Candidate Statement

Hyunsik Chun is a PhD Candidate in Sociology at the University of Iowa. His research interests are in the fields of social movements, organizational sociology, political sociology, and collective memories. He uses both qualitative and computational methods to examine the causes and consequences of organizational and social change, and, in particular, the role that collective action and technology play in this change.

His dissertation project includes three case studies that examine how collective action contributes to the construction, maintenance, and disruption of cultural and political memories. The first case of the 2016 presidential scandal in South Korea investigates conditions in which grand corruption is kept hidden or leads to political and legal consequences and the role of the 2016-2017 Candlelight Revolution in anti-corruption campaigns. The other two case

studies examine two social movements—the Black Lives Matter movement in the U.S. and the “Comfort Women” movement in South Korea—and their effects on ideas about how should be publicly commemorated (the removal of Confederate statues in the American case, and the establishment of statues of Peace in the Korean case).

His research has been published in *Theory and Society*, *Higher Education*, and *Research in the Sociology of Organizations*. Several of his research projects have been supported by both external and internal funding—Academy of Korean Studies’ Academic Research program, Stanley Graduate Award for International Research, Graduate College Summer Fellowship, and others—and have led to the publication of four articles and multiple papers in progress.

#### Selected publications

**Chun, Hyunsik** and Michael Sauder. “The power in managing numbers: changing interdependencies and the rise of ranking expertise.” *High Education*. (forthcoming: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10734-022-00823-x>)

**Chun, Hyunsik** and Michael Sauder. 2021. “The Logic of Quantification: Institutionalizing Numerical Thinking.” *Theory and Society* 51(2):335–70.

Sauder, Michael, **Hyunsik Chun**, and Wendy Espeland. 2021. “The Garbage Can Model and Organizational Metrics.” *Research in the Sociology of Organizations* 74: 175-197

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## Andrew K. Thompson, PhD



### Candidate Statement<sup>1</sup>

Formerly a Visiting Professor of Social Movements and Social Change at Ithaca College, I am looking to find a permanent home in a department where critical scholarship and social engagement are encouraged. My research examines how movements operate as sites of racial and cultural contestation. I approach my scholarship and my teaching in a way that foregrounds my commitment to revolutionary change.

In my five sole-author and co-edited books, I draw on critical scholarship to assess the challenges confronted by movements in struggle. Based on these contributions, *Boston Review* invited me to assess the dynamics animating the protests that erupted following George Floyd's murder. As a public sociologist, I was pleased to accept a similar invitation from the *Los Angeles Review of Books*.

My current research is focused on the decline of "the social movement" as the dominant mode of popular contention in the United States. Between the dissolution of democratic norms and the corresponding resurgence of violence, I hypothesize that we are entering an important period of transition. In this moment, the historical-tactical lessons of Black freedom struggles will become increasingly salient, since participants in these struggles could never presuppose that the state would recognize them as legitimate claimants.

### Selected Publications

**AK Thompson.** 2023. "The Life and Death of Autonomy: How Might Politics be Subverted Today?" Marcos Ancelovici and Francis Dupuis-Déri (eds.) *Subverting Politics: Autonomous Social Movements Today*. Montreal: Black Rose

**AK Thompson** and Florian Cord. 2022. "On Bringing the New World Into Being: Theory, Ontology, Politics, and Action – An Interview with AK Thompson." *Coils of the Serpent: Journal for the Study of Contemporary Power* No.10

**AK Thompson.** 2021. "Violence, Social Movements, and Black Freedom Struggles: Ten Theses Toward a Research Agenda for Scholars of Contention Today." *Contention: The Multidisciplinary Journal of Social Protest* Volume 9, No. 1

**AK Thompson.** 2019. "'We Are Winning': Ten Theses on Politics After Seattle." *Seattle+20: Movements at the Millenium*, a special issue of *Socialism and Democracy*, Volume 33, No.3

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<sup>1</sup> Check out AK Thompson in this [interview / profile piece](#) recently published by Coils of the

Serpent: Journal for the Study of Contemporary Power!

**AK Thompson.** 2019. "Citing History," *Time and Movement: Approaching Temporalities in Understanding Contention*, a special issue of *Social Movement Studies*, Volume 19, No. 1-2

**AK Thompson.** 2018. *Premonitions: Selected Essays on the Culture of Revolt*. Chico: AK Press

Jason Del Gandio and **AK Thompson** (eds.), Foreword by Peter Marcuse (2017). *Spontaneous Combustion: The Eros Effect and Global Revolution*. Albany: SUNY Press

**AK Thompson.** 2017. "The Work of Violence in the Age of Repressive Desublimation." Peter Funke, Andrew Lamas, and Todd Wolfson (eds.), *The Great Refusal: Herbert Marcuse and Contemporary Social Movements*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press

**AK Thompson.** 2017. "Occupation, Decolonization, and Reciprocal Violence." Anna Feigenbaum et al. (eds.), *Protest Camps in International Context: Spaces, Infrastructures, and Media of Resistance*. Bristol: Policy Press

**AK Thompson,** Foreword by Bernardine Dohrn. 2010. *Black Bloc, White Riot: Anti-Globalization and the Genealogy of Dissent*. Oakland: AK Press

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## Andrew Messamore

University of Texas at Austin



## Candidate Statement

I am a PhD candidate in Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. My dissertation, "Poor People's NIMBYism," centers on the debate on housing and community institutions in the U.S. from the standpoint of low-income tenants. In it, I use original large-scale administrative databases and computational methodologies to explore 1) how the institutionalization of large-scale landlordism exposes renters to housing insecurity across the U.S., and 2) how formal tenants activism re-constitutes community protections for renters and shapes municipal housing policies. My work challenges research on housing and community politics that flattens differences between all forms of housing activism (such as with "Not-in-my-Backyard" or "NIMBY" politics), and directly evaluates how tenants' movements distribute housing insecurity among the urban poor.

Beyond my dissertation, I am generally interested in urban civil society, organizations, and quantitative methods. In this vein, I have published sole and first-authored work on urban governance networks (*Social Networks*), on the causal effect of national service programs on anti-poverty work (*Administration*

& Society), and on the use of natural language processing to study how organizations understand and confront violence against women (*Social Currents*). This work has been generously supported by the National Science Foundation.

## Selected Publications

**Messamore, Andrew.** 2021. "The Civic Elite: a Network Perspective on Elite Consolidation among Community-Based Organizations, 1998-2016." *Social Networks* 66: 146-160.

**Messamore, Andrew,** Pamela Paxton and Kristopher Velasco. 2021. "Can Government Intervention Increase Volunteers and Donations? Analyzing the Influence of VISTA with a Matched Design." *Administration & Society* 53(10): 1547-1579.

**Messamore, Andrew** and Pamela Paxton. 2021. "Surviving Victimization: How Service and Advocacy Organizations Describe Traumatic Experiences, 1998-2016." *Social Currents* 8(1): 3-24.

Lin, Ken-Hou, Samuel Bondurant, and **Andrew Messamore.** 2018. "Union, Premium Cost and the Provision of Employment-based Health Insurance." *Socius* 4:1-11.

**Messamore, Andrew.** "The Effect of Community Organizing on Landlords' Use of Eviction Filing: Evidence from U.S. Cities." *Social Problems.* (Revise & Resubmit)<sup>2</sup>

Faith Deckard, **Andrew Messamore,** Bridget Goosby, and Jacob Cheadle. "A Network Approach to Assessing the Relationship between Perceived Discrimination and Mental Health." *Social Psychology Quarterly.* (Revise & Resubmit)

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<sup>2</sup> 2022 Best Graduate Student Paper Honorable Mention, Community and Urban Section, American Sociological Association

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## Maro Youssef, PhD

National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Southern California, Department of Sociology



## Candidate Statement

My research agenda lies at the intersection of political sociology, gender, and policy. I am interested in power, gender, coalitions, states, and political transitions. My dissertation, which received support from the Fulbright-Hays, American Association of University Women (AAUW), United States Institute of Peace (USIP), Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR), PEO, and APSA, examined how women activists remained active during and beyond the Arab Spring in Tunisia, where the Arab Spring uprisings began. The dissertation compares liberal and conservative women's organizations that used

similar strategies to sustain their collective action throughout the political transition. My NSF project examines coalitions between liberal and conservative women politicians during the political transition in Tunisia. My dissertation and postdoctoral projects draw on a rare representative sample of 73 liberal and conservative women activists, politicians, international donors, and dozens of observation hours in Tunisia and Washington D.C.

Prior, I was a U.S. diplomat at the U.S. Department of State, where I informed policymakers about gender and political issues in the Middle East and North Africa. I served in Washington D.C., Tunisia, and Turkey.

I received a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Texas at Austin, an M.A. in Middle East Studies from George Washington University, and a B.A. in history from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

## Selected Publications

**Youssef, Maro.** 2022. "Strategic Choices: How Conservative Women Activists Remained Active throughout Tunisia's Democratic Transition". *Sociological Forum* 37 (3) doi:[10.1111/socf.12828](https://doi.org/10.1111/socf.12828).

**Youssef, Maro.** 2021. "Unlikely Feminist Coalitions: Islamist and Secularist Feminist Organizing in a Democratizing Tunisia". *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State and Society*. doi: [10.1093/sp/jxab020](https://doi.org/10.1093/sp/jxab020).

**Youssef, Maro** and Sarah Yerkes. 2021. "The Power of Bipartisan Mobilization: The Success of Tunisia's Feminist Movement During the Coronavirus Pandemic". *Middle East Law and Governance (MELG)* 14: 1-14. doi: [10.1163/18763375-14011296](https://doi.org/10.1163/18763375-14011296).<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Reprinted in [COVID and Gender in the Middle East](#), edited by Rita Stephan. Austin: University of Texas Press

<sup>4</sup> Reprinted in the [Pacific Council Magazine](#) and [University of Texas at Austin Sociology Blog](#).

## Public Sociology

**Youssef, Maro** and Sarah Yerkes. 2022. "[COVID-19 and Gender-Based Violence: Pandemic Response and Impact in Tunisia](#)" in [COVID-19 in the MENA: Two Years On](#), the Project on Middle East Political Science Studies No. 47.

Charrad, Mounira M. and **Maro Youssef**. "[Stumbling Block: Inheritance and Women's Rights in Tunisia](#)." Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University, June 29, 2021.

**Youssef, Maro**, Meriem Aissa, and Suzie Abdou.\* "[Women's rights have improved in North Africa, but the struggle continues](#)." *OpenDemocracy*, January 25, 2021. (\*equal co-authorship)<sup>4</sup>

Sarah Yerkes and **Maro Youssef**. "[Coronavirus Reveals Tunisia's Revolutionary Gains for Women Only Exist on Paper](#)." *New Arab*, June 22, 2020.<sup>5</sup>

**Youssef, Maro.** "[A Murky State-Civil Society Relationship in Tunisia](#)." *OpenDemocracy*, November 2, 2018.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Reprinted in the [Carnegie Endowment for International Peace](#).

<sup>6</sup> Reprinted in the [University of Texas at Austin Sociology Blog](#).

# Jill Richardson

University of Wisconsin-Madison



## Candidate Statement

I will receive my PhD in sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in May 2023. I use qualitative methods to compare participatory, collaborative processes with contentious politics in wildlife conflicts. Wildlife generate conflict as they are public property who freely move onto (and sometimes damage) private property. I compare social movement activists and organizations to Blackfoot Challenge, a nonprofit in rural Montana that uses consensus-based decision-making to facilitate collaborative wildlife management.

Most literature on wildlife conflicts explains why conflicts persist for decades. My three-article dissertation, which received grant funding from the National Science Foundation, is an ethnography of Blackfoot Challenge. Two articles from my dissertation are published.

In addition to my dissertation, I have gathered two and a half years of digital ethnographic data on seven social movement organizations in three different social movements in Montana and Wyoming. I am combining this data with my dissertation data

to write three articles and a book focused on providing a comparative theoretical synthesis on processes leading to collaborative wildlife management.

I have been the instructor of record for two courses, “Marriage and the Family” and “Environmental Stewardship and Social Justice.” Next semester, I will lecture “Issues in Food Systems.”

## Selected Publications

**Richardson, Jill Eileen.** 2022. “The Cows May Safely Graze: Placing Expert-Lay Relationships at the Center of Overcoming the Expert-Lay Knowledge Divide\*.” *Rural Sociology* 87(2):489–510. doi: [10.1111/ruso.12426](https://doi.org/10.1111/ruso.12426).

**Richardson, Jill Eileen.** 2022. “‘They Need to Be Managed:’ Hunters’ and Ranchers’ Narratives of Increased Tolerance of Wolves after a Decade of Wolf Hunting.” *Society & Natural Resources* 35(6):611–27. doi: [10.1080/08941920.2022.2048152](https://doi.org/10.1080/08941920.2022.2048152).

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# Benjamin S. Case, PhD

Arizona State University



## Candidate statement

I am a public sociologist interested in studies and practices of social change. I come to the academy from a movement background and have more than two decades of experience in political, community, and labor organizing, which grounds and orients my work as a scholar.

My aim is to use mixed methods research to bridge gaps between activist practice and academic studies of movements and expand our understandings of domination and resistance in service of building toward a more egalitarian world. In my organizing, research, and writing, I explore multiple angles of social change, from rioting and disruptive tactics in mass mobilizations, to rank-and-file labor organizing, to electoral engagement, to decolonization and solidarity movements. I am entering my second year as a postdoctoral researcher at Arizona State University's Center for Work and Democracy, where I lead a project on the use of ballot initiatives to pass redistributive policies, and I am a fellow at the Resistance Studies Initiative at UMass Amherst, where I help develop and edit scholar-activist writing for publication.

I completed my doctoral work in 2020 at the University of Pittsburgh, and I have a master's in public policy and management from NYU.

## Selected publications

**Case, Benjamin S.** 2022 (forthcoming). *Street Rebellion: Resistance Beyond Violence and Nonviolence*. Chico: AK Press.

**Case, Benjamin S.** 2022 (forthcoming). "Antisemitism and the Origins of Totalitarianism." In: *¡No pasarán! Antifascist Dispatches from a World in Crisis*. ed. Shane Burley. Chico: AK Press. 357-76.

**Case, Benjamin S.** 2022. Toward Riotous Strategy. *Theory in Action*. 15(2): 90-103.

**Case, Ben.** 2022. "The Coming Era of Direct Action." *Waging Nonviolence*. <https://wagingnonviolence.org/rs/2022/02/the-coming-era-of-direct-action/>

**Case, Benjamin S.** 2021. Contentious Effervescence: The Subjective Experience of Rioting. *Mobilization*. 26(2): 179-96.

**Case, Benjamin S.** 2021. "Speaking of Riots: The Complicated Reality of Violence vs. Nonviolence." *Political Violence at a Glance*. <https://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2021/02/08/speaking-of-riots-the-complicated-reality-of-violence-vs-nonviolence/>

Banerjee, Tarun, and **Benjamin S. Case**. 2020. The Leverage of Protest: How Impacting Large Corporations Shapes Success. *Sociological Forum*. 35(1): 95-125.

**Case, Benjamin Steinhardt.** 2018. "Decolonizing Jewishness: On Jewish Liberation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." *Tikkun*. 33(1-2): 47-58.

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## Danielle Koonce

University of Maryland, College Park



## Selected Publications

I currently have one co-authored paper under review for *Engaging Science, Technology, and Society (ESTS)* entitled “Renewable Ruses: Bioenergy Development in North Carolina’s Coastal Plains.” Additionally, I co-wrote and presented a paper entitled “On Transfer Student Success: Exploring the Academic Trajectories of Black Transfer Engineering Students from Community Colleges” at the ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition, 2019. I am also finalizing a paper entitled, “Determining Agendas. Describing Motives. Dissecting Leadership: Exploring a Local Chapter of Black Lives Matter.”

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I am a PhD candidate in Sociology at the University of Maryland, College Park. My areas of interest include social movements, environmental and political sociology. As a graduate student, I enjoy thinking about the connections and relationships between race and the state, race and place—particularly rural places and how these relationships are impacted by the environment. I am also very interested in understanding contemporary Black resistance movements and their departure and resemblance to the Civil Rights Movement and its rural, southern, geographical and philosophical roots.

My dissertation, “Rural Resistance and Organizing: Understanding How Rural Black Communities Engage in Environmental Justice” utilizes Aldon Morris’s conceptualizations of local movement centers to determine organizational tactics employed in today’s rural communities. I anticipate completing my dissertation by December, 2023.

## Davyd Setter

*University of New Mexico*



Davyd is a PhD candidate at the University of New Mexico. His research interests lie at the intersection of race and social movements, with a particular emphasis on how movements impact national level discourse and public opinion. His dissertation focuses on discursive outcomes of the 2020

## Recent Publications

Bloemraad, Irene, Chaudhary, A.R., & Gleeson, S. 2022. "Immigrant Organizations." *Annual Review of Sociology* 48: 5: 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-soc-030420-015613>

Bloemraad, Irene. 2022. "Claiming membership: boundaries, positionality, US citizenship, and what it means to be American." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 45(6): 1011-1033.

Isaac, Larry W., Jonathan S. Coley, Quan D. Mai, and Anna W. Jacobs. 2022. "Striking News: Discursive Power of the Press as Capitalist Resource in Gilded Age Strikes." *American Journal of Sociology* 127(5): 1602-1663.

Coley, Jonathan S., Daniel B. Cornfield, Larry W. Isaac, and Dennis C. Dickerson. 2022. "Social Movements as Schooling for Careers: Career Consequences of the Nashville Civil Rights Movement." *Social Movement Studies* 21(3): 255-273.

Creasap, Kimberly. 2022. "Small-Town Pride." *Contexts*, 21, 2: 55-57.

Kadivar, Mohammad Ali. 2022. "Social Development and Revolution in Iran." *Sociology of Development* 8(2):213–37.

Burrell, Melissa, Corrie Grosse and Brigid Mark. 2022. "Resistance to Petro-hegemony: A Three Terrains of Power Analysis of the Line 3 Tar Sands Pipeline in Minnesota." *Energy Research & Social Science*. 91. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102724>.

Black Lives Matter protest wave, examining shifts in public opinion on police reform measures, such as funding allocation and #8Can'tWait reforms, as well as shifts in national-level political rhetoric around the movement pre-and post-2020. Recently, he has begun working with members of the UNM community and the William T. Grant Foundation to assist in developing a juvenile diversion program in New Mexico's First Judicial District.

### Selected Publications

**Setter, Davyd.** 2021. "Changes in Support for U.S. Black Movements, 1966-2016: From Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter." *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* 26(4):475–88. doi: [10.17813/1086-671X-26-4-475](https://doi.org/10.17813/1086-671X-26-4-475).

**Setter, Davyd** and Sharon Erickson-Nepstad. 2022. How Social Movements Influence Public Opinion on Political Violence: Attitude Shifts in the Wake of the George Floyd Protests. *In Revision*.

**Setter, Davyd.** Commemorative Cooptation: Rhetorical Usage of Martin Luther King Jr. Through the American Presidency, 1968-2020. *Work in Progress*.

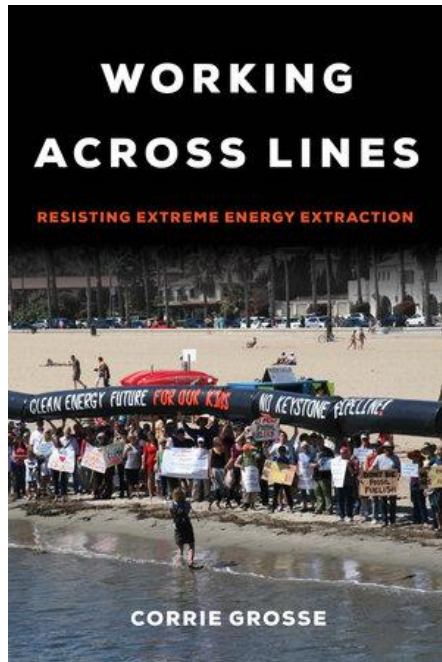
**Setter, Davyd.** Black Lives Matter's Impact on Criminal Justice Reform Attitudes: Shifts in Public Opinion on Crime Spending, 2016-2020. *Work in Progress*.

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Grosse, Corrie. 2022. *Working Across Lines: Resisting Extreme Energy Extraction*. Berkeley: University of California Press.<sup>7</sup>

*About the book (from the publisher):* How are communities uniting against fracking and tar sands to change our energy future? *Working across Lines* offers a detailed comparative analysis of climate justice coalitions in California and



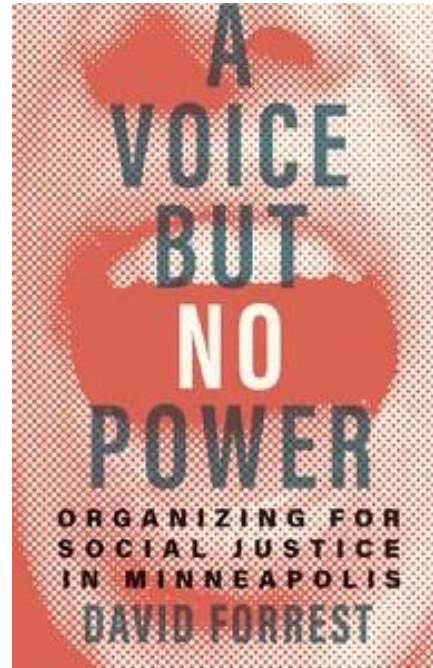
Idaho—two states with distinct fossil fuel histories, environmental contexts, and political cultures. Drawing on ethnographic evidence from 106 in-depth interviews and three years of participant observation, Corrie Grosse investigates the ways people build effective energy justice coalitions across differences in political views, race and ethnicity, age, and strategic preferences.

This book argues for four practices that are critical for movement building: focusing on core values of justice, accountability, and integrity; identifying the roots of injustice; cultivating relationships among activists; and welcoming difference.

In focusing on coalitions related to energy and climate justice, Grosse provides important models for bridging divides to reach common goals. These lessons are more relevant than ever.

Forrest, David. 2022. *A Voice but No Power: Organizing for Social Justice in Minneapolis*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

*About the book (from the publisher):* Since the Great Recession, even as protest and rebellion have occurred with growing frequency, many



social justice organizers continue to displace as much as empower popular struggles for egalitarian and emancipatory change. David Forrest explains why this happens and explores how these organizers might better

reach their potential as advocates for the abolition of exploitation, discrimination, and other unjust conditions.

Youssef, Maro. 2022. "Strategic Choices: How Conservative Women Activists Remained Active throughout Tunisia's Democratic Transition" in *Sociological Forum* 37 (3) [doi:10.1111/socf.12828](https://doi.org/10.1111/socf.12828).

Youssef, Maro and Sarah Yerkes. "[COVID-19 and Gender-Based Violence: Pandemic Response and Impact in Tunisia](#)" in [COVID-19 in the MENA: Two Years On](#), the *Project on Middle East Political Science Studies* No. 47.

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<sup>7</sup> Just released by UC Press! Written in an accessible style for scholars, students, and the public. Use code 21W2240 at checkout for 30% off.

## Announcements

**New Critical Mass Editors Search:** Critical Mass will be seeking new editors to begin duties starting in Fall 2023. The current co-editors, Julia Goldman-Hasbun and Mario Venegas will be finishing their final year (2022-2023), and CBSM will be making a call for new editors starting at ASA. If you are interested, please come to the CBSM Business Meeting at ASA this year where there will be more information about the position and duties. More announcements will be made as to the application process. Stay tuned!

### Next Issue of Critical Mass

The Fall 2022 issue of the Critical Mass Newsletter will highlight the winners of the CBSM Section Awards. We welcome essays that explore race and gender dimensions within social movements, such as inequalities, power dynamics, etc., (max 750 words), new publications, and announcements.