



Department of Sociology

Notes from the Chair ~ Laura Miller



Dear Brandeis Sociology Community,

The end of the academic year generally brings a whirlwind of activity, and this year is no exception. Students' thesis defenses are scheduled, final projects are written, performed, and displayed, and faculty and staff desperately try to complete all those tasks that for some reason seemed a whole lot more manageable back in January. In that way, it's a typical academic year. But in other ways, it feels like it's been an unusually full year.

I am very happy to report that the Sociology Department successfully completed our search to fill a new Assistant Professor position in environmental justice. Rachel McKane, a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Brown University, will begin teaching at Brandeis in the fall. In other significant faculty news, both Gowri Vijayakumar and Derron Wallace were promoted to Associate Professor with tenure; this follows last academic year's promotions of Siri Suh to Associate Professor with tenure and Sara Shostak to full Professor with tenure. In yet another transition, Karen Hansen announced that this spring semester is her last teaching, and she will retire from Brandeis in June 2024. We are grateful for everything Karen has done for the Sociology Department and the university, including most recently, stepping in as Sociology Department Chair for the fall '22 semester. I know I will miss Karen's presence in the department, but I also look forward to hearing more about the several research and writing projects that will keep her very busy for a long time.

In much sadder news, many of you are aware that longtime professor, Gordie Fellman, died this past fall. This loss deeply affected his family, friends, colleagues, and former students. There are some lovely [tributes](#) to Gordie you can find by going to the [Sociology Department's website](#).

Turning to our curricula, in response to considerable demand from students, we designed a Sociology minor, which will soon launch. The minor will exist alongside the continuing Sociology major. The demand for the minor is testament to how Brandeis students, even those choosing to specialize in quite different fields, want the kinds of understandings of the world that sociology brings. Additionally, as part of a university-wide review of PhD programs, we conducted an assessment of our own two PhD programs, in Sociology and in Social Policy and Sociology. To me, one of the most interesting parts of

In this newsletter, you will read more about our faculty, students, staff, and alumni. We in the Sociology Department so enjoy all opportunities to catch up with you, whether it be through the notes you send, the reception in conjunction with the American Sociological Association meetings, or the events that have been taking place as part of the 70th anniversary of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. Please continue to stay in touch.



Faculty and Staff Notes

~ Department of Sociology Faculty ~

Wendy Cadge continues as the Dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences which is celebrating its [70th anniversary](#) this year. Her book, [Spiritual Care: the Everyday Work of Chaplains](#), was recently published by Oxford University Press and she was happy to share stories from the book on [WBUR](#) and in the [Atlantic](#).

Articles in 2022 include:

- Forthcoming. “How Leaders Negotiate Religious Differences: Frameworks of Mandate and Interpersonal Care” with Carolina Seigler* *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*.
- Forthcoming. “The Work of Port Chaplains: Views from Seafarers Served” with Helen Sampson, Nelson Turgo, Sophie Gilliat-Ray and Graeme Smith *Journal of Contemporary Religion*.
- 2022. “Where are Chaplains in Federal and State Institutions: An Institutional Note” with Amy Lawton and Danielle Xanthos. *Psychological Services*.
- 2022. “Supporting Chaplains on the Frontlines of the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Mixed Method Practice-based Pilot Intervention Study” with Captari, L. E., Hydinger, K. R., Sandage, S. J., Choe, E. J., Bronstein, M., Stavros, G., Shim, P., Kintanar, A. R., & Rambo, S. *Psychological Services*.
- 2022. ““From “Civilian Clergy to Officer”: Hiring and Training Chaplains for Federal Government Positions” with Grace Tien. *Sociology of Religion*.
- 2022. “Relying on the kindness of strangers: Welfare providers to seafarers and the symbolic construction of community” with Helen Sampson, Nelson Turgo, Sophie Gillat-Ray, Graeme Smith. *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*.
- 2022. “Overstretched and under-resourced’: The corporate neglect of port welfare services for seafarers” with Helen Sampson, Nelson Turgo, Sophie Gilliat-Ray and Graeme Smith” *Marine Policy & Management*.
- 2022. ““Here today, gone tomorrow:’ the risks and rewards of port chaplaincy” with Helen Sampson, Nelson Turgo, Sophie Gillat-Ray, Graeme Smith *Journal of Belief & Values*.
- 2022. “Reflections on Supply, Demand, Free Exercise and Establishment.” Amy Lawton and Grace Tien. *U.S. Army Chaplaincy Corps Journal*.
- 2022. “Experiences of Moral Distress in a COVID-19 Intensive Care Unit: A Qualitative Study of Nurses and Respiratory Therapists in the United States” with Julia Bandini, Sara Shostak, Vivian Donahue, Mariah Lewis*, Sophie Trachtenberg*, Katelyn Grone, Robert Kacmarek, Laura Lux, Cristina Matthews, Mary Elizabeth McAuley, Frederic Romain, Colleen Snyderman, Tara Tehan, Ellen Robinson. *Nursing Inquiry*.

Current Grants - [Chaplaincy Innovation Lab](#):

Templeton Religion Trust	"Chaplains as Facilitators of Covenantal Pluralism; Building Demand Based Models and Training Programs"
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NEH via Ctr for Independent Documentary	"Boston's Hidden Sacred Spaces"
E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation	"Diversifying the Pipeline of Chaplains: A Field Guide, Mentorship and Job Placement Program"
John E. Fetzer Institute	"Underserved Populations in Spiritual Care"
Charles H. Revson Foundation	Strengthening Jewish Chaplaincy: Demonstration Projects Based on Demand
Louisville Institute	Queer Calls for Chaplaincy

Karen V. Hansen - Karen served as department chair once again in fall 2022, and then happily handed the baton back to the intrepid [Laura Miller](#) this spring.

Last fall Karen taught “Social Class and Social Inequality,” a course Gordie Fellman offered for decades. Thanks to a grant from the [Brandeis Year of Climate Action](#) and funds from the Dean’s Co-Curricular Fund, a series of speakers contributed richly to our unit on Environmental Justice (thanks to advice from [Ann Ward](#), PhD ‘23!) The highlight for Karen was working with Brandeis Professor and artist [Joe Wardwell](#), who had asked me to share some of our narratives from [Cascading Lives](#), her collaborative project on downward mobility as understood through the life histories of working people. Joe incorporated a rich bilingual selection of their interview subjects’ personal insights and observations into his thirty-foot-high murals at the Institute of Contemporary Art - Watershed in East Boston. Being with the Social Inequality students on their field trip to the Watershed – and marveling at Joe’s visually arresting, dare-you-to-connect-the-dots show, “[Gotta Go to Work, Gotta Go to Work, Gotta Get a Job](#)” – was a memorable learning and teaching experience.

The Cascading Lives project has sparked intensive collaboration with students who have become scholarly colleagues. [Sam Leonard](#) (ABD) conducted many interviews and has engaged in intellectual collaboration over the life of the project, always with insight and sensitivity. Right now, two Brandeis students – [Lauren Crosser](#) (PhD student) and [Claire Hou](#) (Sociology and English major) – are co-authoring a paper with Karen, “Cascading Moments: Portraits of Downward Mobility,” for the upcoming Nordic Association for American Studies conference in Uppsala, Sweden. This cascading work will become a book, sometime down the road. With any luck, this fall they will be mounting a photographic exhibit featuring portraits of a dozen of the cascading subjects, at both Brandeis and Boston University.

Karen’s 2022 lead article in the *Swedish-American Borderlands* anthology culminated twenty years of research and writing on Scandinavian immigration and Native American land dispossession. Thinking about the collision of these two forces has been intellectually generative for her and other scholars. Karen continues to be a part of ongoing discussions – at a Western History Association panel last fall, and at a workshop in Sweden this Spring, which will focus on sharing sources across the Atlantic on indigenous and immigration history. Next spring, Karen will give a keynote address on the topic at a Munich conference on “The American Immigrant Narrative Revisited – 1924-2024.”

Karen’s study of Sunnyvale High School, an integrated, working-class public school in Northern California in the 1970s, has recently calved into two books. *Against the Odds: Working-Class Kids, Visionary Educators, and Multiracial Belonging* (Rowman & Littlefield, forthcoming) will use fifty oral histories of students, faculty members, and administrators to tell the story of how and why one high school worked so well for so many, across a wide range of differences. Karen’s chief collaborator on this

project has been [Nicholas Monroe](#) (PhD '21). The other book, *On the Edge: Scenes from a Fragmented Childhood*, is a memoir about a critical period in her life, in which friends and teachers played roles of lasting significance. This has been a humbling experience; Karen is several years into what has been an arduous process of learning an entirely new way of writing. While often difficult and sometimes painful, it has also been exhilarating and full of surprises.

As many of you know, Karen will be on sabbatical next year, and then retire and assume Emerita status in July, 2024. Karen wants to acknowledge that, here and now, and she will share a more substantive reflection at another place and time. Karen looks forward to her year (plus!) of immersive writing, joyfully punctuated by visits with her Brandeis and Sociology friends.

Sarah Mayorga enjoyed her Senior Research Leave during the fall semester. She worked on the final edits for her forthcoming book, *Urban Specters: The Everyday Harms of Racial Capitalism*, which will be published by UNC Press in September. She also worked on a co-authored book with Elizabeth Korver-Glenn, which they recently submitted for peer review at the University of Chicago Press. During this leave, Sarah also prepared to teach a new course, the introductory course for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies, and a grad seminar in Urban Sociology, which she hasn't taught in many years. She is also pleased that her second publication with coauthors Megan Underhill and Brandeis PhD student Lauren Crosser is forthcoming from Contexts, titled "Aisle Inequality."

Laura Miller is completing her last semester as Sociology Department Chair, and is looking forward to soon having fewer meetings on her calendar. In summer '22, she also completed a year as Chair of the American Sociological Association Consumers and Consumption section. In fall '22, she enjoyed teaching a new course on Countercultures and Cultural Change, which included student research papers on a wide range of countercultures, from freegans to flappers to free birth, and more. Laura continues her research on vegetarian cookbooks. In June, along with former Brandeis grad student, Emilie Hardman, and current Brandeis grad student, Danielle Jacques, she will do a "kitchen session" at the Association for the Study of Food and Society annual conference, which will combine the preparation of seminal vegetarian dishes with a discussion about their social significance as a means of illustrating changes in American vegetarian practice and ideology over time.

Michael Nooy-Strand spent most of the year teaming up with a colleague and trying to rethink probability. Their efforts turned into a manuscript that will, hopefully, see the light of day sooner rather than later. He also continued to wonder whether social justice is not best thought of as a field as opposed to a principle or a concept, and he wrote something small to that effect. He also enjoyed teaching a surprisingly large Order and Change in Society class, and a surprisingly large Contemporary Social Theory seminar.

Chandler Rosenberger is continuing his research on nationalism in authoritarian states, especially in China and Russia. In March he spoke to the International Studies Association about similarities between Ukraine's struggle against Russian control and Hong Kong's resistance to China's crackdown on democratic movements. During his spring 2023 sabbatical Chandler has been finishing up his study of the thoughts of Wang Huning, the Chinese Communist Party's top political thinker, as well as his study of the Hong Kong sovereignty movement. He also traveled to Japan to give an invited lecture at Chuo University in Tokyo.

Sara Shostak is honored to serve as the inaugural director of the [Vic '63 and Bobbi Samuels '63 Center for Community Partnerships and Civic Transformation](#) (COMPACT). [Founded](#) with an [extraordinary gift](#) from Bobbi Samuels and the [Samuels Family Foundation](#), COMPACT brings together scholars, activists,

students, practitioners, and community partners to work collaboratively to create a more just, equitable, and sustainable world. Through this collaborative approach, the center seeks to make ethical and respectful community [engagement](#) a central pillar of a Brandeis [education](#), to establish [engaged scholarship](#) and [pedagogy](#) as signature strengths of the university, and to create transformative social change through collective action.

At the same time, Sara's research continues to consider the possibilities and challenges of creating a just, equitable, and healthy food system. Her recent publications include:

- Shostak, S. 2022. "'When You Heal the Soil...': Environmental Racism and Socioecological Repair in Contemporary Urban Agriculture." *Environmental Sociology* 8(4): 400-412.
- Shostak, S. 2022. "'How Do We Measure Justice?': Missions and Metrics in Urban Agriculture." *Agriculture and Human Values* 39(3): 953-964.

Sara was humbled and excited to be invited to write the first ever *Annual Review of Sociology* article focused on food, which is forthcoming in 2023. She is also very happy to be co-authoring a paper with Brandeis alum [Tamar Harrison](#) and Linda Palmer, of the [Urban Farming Institute of Boston](#). In the past year, she's given talks at the University of Edinburgh, Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne, College of the Holy Cross, and University of California, San Diego.

Siri Suh's book, [Dying to Count: Post-Abortion Care and Global Reproductive Health Politics](#), received the 2022 [Eileen Basker Memorial Prize](#) from the Society of Medical Anthropology of the American Anthropological Association. Siri was awarded a \$600,000 grant by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation (supplementing a previous Hewlett grant) for her research project, "Into Women's Hands: Misoprostol and the Politics of Reproduction in Burkina Faso and Senegal."

Publications:

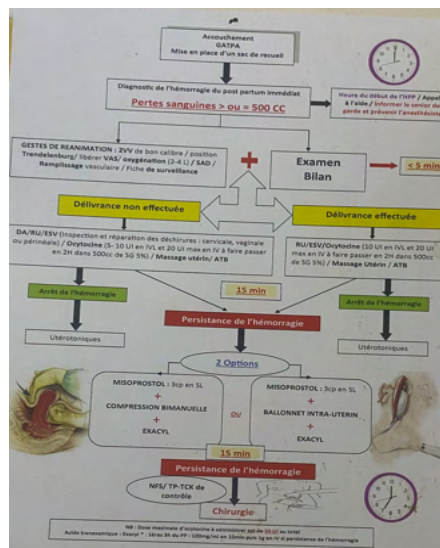
Suh, Siri and Julia McReynolds-Pérez. (Winter 2023) was published in the feminist studies journal *Signs*. "[Subversive epidemiology in abortion care: reproductive governance from the global to the local in Argentina and Senegal.](#)" In the post-Roe era, it offers transnational perspectives on how health workers navigate restrictive abortion laws, and consequences for women's health.

Research and Grants:

In January 2022, Siri launched an ethnographic research project titled "Into Women's Hands: Misoprostol and the Politics of Reproduction in Burkina Faso and Senegal." With \$300,000 in funding from the Hewlett Foundation, and in collaboration with colleagues from national universities in Burkina Faso and Senegal, this project explores the use of misoprostol for approved and off-label obstetric indications in formal and informal health sectors. As part of the project, she and her colleagues are training and mentoring 6 graduate students at the Université Joseph Ki-Zerbo (Burkina Faso) and the Université Cheikh Anta Diop (Senegal) in the practice and ethics of qualitative research on reproductive health. To date, they have conducted 51 in-depth interviews with health workers, NGO workers, informal drug vendors, religious leaders, and men and women who have purchased or used abortion medications. In Senegal, they have observed the use of misoprostol in obstetric care in 3 government health facilities, and observed the sale of abortive medications in an informal market. In both countries, they are tracing the online sale and circulation of abortion medications. They aim to disseminate their findings in academic, medical, public health, media and community settings, and to support policy makers and health professionals in developing women-centered practices and guidelines related to misoprostol procurement, distribution, and use. The goal of this project is to inform discussions with health policy makers, practitioners, and activists related to maternal mortality reduction in both countries, and more broadly, in the region. Additionally, they aim to foster South-South and South-North capacity-building and

collaboration related to qualitative research on reproductive health. Although the current project ends in June 2022, the Hewlett Foundation recently committed an additional \$600,000 for two more years of research.

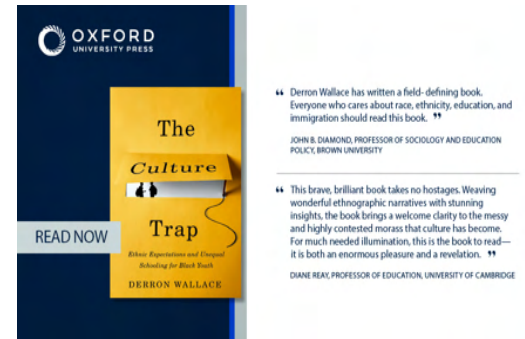
Images: The research team outside the department of sociology at Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal; Siri in front of a lovely mural at Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal; a job aid poster that demonstrates the active management of the third stage of labor, including the use of misoprostol, in the delivery room at a regional hospital in Senegal; and storage of misoprostol at a district hospital in Senegal



Gowri Vijayakumar saw two collaborative books finally get published in 2022. A volume she co-edited with Smitha Radhakrishnan, [*Sociology of South Asia: Postcolonial Legacies, Global Imaginaries*](#), was published by Palgrave, and Akkai Padmashali's memoir, [*A Small Step in a Long Journey*](#), which Gowri helped write, was published by Zubaan. She also published three very different articles. One article, "Between Pandemics: Sex Worker, Sexual Minority, and Transgender Activism from HIV to COVID-19," was published in *Global Public Health*. Brandeis students Sarah J. Halford and Sanjitha Subramaniam are co-authors on this paper, which analyzes how activists sustained support networks from one pandemic to another. Another article, "India and Africa in the Pandemic Imagination," published in *Contemporary South Asia*, analyzes ways sex workers became targets of disease panic in relation to syphilis, AIDS, and COVID-19, in colonial and postcolonial India, and considers how racialized comparisons to Africa were used in public health literature during the AIDS pandemic in particular. Finally, "Labors of Love: Sex, Work, and Good Mothering in the Globalizing City," published in *Signs*, looks at how women migrant workers in Bangalore strive to become "good mothers," and how sex work becomes the key to doing so.

Gowri's 2021 book, *At Risk: Indian Sexual Politics and the Global AIDS Crisis*, won four book awards at the 2022 ASA meetings. This year, in addition to her ongoing work on sex work in India, she is starting interviews on a new project on love and dating in the South Asian diaspora. She is excited to be co-curating the Feminisms Unbound speaker series through the GCWS. But really, she spent most of 2022 running after her very energetic 4-year-old and new baby.

Derron Wallace received a Fulbright Scholar Award and a National Academy of Education/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship to support ethnographic fieldwork on policing in London and New York City schools. Under the auspices of these fellowships, he is spending the 2022-2023 academic year on sabbatical in London schools. With sociology graduate students Jenny LaFleur, Zora Haque and Habiba Braimah, Derron co-authored an article, "Can we Just Talk? Exploring discourses on race and racism among US undergraduates during the COVID-19 pandemic," in *Educational Review*, a premier British journal. Additionally, Derron published his first book, *The Culture Trap: Ethnic Expectations and Unequal Schooling for Black Youth* with Oxford University Press.



~ Emeriti Faculty ~

Carmen Sirianni convened a national conference this past year in Washington, DC, on Civic Engagement in American Climate Policy: Collaborative Models. Participants included leading scholars in 12 areas of research, as well as leaders in civic and professional associations, federal, state, and local government. Topics included such areas as environmental justice, sustainable cities, collaborative conservation, citizen science, environmental education, digital and geospatial mapping tools, climate and conservation Corps, climate communication, urban forestry, coastal management, community design, civic professional practice, and federal policy design. Ann Ward worked with Carmen on the conference and preliminary research, along with the American Institute of Architects, the Kettering Foundation, and Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University. Our report appeared in October and Carmen is currently extending the research for a book that he is finishing this year.

~ Staff ~

Cheri Hansen is the Senior Academic Administrator. She manages the busy Sociology Office and provides administrative and technical support for the department. Whenever the weather cooperates, Cheri commutes to work on her e-bike.

Lauren Jordahl supports Sociology graduate admissions, the Social Justice and Social Policy program (SJSP), and the Peace, Conflict, and Coexistence Studies program (PAX). She serves on the [Brandeis University Staff Advisory Committee \(BUSAC\)](#) and on the Total Rewards Advisory Committee on campus. Lauren enjoys staying active and being outside!

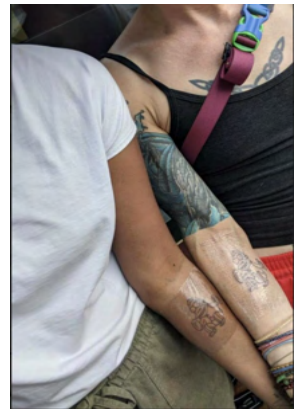
CURRENT Graduate Student News

Lauren Crosser (*PhD Sociology student*) has done a lot of writing and had a chance for a lot of creative ventures. Most importantly, she has started a band and just recorded some demos! Academically, Lauren is in the part of grad school that is weird and unstructured, and is managing her own time a lot. But overall she likes it because it gives her the space to do art as well as her research. Lauren has published two articles with Sarah Mayorga and Megan Underhill - one in *City and Community*, and one in *Contexts*, both on grocery shopping and racial capitalism. She has also published an encyclopedia entry on Cedric Robinson for the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*, and a book review on Olúfẹmí O. Táíwò's *Reconsidering Reparations* in *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*. Lauren is currently working on a paper about the construction of whiteness through political battles over homesteading, and getting ready for QPD's.

Sanchita Dasgupta (*PhD Sociology student*) is currently preparing for her qualifying exam. She published a Book Review in *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*: "[Refusing Death: Immigrant Women and the Fight for Environmental Justice in LA.](#)" Sanchita has been trying to achieve a better work life balance and also pay attention to her mental health. She has been making use of resources available on campus to go hiking, eat free food and watch plays while taking a break from writing.

Zach Fox (*PhD Sociology student*) is still managing long COVID fatigue. Zach has been working on an article on field theory and historical events which he will be presenting at this summer's annual ASA conference in Philadelphia and hoping to teach Intro to Sociological Theory this summer if the class fills enough to run.

Sneha Gantla and Jenny LaFleur (*Joint PhD students in Sociology and the Heller School for Social Policy*) - Sneha and Jenny marked another unfunded year of late-stage studenthood by getting matching circus monkey tattoos. The little ink fellers proved to be a great cheering squad, encouraging Sneha to pass her QPDs and Jenny to commute to Worcester to teach at Clark while working on her dissertation. The cheeky monkey's clanging cymbals will no doubt encourage each of them on to their next milestones.



Danielle Jacques (*PhD Sociology student*) is so excited to have joined the Brandeis Sociology community! As a first-year PhD student, she spent the first few months settling in, thinking through potential new projects, and finishing up her master's thesis work. Last year, she spent ten months conducting research on heritage narratives and food tourism in rural Bulgaria. She recently received the inaugural Distinguished Master's Thesis Award from the Graduate Association for Food Studies for this work. *Image: Danielle judging the annual "Queen of Lyutenitsa" contest at a festival in Kurtovo Konare, Bulgaria in the fall of 2021.*



Samantha Leonard (*PhD Sociology student*) is looking forward to defending her dissertation in June and is currently working hard on revisions. The dissertation is a comparative study of how activists and service providers work to define, treat, and prevent intimate partner violence in the cities of Boston, USA and Buenos Aires, Argentina. During the fall 2022 semester, she taught a course based on her research titled "Violence and Intimacy". This was made possible by a University Prize Fellowship. Sam also recently enjoyed presenting on some of this research for the Sociology alumni reunion organized by GSAS this March. It was a wonderful chance to meet alumni of the program and learn more about their experiences at Brandeis. In fall 2023, she will be joining the faculty at Mount Holyoke College as a Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

Juliana Richardson (*Joint MA in Sociology and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies student*) received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Western Carolina University and a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology (concentration in forensics) from Western Carolina University. Juliana is in the joint Sociology and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Master's program at Brandeis. She completed her first year in the program in the Spring of 2022. Currently, she is working on finishing her research involving hospital nurse's mental health and experience of the first year in Covid-19 Pandemic.



Manning Zhang (*Joint PhD student in Sociology and the Heller School for Social Policy*): It is a safe, stable year in which Manning accumulated knowledge, research data, and tried new things such as Hip-hop choreography and Latin dance. Manning went to the annual conferences of ESS and ASA for the first time and visited LA and Seattle! She also worked as a graduate student leader for an on-campus undergraduate research mentorship program (URCC). Looking back on this year, Manning feels deeply grateful for all of the support from the faculty members and colleagues in the department, her partner, and her parents and friends, who shared positivity with her when I felt struggled. In 2023, with increased courage and determination, Manning will keep marching on and share kindness as much as possible. Manning worked on the following grants:

- Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowship (The American Council of Learned Societies and The Mellon Foundation, for innovational dissertation)
- The Connected PhD Scholarship (The Mellon Foundation, for PhD students' career development)



**Our amazing graduate students celebrate together at our
Sociology *Welcome Back Event* in fall 2022!**





Brandeis University



Department of Sociology ~ Tidbits

Featured in this section:

Recent Graduates

Department Updates & Events

In Memoriam

Donation Opportunities

Sociology Undergraduate Department Representatives (UDRs)



CONGRADULATIONS to our Recent Sociology Graduates!



Joint Master's in Sociology and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Lijun Lin (Current PhD Student)

Thelma Wang

MA in Sociology

Korey Erb (Current PhD Student)

Department Updates & Events

- In January 2023, the Brandeis Board of Trustees voted to approve the promotions of **Gowri Vijayakumar** to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Sociology, and **Derron Wallace** to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Sociology and the Education Program. We are delighted to see this well-deserved recognition of their excellent research, teaching and service, and to have both Derron and Gowri as members of the Sociology Department. *Please join us in congratulating Gowri and Derron on this outstanding achievement!*
- We invite you to watch this great [video](#) featuring Professor **Siri Suh** and Sociology UDR **Rachel Judson**, about *Sociology at Brandeis*!



ASA ~ August 2022 Brandeis Reception in Los Angeles *Laura Miller and Catherine Tan (PhD alum)*



Nicole Fox (PhD alum) with Karen V. Hansen and Laura Miller

Sociology Colloquium

Second-Class Daughters: Black Brazilian Women and Informal Adoption as Modern Slavery

SECOND-CLASS DAUGHTERS:
Black Brazilian Women & Informal Adoption as Modern Slavery

DR. ELIZABETH HORDGE-FREEMAN



Associate Professor
Sociology, USF

TUES. FEB. 7 3:30-5pm
PEARLMAN 202

SPONSORED BY LACLS, THE SCHOOL OF ARTS
AND SCIENCE, AND THE SOCIOLOGY DEPT.

Dr. Elizabeth Hodge-Freeman presented her new book, *Second-Class Daughters: Black Brazilian Women and Informal Adoption as Modern Slavery* (Cambridge University Press, 2022). *Book description:* A legacy of the transatlantic slave trade, Brazil is home to the largest number of African descendants outside Africa and the greatest number of domestic workers in the world. Drawing on ten years of interviews and ethnographic research, the author examines the lives of marginalized informal domestic workers who are called 'adopted daughters' but who live in slave-like conditions in the homes of their adoptive families. She traces a nuanced and, at times, disturbing account of how adopted daughters, who are trapped in a system of racial, gender, and class oppression, live with the coexistence of extreme forms of exploitation and seemingly loving familial interactions and

affective relationships. Highlighting the humanity of her respondents, Hodge-Freeman examines how filhas de criação (raised daughters) navigate the realities of their structural constraints and in the context of pervasive norms of morality, gratitude, and kinship. In all, the author clarifies the link between contemporary and colonial forms of exploitation, while highlighting the resistance and agency of informal domestic workers.

Gender Replay: Barrie Thorne, Brandeis Sociology, and the Making and Legacy of Gender Play

Presented by Dr. Freeden Blume Oeur and Dr. C.J. Pascoe

Upcoming Sociology Colloquium
**Gender Replay: Barrie Thorne,
Brandeis Sociology, and the
Making and Legacy of
Gender Play**

Sponsored by Brandeis Sociology, Mandel Center for Humanities,
Office of Graduate Affairs, and the School of Arts and Sciences

Thursday,
March 23rd
Pearlman 113
3:30 - 5:00 PM



Dr. C.J. Pascoe, Brandeis Alum



Dr. Freeden Blume Oeur

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Barrie Thorne's book *Gender Play: Girls and Boys in School*, a landmark study of the social worlds of primary school children that sparked a paradigm shift in our understanding of how kids and the adults around them contest and reinforce gender boundaries. In our talk, we share highlights from our new edited volume, *Gender Replay: On Kids, Schools, and Feminism*, which reflects on the 30 years since the publication of this classic. We also chronicle the 30 years before the book, which saw the early years of the Brandeis Sociology graduate program--and the broader radical political movements taking hold in the Boston area and beyond--as foundational in shaping Thorne's thinking on and commitments to feminist practice and the worlds of kids.

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In Memoriam ~ Gordie Fellman



Gordie Fellman

*With sympathy, we share the passing of Gordie Fellman,
Professor Emeritus of Sociology*

Gordie Fellman, a beloved teacher and colleague, died on October 19, 2022 at the age of 88. He leaves behind his wife Pamela Blau, and their two children, Ezra and Talia. Gordie, a Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Brandeis University, retired in May 2022 after having taught at the university level for 60 years, 55 of those years at Brandeis.

Gordie grew up in Nebraska and attended Antioch College for his undergraduate degree. Antioch opened his eyes to the excitement of learning, activism, and passionate political debate. He got his Ph.D. in Sociology from Harvard and in 1964 joined the fledgling Sociology Department at Brandeis. Over the years, he inspired generations of students to think critically, be self-reflective, and engage in social action. As a former student commented at Gordie's June 2022 retirement gathering, Gordie conveyed warmth, passion, and concern for students as people. He invited students to join him in an inquiring and critical approach to learning and to take an active and creative role in their own education. Countless students have spoken of the profound personal growth they experienced in his classes, and the ways Gordie inspired them to make the world a better place.

He taught numerous courses: "Deconstructing War, Building Peace," "Social Class and Social Change," "Masculinities," "Marx and Freud," "Sociology of Empowerment," "Psychoanalytic Sociology," "Sociology of the Israeli-Palestinian Confrontation," and "Public Sociology." He explained that this seemingly disparate listing revolved around several central questions: What are the sources, in history and in the self's development and inner workings, of unnecessary human suffering? How can it be thoughtfully, carefully, mindfully reduced? His "Sociology of Empowerment" class stood out as a transformative experience for hundreds of students over the past 25 years. Based on experiences in this class, many students of Gordie's have gone on to be activists and peace makers. As a final project for this course students in the Empowerment class created the Peace monument. Gordie won the Louis Dembitz Brandeis Prize for Excellence in Teaching in 1999. And in 2007, he won the Student Union Best Teaching Award.

Gordie was chair of the Sociology Department from 1974-1976, and again from 1984-1987. As well as being a faculty member of the Sociology Department, he was a co-founder and, from 1990 on, served as chair of the interdisciplinary Peace, Conflict, and Coexistence Studies Program - PAX (originally called Peace Studies Program, and later, Peace and Conflict Studies Program).

Gordie played a major role in numerous key moments in Brandeis' history. He was an active supporter of the original Ford Hall demonstration in 1968 (leading to the creation of the African-American Studies program - the first in the country) and of the National Student Strike in 1970. In spring 1998, he and a remarkable group of about 35 members of Brandeis Students for a Free Tibet carried out 16 programs called Seven Weeks on Tibet. It culminated with the Dalai Lama's May 8-9 visit to Brandeis where for the first time a group of Buddhist nuns created a sand mandala. Previously only monks had been allowed to perform this sacred ritual. In 2007, Gordie was one of a small group of colleagues who, in the face of fierce opposition, invited President Carter to visit Brandeis to discuss the situation in the Middle East. President Carter subsequently wrote that this was one of the seminal moments of his career and described these courageous actions as "vivid examples of the values that Justice Brandeis championed and the principles on which Brandeis University was founded."

Gordie's first book, co-authored with Barbara Brandt, *The Deceived Majority: Politics and Protest in Middle America* (1973), is based on his experience, together with a group of neighbors in Cambridge, of successfully fighting the "inner belt" highway that was going to destroy Cambridge working class neighborhoods. His second book published in 1998 was *Rambo and the Dalai Lama: The Compulsion to Win and Its Threat to Human Survival* (Albany: SUNY Press). In this book he developed a central idea of his thinking, offering a paradigm of mutuality based on cooperation, caring, nurturing, and loving. This he suggested should supplant the dominant western paradigm of adversarialism based on conflicts of interest, and war. Gordie saw the shifting emphasis from adversarialism to mutuality as essential for the survival of our species and of the environment.

Gordie married for the first time when he was 65. He fulfilled his lifelong desire to become a parent when he became a father to Ezra in 2001 and to Talia in 2003. Being a father brought Gordie tremendous joy! Ezra and Talia enjoyed visiting their Dad's office in Pearlman Hall at Brandeis and occasionally attended one of his classes. He loved introducing his students to his kids and his kids to his students. Numerous classes of "Sociology of Empowerment" came to the Fellman/Blau house for the annual pot-luck. From this came many beloved babysitters and friends who the family cherishes to this day.

Most recently Gordie was awarded the '2021 Peace Educator-Scholar Award' for excellence in scholarship and dedication to peace education by The Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSA). For the Brandeis University 2022 Commencement, Gordie was honored to serve as the Grand Marshall. After retiring, Gordie continued to work on a manuscript elaborating on his ideas of mutuality and the necessity of ending war in order to address the climate crisis. He also began a garden of succulents and orchids, enjoyed making meals for his family, and fulfilled a childhood dream to learn to play the piano. He will be missed greatly.

We remember and honor Gordie

- ***Memorial Service to honor Gordie's legacy, held at Brandeis University, October 24, 2022 - [Memorial Service Video](#)***
- ***Celebration of Gordie's Retirement from Brandeis University, June 2, 2022 - [Event Recording](#)***



In Memoriam ~ Robbie Pfeufer Kahn



Robbie Pfeufer Kahn

September 26, 1941 - August 3, 2022

Brandeis Alum

Robbie was born and raised in New York City. She grew up with a profound love of horses, and a passion for Shakespeare that she would carry throughout her life.

Robbie was awarded a PhD in Sociology from Brandeis University in Massachusetts in 1988 where she met her first husband - the father of her son. They lived together in Boston where Robbie was a contributor to the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, and the first publishing of the seminal book *Our Bodies Ourselves* on women's health.

Robbie went on to publish two more books, numerous articles and poems. She was a tenured professor at the University of Vermont teaching sociology through a feminist perspective until her retirement.

Robbie had a profound connection with nature. The mountains, oceans, and woods were her spaces of grounding. She shared this enjoyment with several loyal dogs she cared for over decades.

Robbie is survived by her son, two grandchildren, and numerous young people who she taught and mentored in women's health and feminist theory. Those Robbie shared her impassioned knowledge with, have gone on to practice as teachers, midwives, authors, and activists, experiencing life differently with nonconformist empowerment. Both open minded and supportive throughout her life, Robbie always encouraged radical thinking and going against the grain.

Robbie would want to be remembered in the warm summer breeze, the cliffs by the edge of the ocean, the horses that gallop free, and the renewal of life time and time again.

She is held in love by many.



In Memoriam ~ Judith Giller-Leinwohl



Judith Giller-Leinwohl

Brandeis Alum

Judith Giller-Leinwohl, our dear friend, passed away on Wednesday, August 24th, 2022 at the age of 30. Judith had an indomitable spirit and built community everywhere she went. She brought out the best in people. No matter what she was going through, she made it a point to live with positivity and optimism, trying her best to be there for the people around her when they needed help most. Judith was a graduate of Brandeis University and was about to embark on her final semester at the Harvard Divinity School. Judith lived with a heritable, chronic illness called Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, a connective tissue disorder that made daily life extremely challenging. Judith, selfless as she was, sought to use her experience navigating the healthcare system to support others by becoming a hospital chaplain. She hoped to provide comforting, spiritual guidance and advocate for people who are hospitalized and their families. Judith was a healer and helper in all aspects of her life. Despite the challenges she faced, she dedicated herself to being present in service to others.



Outside of her education and professional life, Judith was a lifelong affiliate of spiritual and service-based organizations, which she loved and was loved by. From a young age, Judith was connected to Camp Harlam, where she attended as a camper as a child and became a counselor as an adult. She also was deeply devoted to Camp Swift, a youth organization in her home of Scottsdale which supports economically disadvantaged youth by providing summer camp opportunities- facilitating mentorship and positive connections. She had a tattoo of Camp Swift's logo on her arm as a physical testament to the place that gave her so much joy through service, connection to nature, and community-building. Her next planned tattoo was one in homage to Camp Harlam. In her life, Judith gave herself fully to others and, in doing so, has left a legacy of kindness and love in so many places.



Donation Opportunities



Sociology Fund in Memory of Gordie Fellman, Professor Emeritus of Sociology

Donations will support sociology, peace, and social justice initiatives.

To make a gift to this fund:

Contributions can be made online ~ In the space provided, please note that your contribution is in memory of **Gordie Fellman**

Memorial Fund for Debra (Debi) Osnowitz

*Debi received her PhD in Sociology from Brandeis in 2005, and maintained close connections to the Department ever since. To honor Debi's memory, her family and friends established the **The Debra Osnowitz Memorial Graduate Student Paper Prize**, to be awarded to a paper authored by a graduate student in the Brandeis Sociology PhD program.*

To make a gift to this fund:

Contributions can be made online ~ In the space provided, please note that your contribution is in memory of **Debi Osnowitz**



(November 6, 1952 -
April 7, 2021)

Sociology Fund to Honor Peter Conrad, Professor Emeritus of Sociology

Donations will support Brandeis Sociology graduate students with their research projects.

To make a gift to this fund:

Contributions can be made online ~ In the space provided, please note that your contribution is in honor of **Peter Conrad**



2022-2023 Sociology Undergraduate Department Representatives (UDRs)



The Undergraduate Departmental Representatives (UDR) program was first established by the Student Senate in the early to mid-1990s, and re-established in the fall of 1998 by the Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences at the suggestion of faculty and undergraduate participants of "Creating a Welcoming Campus Environment" meetings. The program is designed to open avenues of communication between undergraduates and departmental/program faculty.



Rachel Judson - Class of 2023

Rachel Judson is a senior majoring in sociology, and double minoring in legal studies and social justice & social policy. Rachel is in her second year as a UDR for the Sociology department, and she is so excited to meet all the new and current students! Rachel has been a sociology research assistant for The Heller School for Social Policy and Management and for the Women's Studies Research Center. Rachel volunteers for the admissions department, and has worked for Brandeis' International Business School's student entrepreneurship programs. Rachel is interested in the intersection between law, sociology, and business, and has had two summer internships for law firms in Manhattan. Rachel is always happy to talk to any student about the field of sociology — research opportunities, networking events, writing skills, etc. Don't hesitate to reach out!



Alaina Vermilya - Class of 2024

Alaina Vermilya is a junior from Tolland, CT, majoring in sociology and minoring in social justice and social policy, education studies and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Outside of her academics, she is a part of Brandeis' Starving Artists a cappella group and Brandeis Football Club. She is planning on studying abroad in the Spring in Amsterdam, Netherlands, to explore issues of gender and sexuality using an international lens. Alaina is interested in pursuing research, teaching, or non-profit work in the future, wanting to continue being involved in addressing systems of oppression. She is so excited to be working more closely with the Sociology department and sociology students! Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions!



The Department of Sociology hosted successful “Meet the Majors” events during the academic year!



SOCIOLGY



Sociology PhD Alumni

James Ault (PhD 1981) is still enjoying “semi-retirement!” Jim is releasing a new documentary on the impressive work of Esperanza in North Philadelphia (soon on my website) and doing some writing on understanding America’s deepening partisan divides, drawing on my original field work and filming on that subject, as well as what he keeps learning through various ethnographic film projects. It was a moving experience for Jim to revisit the sociological formation “at the feet” (as his African colleagues would say) of his great teacher and advisor at Brandeis, Egon Bittner, by editing the video he shot (with limited equipment) of him and others at his retirement celebration back in 1991. [Egon Bittner Retirement Celebration video, May 1991](#)

Meredith Bergey (PhD 2015) is enjoying her sixth year as a faculty member at Villanova University. She recently published an article with colleagues Giuseppina Chiri, and Thomas Mackie (PhD, 2014) in *Social Science and Medicine*, entitled, "Deserving but not entitled: The social construction of autism spectrum disorder in federal policy."

Deborah J. Cohan (PhD 2005) is a Professor of Sociology at the University of South Carolina Beaufort and had a very productive and busy year.

Awards:

- [Public Sociology Award](#), presented by the Eastern Sociological Society, Spring 2022.
- [Best Memoir in the Category of Caregiving](#), awarded by Memoir Magazine, Spring 2022, for book, [Welcome to Wherever We Are: A Memoir of Family, Caregiving, and Redemption](#) (Rutgers University Press 2020).

Book Remains on the Following Recommended List: [Best Domestic Violence Books List](#)

Under Contract/Forthcoming Book: *Talk With Your Professor: The Definitive College Guide for Parents and Students*, New World Library, Novato, CA, Summer 2024.

Published Scholarly Book Chapters:

- “This is What I Grieve Now,” in *COVID-19: Surviving a Pandemic*, chapter in volume edited by J. Michael Ryan, Routledge. December 2022.
- “The Subtlety of Simultaneity: A Lesson for Educators” in *Pandemic Pedagogies: Teaching and Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic*, chapter in volume edited by J. Michael Ryan, Routledge. December 2022.

Public Sociology:

- Selected for publication in the [New York Times Tiny Love Stories Page-A-Day 2023 Calendar](#) from my piece initially published in *The New York Times Modern Love/Tiny Love Stories* column, October 12, 2021. *(The acceptance rate is less than 1% of submissions received)*
- Published [essay on creativity and academia, in Inside Higher Ed](#), September 23, 2022.
- Published [essay on violence, creativity, and art-making in The Good Men Project](#), September 11, 2022.
- Published [essay on friendship, love, and the pandemic in The Good Men Project](#), March 1, 2022.
- Contributor to [Psychology Today](#). Deborah has reached well over 2 million views on the site.

National and International Invited Speaking Engagements:

- Invited Speaker/Facilitator; workshop for faculty and staff on compassion fatigue, Colorado College.

- Invited Speaker for event on creativity with Montessori Teachers in California.
- Invited Speaker about memoir and the #MeToo movement for Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada.
- Invited Speaker for the following public libraries to discuss sociological memoir: New York Public Library, Los Angeles Public Library, and Fort Worth Public Library.

Professional Service:

- Elected to the Board of Directors of EMERGE, the first abuser intervention program in the country, Malden, Massachusetts. Fall 2022-Present.

Community Writing Programs:

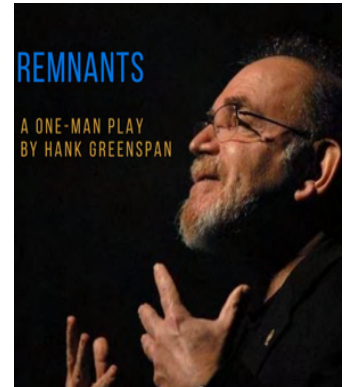
- Teaching creative nonfiction courses for both the Muse Writing Center, Norfolk, Virginia and Memoir University, a part of Memoir Magazine based in Durham, North Carolina. Courses include: Writing about Family Secrets, Writing about Families, and Writing about Parents.

Patricia Hill Collins (BA 1969, PhD 1984) was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2022. Founded in 1780, this learned society recognizes people from every discipline and profession who are making 'extraordinary contributions to society'.

Mindy Fried (PhD 1996) - As the Executive Director of Hoopla Productions, Mindy Fried is working in collaboration with the youth nonprofit organization, ZUMIX, producing live events focused on immigrant stories and music. This past year, she co-produced Finding Home: Immigrant Stories and Music from Boston and Beyond at Piers Park in East Boston, historically the entry point for immigrants coming to Boston. She is now working with ZUMIX youth on a project called Open Your Heart, in which young folks are interviewing immigrants who are community activists in East Boston. The project will culminate in a live performance at Boston's City Hall Plaza on June 23rd. Mindy also released Season 2 of The Shape of Care podcast, which links personal stories about care workers and care recipients to larger sociological and policy issues surrounding long term care. The podcast's website includes a teaching guide for folks who want to incorporate it into their curriculum. She also continues to work on the newly launched Our Bodies Ourselves Today, chairing an expert panel on "Growing Older", which she is (and you are too!). Mindy has also been active in promoting applied sociology through her role as Co-Chair of the Career Development Committee at SWS, launching an applied sociology initiative which includes peer mentoring groups for applied sociologists, webinars and workshops, and more. She is also leading a collaborative initiative among representatives of major sociology professional organizations (e.g., ASA's SPPS, SSSP, AACSS) to promote applied sociology within the discipline. The group has presented two webinars thus far in a 3-part series. Finally, Mindy's daughter, Sasha, who spent some of her formative years at Pearlman Hall on the Brandeis campus, is getting married this coming September! Woohoo! You can hear Sasha's band, Lotion Princess, on Spotify!

Lew Friedland (PhD 1985), just like Generalissimo Francisco Franco, is still retired (January 2022) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communication and Dept. of Sociology (affiliated). As Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor, Emeritus, he remains active with his research group at the Center for Communication and Civic Renewal, continues to write, most recently on the public sphere and Honneth's concept of recognition (both in press). He's working on the Wisconsin Spring Supreme Court race which *Politico* calls "the most important election nobody's heard of" and will decide both the future of democracy in our state and whether we send fake electors in 2024. He is continuing fundraising and organizing as founder of Win Wisconsin, (*please, give if you can*). He is advising CivicMedia, the first progressive statewide radio network to counter right-wing talk radio. Lew's aspiration to become a working jazz pianist is moving ahead, measure for measure.

Hank Greenspan (PhD 1985) - Over the past year, Hank has facilitated a number of workshops and done a number of presentations in the United States, Canada, and Europe related to my fifty-plus years interviewing, teaching about, and writing about Holocaust survivors. But the primary thing has been the continuing presentation of Hank's play, REMNANTS, which is also based on his sustained conversations with survivors (not just single "testimonies") which Hank has now presented at more than 300 venues worldwide.



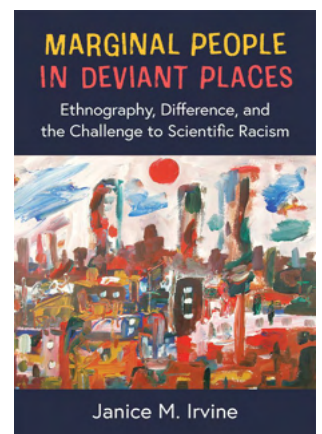
Elizabeth Higginbotham (PhD 1980) Professor Emerita University of Delaware was one of the founding members of the University of Memphis Center for Research on Women. She will be a plenary speaker at the Southern Sociological Society meetings in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina March 29-April 1. Earl Wright II, President of the SSS and Professor at Rhodes College, is highlighting the scholarship and activism in the South during his presidency. The Center's on-site events and visits by Higginbotham and other faculty to institutions helped advance Women's Studies and the intersection of race and gender studies in the region. She will speak about these contributions in her address "University of Memphis Center for Research on Women: Building a Space to Support Scholars."

Robert B. Horwitz (PhD 1983) returned to UC San Diego in September after serving two years in the leadership of the systemwide Academic Senate of the University of California. He served as Vice-chair of the Academic Senate in 2020-21 and Chair in 2021-22. *Image: A photo of Robert with UC President Michael V. Drake at the event celebrating his service.*



Janice Irvine (PhD 1984) has three recent book projects:

- Janice M. Irvine, *Talk About Sex: How Sex Ed Battles Helped Ignite the Right*, 20th Anniversary Edition (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, forthcoming).
- Janice M. Irvine, *Marginal People in Deviant Places* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2022).
- Janice M. Irvine and Kathy Davis (editors), *Silences, Neglected Feelings, and Blind-spots in Research Practice* (London: Routledge, 2022).



Elizabeth Long (PhD 1979) - Elizabeth and her husband, Bill Wallauer, are retired and living in Durango, CO — having left the heat, humidity, cockroaches, mosquitoes and crazy Texas politics in their rearview mirror. Also, sadly, leaving behind their kids and grandkids, and the Rice University community that was her main focus for many years. Trips back to Houston, mostly in the cooler seasons, help with that of course. Retirement for Elizabeth has meant leaving, behind, as well, academic activities — writing books, articles, and reviews, reading academic books and articles, and teaching. Of these, Elizabeth really only misses teaching and the satisfying daily relationships with students and colleagues. Instead, she's focusing on creative writing, drawing and painting, and politics at the state and local level (check out The States

Project, too), as well as environmental activism. At one point, Elizabeth was a member of three book clubs, but various processes of attrition have knocked that number back to one. Elizabeth also belongs to a knitting group, which nurtures surprisingly wide-ranging and (if three members are absent) progressive discussions, a women's hiking group, and a Unitarian Universalist church that sponsors more social justice activities than you might imagine a town of under 20,000 could support. Though Elizabeth now lives what she thinks of as a civilian life, Sociology still informs her world view, and she continues to celebrate as well some close friendships from her time at Brandeis. Elizabeth's email is elong@rice.edu - and she would welcome hearing from other alumni and getting together with folk passing through the Four Corners area.

Debbie Potter (PhD 2007) continues as an Associate Professor in the Sociology Department at the University of Louisville. This year, 2022-23, she is one of six Bingham Faculty Fellows at the Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society where she is pursuing a research project on synchronous collective traumas of COVID-19 and struggles for racial justice. She will continue and expand the project during her Fall sabbatical. In her spare time, she competes in agility with her dogs, including Dylan, a 13 year old Border Collie mix who has qualified for the American Kennel Club's (AKC's) 2023 National Agility Championships in March in Tulsa.



Jim Ptacek (PhD 1995) is a Professor Emeritus in Sociology at Suffolk University in Boston. Jim had a new book come out in February, [*Feeling Trapped: Social Class and Violence Against Women*](#). Book synopsis: The relationship between class and intimate violence against women is much misunderstood. While many studies of intimate violence focus on poor and working-class women, few examine the issue comparatively in terms of class privilege and class disadvantage. James Ptacek draws on in-depth interviews with sixty women from wealthy, professional, working-class, and poor communities to investigate how social class shapes both women's experiences of violence and the responses of their communities to this violence. Ptacek's framing of women's victimization as "social entrapment" links private violence to public responses and connects social inequalities to the dilemmas that women face.



Brad Rose (PhD 1994) recently retired from his practice at [Brad Rose Consulting](#), a program evaluation and organization development consulting firm. He continues with his creative writing endeavors. His book of prose poems, *No. Wait. I Can Explain.* and his chapbook of prose poems, *Funny You Should Ask*, were both released in 2022. He was also nominated for a Pushcart Prize, his seventh nomination in the last decade. Brad has just completed another full-length collection of prose poems, *Lucky Animals*, which he hopes to publish in 2023. His webpage is www.bradrosepoetry.com

Ken Sun (PhD 2011) - Ken's book, *Time and Migration*, received the Outstanding Book Award from ASA Aging and Life Course Studies. In addition, his article, *Micropolitics of Recognition and Care* (with Nazli Kibria), received the Social Science Research Article Award from Asian American Studies Association. Recent publications:

- Levitt, Peggy, Erica Dobbs, **Ken Chih-Yan Sun**, and Ruxandra Paul. 2023. [*Transnational Social Protection: Social Welfare Across National Borders*](#). New York: Oxford University Press.
- **Ken Chih-Yan Sun** and Nazli Kibria. 2022. "[The Micropolitics of Recognition and Care: How Adult Children in Urban China Negotiate Relationships with Siblings Who Migrate Abroad.](#)" *Social Problems* 69(4): 952-967.
- **Ken Chih-Yan Sun** and Xuemei Cao. 2022. "[Intimacies Compared: The Emotional Responses of Family Caregivers to Internal and International Migration.](#)" *American Behavioral Scientist* 66(2): 1846-1862.



Becky Thompson (PhD 1991) - [*To Speak in Salt*](#) is under consideration for the Pulitzer Prize in poetry and is the winner of the Ex Ophidia Poetry Prize and finalist for the Hollis Summers Poetry Prize. [Poetry Event at Brookline Booksmith](#)
[Video](#)



Bert Useem (PhD 1980) is a Professor Emeritus, Purdue University. He recently published, *The Paradox of Victory: Social Movement Fields, Adverse Outcomes, and Social Movement Success*, with Jack Goldstone, *Theory and Society*.

Alexandria Vasquez (PhD 2019) is now teaching at University of San Francisco, and *loves it!* The students are so wonderful, and Alex is enjoying being back in the classroom. The sustainable clothing studio Alex runs/owns is becoming increasingly involved in developing and helping to source domestic climate beneficial textiles, and Alex was part of organizing a group of designers and major brands to invest in climate coalition organic cotton. Alex is going to be covered in an article for Fibershed (fibershed.org) on land to textile sourcing and design process, and the influence of sociology in this work. Alex is also part of the Equitable Access Cohort in the Fibershed organization, and gained funding and support to connect high school students to apprenticeship opportunities with brands and micro-designers that focus on slow process clothing production. They are also looking to develop equitable access to underserved populations in the Bay Area, creating mobile seed to cloth sourcing of textiles and access to education on plant-dyeing, in addition to grants for BIPOC designers to have education and access to sustainable cloth (textile) sourcing. Image: Taken by [Amelia Plumb](#) for the SMMC Yearbook, highlighting business orders run for mothers in our area.



Dana Zarhin (PhD 2013) published an article entitled, "How religion affects sleep health: exploring the perspectives of religious Muslims and Jews in Israel" in the Journal of Sleep Research. Another article, "How and why people use mobile phones near bedtime and in bed: Israelis' narratives of digitally enabled sleepful sociality" is forthcoming in Sociology— The Journal of the British Sociological Association. Dana also presented several of her articles at international conferences: "Co-Sleeping with Partners and Pets as a Family Practice of Intimacy: Israeli Couples' Narratives of Creating Kinship" was presented at the British Sociological Association (BSA) 2022 conference, and two additional articles, "Sleep, body work and bodily capital: Sleep discourse in the magazines Men's Health and Women's Health" and "Time for Sleep? A Qualitative Study of the Spatiotemporal Norms Around Sleep Health in Israel" were presented at the European Society for Health and Medical Sociology (ESHMS) 2022 conference.



Sociology BA and Masters Alumni

Marisa Tashman Coppel (BA 2012) got married this past August! Marisa married Jonathan Coppel in Laguna Beach and they live with their dog Tabor in the Highland Park area of Los Angeles.



Anne Marie Foley (Joint Master's in Sociology and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies 2020) has started a new job at Allen Community College as the Sociology Instructor teaching both sociology and women studies courses. She is Hope Unlimited board's Vice President which supports victims of abuse, assault, and human trafficking for Southeast Kansas. Lastly, she led a collaboration between two community colleges (Neosho County Community College and Allen Community College) to have undergraduate community college students present on a roundtable called Reclaiming the Narrative of Rurality, Our Love Letter at the National Women's Studies Association with experts from different rural regions in the United States. The roundtable analyzed rurality in conversation with identities made vulnerable by systemic and institutional oppressions and discussed what it means to reclaim rurality.

Debra Fricano (BA 2010) is working as Director of Education at SAJ-Judaism that Stands for All in NYC. It is the first ever Reconstructionist Synagogue and site of the first North American Bat Mitzvah. They just celebrated their Centennial year! What an honor to be teaching the next generation at this historic moment!

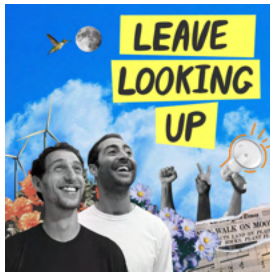
Elena Lewis (MA in 2011) was appointed the [Heller Director for Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity](#) at Brandeis University.

Neal Ludevig (BA 2008) continues his work as a producer and entrepreneur in the field of community building and content creation. Neal is most known for his work starting the international acclaimed [Harlem Arts Festival](#) with J.J. El-Far (Class of '07), launching [Beyond Better Foods / Enlightened Ice Cream](#) with Michael Shoretz (Class '09), producing the 50th Year Anniversary of Black Woodstock and supporting the award-winning documentary "Summer of Soul" by Questlove, and producing the acclaimed miniseries [Insomnia](#) (now on Comcast, Samsung+, and Roku) with his production company [Snarky Elephant](#).

Launched in January, Neal has most recently released a new podcast under his agency [Moon31](#) called, "[Leave Looking Up](#)", a podcast co-hosted with an award-winning Syrian DJ, professor and environmental futurist focused on humanizing heroes through uplifting conversations about the world, demystifying their worlds, garnering orientation for their listeners, and leaving listeners inspired and empowered. The two interview a diverse roster of guests that include Grammy Award Winners, Emmy Award Winners, UN Champions of the Earth, global changemakers and leaders and internationally recognized activists. The podcast is available everywhere (Apple Podcasts, Google, Spotify, etc.), on [social media here](#), and with full and uncut video episodes available via their [Patreon](#)." Many more photos can be found on [Instagram](#).

Images: Podcast Cover Photo; Neal Interviewing [Claire Wasserman](#), Founder of [Ladies Get Paid](#) and one of Entrepreneur Magazine's Top 100 most powerful women; Behind The Scenes Interview with internationally acclaimed producer Brady Watt (Talib Kweli, DJ Premier, Marc Rebillet); Neal Interviewing [Pierce Freelon](#), Emmy Award Winner, 2x Grammy Nominee, Former North Carolina

Councilman and Author; Neal Interviewing [Rana Abdelhamid](#), Truman Scholar, Forbes 30 Under 30, Founder of the Women's Initiative for Self Defense, and Amnesty International Board Member.

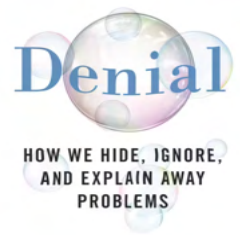


Carl Milofsky (BA 1970, PhD Cal Berkeley in Sociology 1975) retired in 2021 after teaching Sociology at Bucknell University for 38 years. In January 2023, Carl attended a conference on Community Resilience held at Ben Gurion University of the Negev where he gave a paper on community resilience based on his community study research in Central PA. A number of people at the conference had been closely reading two handbooks Carl co-edited with Ram Cnaan of the University of Pennsylvania Social Work. Their handbook dealt with nonprofit organizations and community, an area Carl has focused research on for many years. Because of their close reading of the two handbooks, participants invited Carl to attend along with his long-time friend and research collaborator, Albert Hunter of Northwestern University Sociology. Carl will be editing a special issue of the on-line journal, SOCIETIES, that will primarily include papers from the conference.

Anne Pollock (BA 1998) has been elected as the President of the [Society for Social Studies of Science \(4S\)](#). Anne was first exposed to the field of Science and Technology Studies during her time at Brandeis, most notably for her Undergraduate Thesis on narratives of anonymous paid egg donors supervised by Stefan Timmermans, and now a quarter century later, it is an honor to serve as an international leader of the field.

Harry M. Rosenberg (MA 1963) - After Brandeis, Harry got a PhD from Ohio State University, then worked for 30 years at CDC as a data manager for national mortality statistics, and with WHO on medical terminology. Widower, two sons, four grandchildren. Involved in gay rights in North Carolina. Proud and gay.

Jared Del Rosso (BA 2003) published his second book on the sociology of denial, [Denial: How We Hide, Ignore, and Explain Away Problems](#) (NYU Press) this past summer. Based on his elective on the topic at the University of Denver, as well as his earlier research of the politics of torture in the U.S., the book explores the everyday, institutional, and political dynamics of denial. An excerpt of the book, "[Censorship By Omission: How Systemic Racism is Downplayed and Dismissed in the Classroom](#)," appeared in *Literary Hub*.



JARED DEL ROSSO

