

Curriculum Vitae

BROOKLYNN KRISTINA HITCHENS

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EDUCATION

- 2019 (*expected*) **Ph.D., Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Sociology**
Dissertation: “Structural Violence, Lived Experience, and the Embodiment of Street Identity in Urban Black Women”
Committee: Lauren J. Krivo (Chair), Patrick J. Carr (Co-Chair), Dana M. Britton, and Yasser A. Payne.
- 2015 **M.A., Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Sociology**
Thesis: “‘CNN of the Ghetto?’ Analyzing Black Females, Fight Videos, and the Construction of Urban Violence on *WorldStarHipHop* Video Website”
Committee: Paul Hirschfield (Chair), Karen Cerulo, and Zaire Dinzey-Flores.
- 2013 **B.A., University of Delaware, Black American Studies and English**
Thesis: “‘Brenda’s Got a Baby’: Single Motherhood in the Streets of Wilmington, Delaware” (*Degree with Distinction*)
Committee: Yasser A. Payne (Chair), Carol E. Henderson, and Theodore J. Davis.

SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Urban Sociology, Criminology, Racial & Gender Inequality, Mixed Methods, Participatory Action Research (PAR), Poverty, Social Justice.

PUBLICATIONS

- Forthcoming. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.** 2018. “Girl Fights and the Online Media Construction of Black Female Violence and Sexuality.” *Feminist Criminology*.
- Forthcoming. Payne, Yasser A., **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, and Darryl L. Chambers. 2017. “‘Why I Can’t Stand Out in Front of My House?’” Street Identified Black Youth and Young Adult’s Negative Encounters with Police.” *Sociological Forum* 32(4).
- Forthcoming. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.**, Patrick J. Carr, and Susan Clampet-Lundquist. 2017. “The Context for Legal Cynicism: Urban Young Women’s Experiences with Policing in Low-Income, High-Crime Neighborhoods.” *Race & Justice*.
- Hitchens, Brooklynn.** 2017. “Contextualizing Police Use of Force and Black Vulnerability: A Response to Whitesel.” *Sociological Forum* 32(2): 434-438.
- Hitchens, Brooklynn** and Yasser A. Payne. 2017. “Brenda’s Got a Baby: Black Single Motherhood and

Street Life as a Site of Resilience in Wilmington, Delaware.” *Journal of Black Psychology* 43(1): 50-76 (DOI published in 2015).

WORKING PAPERS

Phillips, Jason B., **Brooklynn Hitchens**, and Alicia Raia-Hawrylak. “The Use of Victim Self-Protective Behaviors During Violent Crimes as Predictors of Post-Incident Socio-Emotional Distress.”

OTHER WRITING

Hitchens, Brooklynn. 2012. “We are Who We’ve Been Waiting For.” *Ubuntu Commemorative Issue*, 5:27-29.

Hitchens, Brooklynn. 2012. “In Celebration of this Black History Month Theme, I Offer You this Poem.” *Caesura: The University of Delaware Literary Magazine*, 32:22.

FELLOWSHIPS

2016-2017 *Rutgers Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (RASTL) Fellow*
The Graduate School, Rutgers University

2015 *NAEP-ETS Summer Pre-Doctoral Research Experience (SPRE) Fellow*
Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton, NJ

2013 – 2015 *Ralph J. Bunche Distinguished Graduate Fellow*
Sociology, Rutgers University

APPOINTMENTS

2016 – Present *Co-Project Research Director*
“What’s Violence Got to Do With It?” Street Participatory Action Research Health Project
PI: Yasser A. Payne, Ph.D., University of Delaware

2016 – 2017 *Research Associate*
Education and Employment Research Center (EERC), Rutgers University
“Bergen-NJ Prep TAACCCT Grant External Evaluation Project”
Co-PIs: Heather McKay, Ph.D., Michelle Van Noy, Ph.D., and Renee Edwards, Ph.D., Rutgers University

2015 – 2016 *Undergraduate Test Item Developer*
Sociology, Council for Aid to Education (CAE), New York, NY

2015 – Present *Teaching Assistant (TA)*
Sociology, Rutgers University

2013 *Research Assistant*
“Gentrification and Urban Space in New York City”
PI: Zaire Dinzey-Flores, Ph.D., Rutgers University

- 2012 – 2014 *Ronald E. McNair Scholar*
Black American Studies, University of Delaware
- 2011 – 2014 *Research Assistant*
“Advancing Diversity and Equity through Professorial Training”
PI: P. Gabrielle Foreman, Ph.D., University of Delaware
- 2010 – 2014 *Research Assistant*
“Wilmington Street Participatory Action Research (PAR) Project”
PI: Yasser A. Payne, Ph.D., University of Delaware
- 2010 – 2013 *Undergraduate Research Scholar*
Black American Studies, University of Delaware

AWARDS

- 2016 Outstanding Student Award, Division on People of Color & Crime (DPCC), American Society of Criminology
- 2015 – 2016 Undergraduate Teaching Honor Roll, Rutgers University
- 2013 – 2015 Sociology Small-Grant Research Awards, Rutgers University
- 2014, 2015 Conference Travel Award, The Graduate School, Rutgers University
- 2013 Senior Thesis, Degree with Distinction, University of Delaware
- 2013 Justice & Multiculturalism Young Scholar Paper Competition, *3rd Place*, University of Albany
- 2012 – 2013 Student Leadership Award, University of Delaware
- 2012 Warren J. Marshall Scholarship, University of Delaware
- 2012 James E. Newton Award, University of Delaware
- 2011 – 2013 Student of Distinction, University of Delaware
- 2011 – 2013 Dean’s List, University of Delaware
- 2011 Poetry Grand Prize, Lambda Delta Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma, Delaware
- 2011 BAMS Undergraduate Research Symposium Book Scholarship, University of Delaware

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“The Use of Victim Self-Protective Behaviors during Violent Crimes as Predictors of Post-Incident Emotional Distress,” American Society of Criminology, New Orleans, LA, November 2016 (*with Jason Phillips and Alicia Raia-Hawrylak*).

“Gender Differences in Attitudes toward Police in Three Philadelphia Neighborhoods,” American Society of Criminology, Washington D.C., November 2015 (*with Patrick J. Carr and Susan Clampet-Lundquist*).

“‘CNN of the Ghetto?’ Analyzing Black Girls and Violence as Entertainment on *WorldStarHipHop*,” American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL, August 2015.

“‘Sound of the Police, Sound of the Beast’: Gender Differences in Attitudes toward and Interactions with Police among Street-Life Oriented Black Men and Women,” Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), Chicago, IL, August 2015.

“Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset among Low-Income, ‘At Risk’ High School Students,” ETS Corporate Internship Symposium, Princeton, NJ, July 2015.

“Walk with Me: Organizing *The Streets* To Constructively Engage Law Enforcement,” Annual Winter Roundtable Conference Teacher’s College, Columbia University, February 2015 (*with Yasser Payne and Darryl Chambers*).

“Girl-on-Girl Street Fighting: The Connection Between Black Girls, Urban Street Violence, and Social Media,” American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA, November 2014.

“Brenda’s Got a Baby: Black Single Motherhood in the Streets of Wilmington, Delaware.”
Black Doctoral Network Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 2014.
Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Delaware, May 2013.
Explorations in Justice Symposium, University of Albany, April 2013.
30th Annual Winter Roundtable Conference, Teacher’s College, Columbia University, February 2013.
Mid-Atlantic Law and Society Inaugural Conference, Drexel University, October 2012.
Ronald E. McNair Research Conference, University of Delaware, May 2012.
Undergraduate Research and Service Symposium, University of Delaware, May 2011.
Regional Undergraduate Student Research Conference, University of Delaware, March 2011.

“Make the Money, Don’t Let it Make You: Black Women’s Agency and Sexual Capital in America.”
Black American Studies Capstone Conference, University of Delaware, May 2012.
2nd Regional Undergraduate Student Research Conference, Delaware State University, March 2012.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2016 – Present Co-Project Director, “What’s Violence Got to Do With It?” Street Participatory Action Research Health Project, University of Delaware.

Employed to examine the relationship between community violence and opportunity. Responsible for the creation of 50-page quantitative survey packet, interview protocol, data collection, data management and training of research assistants and Street PAR members. Help collect (a) 700 surveys, (b) 30 individual interviews, (c) 4 group interviews, (d) 370 blood pressure tests and (e) extensive ethnographic field observations from street-identified Black men and women, ages 16 to 54. Project funded by Christiana Care Health System and the University of Delaware.

2016 Research Associate, Education and Employment Research Center (EERC), Rutgers University.

Collected and coded qualitative data on a workforce program evaluation project of (12) community colleges in New Jersey. Project assessed effectiveness of healthcare career pathways for transitioning adults. Roles included audio note taking, NVivo coding, site visits, and writing executive report summaries.

2015 Summer Intern, Center for Academic and Workforce Readiness and Success (CAWRS), Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey.

Collaborated with the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) to develop Likert scale items and anchoring vignettes to measure entrepreneurial mindsets in youth. Conducted cognitive lab with low-income Black and Latina students to assess non-cognitive skills. Analyzed qualitative data from cognitive labs in

preparation for launch of pilot study. Helped create executive report on findings with two researchers and ETS employees.

2015 – 2016 Data Collector, Girls Justice League, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Draft research proposal to investigate young women’s experiences in the criminal justice system. Convene focus groups with young women involved in the juvenile and adult justice systems. Write executive summary with literature review and empirical findings.

2014 – 2015 Field Interviewer & Data Collector, National Institutes of Health (NIH).
Collected qualitative, longitudinal data on attitudes toward tobacco use and health effects of such use. Helped participants collect urine samples and coordinate appointments for blood samples with trained phlebotomists. Utilized CAPI (Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing) and statistical software to interview participants on their past and current tobacco use.

2013 – 2015 Co-Investigator, Neighborhood Change in Bedford Stuyvesant Project, Rutgers University.
Conduct ethnographic research to examine socio-spatial change and gentrification in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn as it relates to race, class, gender, and space.

2013 – 2014 Research Assistant, Empowering Daughters and Mothers through Social Media Project, Rutgers University (Newark).
Conducted interviews and focus groups on mother and daughters to assess their attitudes toward family relationships and wellbeing. Utilized statistical software to code and analyze survey and interview data.

2012 – 2014 Ronald E. McNair Scholar, University of Delaware.
Participated in program designed to prepare and empower talented underrepresented students towards the pursuit of a doctoral degree. Applied ethnographic and phenomenological methods to critically evaluate the experiences of low-income, urban Black women. Utilized interview coding and descriptive data techniques for qualitative and quantitative research analysis. Developed secondary analysis and literature review.

2011 – 2012 Research Assistant, Advancing Diversity and Equity through Professorial Training, University of Delaware.
Helped develop an institute for middle- and senior-level academic scholars through diversification efforts and community partnerships. Created literature review on Black and Latino faculty of color who are moving through academic professorial rank.

2010 – 2014 Research Assistant & Data Analyst, Wilmington Street Participatory Action Research (PAR) Project, University of Delaware.
Critically evaluated community violence in the Southbridge and Eastside sections of Wilmington through independent study and data analysis. Categorized and organized surveys and interviews into coherent statistical data. Created secondary analysis and literature review.

TEACHING POSITIONS

2017 Instructor, Course: Race Relations, Rutgers University.
2017 Instructor, Hybrid Course: Introduction to Sociology, Rutgers University.
2017 Instructor, Course: Race Relations, Rutgers University at Mercer County Community

College.
 2016 Instructor, Online Course: Race Relations, Rutgers University.
 2016-2017 Teaching Assistant (TA), Course: Introduction to Sociology, Rutgers University.
 2015-2016 Teaching Assistant (TA), Course: Introduction to Sociology, Rutgers University.
 2014 GED Instructor, Fathership Foundation.
 2014, 2015, 2016 Instructor, Course: Sociology of the Family, Rutgers University.
 2014 Instructor, AvTech Technology Inc., South Plainfield, New Jersey.
 2013 Instructor, Upward Bound Math Science Program, University of Delaware.
 2013 GRE Instructor, Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, University of Delaware.
 2012 Seminar Instructor, Peer Mentor First Year Seminar, University of Delaware.

INVITED TALKS and CLASS PRESENTATIONS

2016 “Black Lives Matter Movement,” Guest Lecturer for Introduction to Sociology course, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University.
 2016 “Coloring the Carceral State: Exploring Young Women’s Experiences with Policing in Low-Income Neighborhoods,” Graduate Student Visitation Day – Open House, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University.
 2016 “Fighting Girls: The Media Construction of Female Violence and Sexuality,” Guest Lecturer for Urban Communication course, Department of Communications, Rutgers University.
 2015 Guest Speaker for International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme, Mount Pleasant High School, Delaware.
 2014 Keynote Convocation Speaker, Department of Black American Studies, University of Delaware.

INVITED PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Academic

2015 “McNair Alumni Panel,” Ronald E. McNair Scholars, University of Delaware.
 2015 “Criminal Justice Alumni Networking Event,” Department of Criminal Justice, Rutgers University.
 2014 “College Readiness,” Mount Pleasant High School, Delaware.
 2013 “The People’s Report: A Panel Discussion on Violence in Wilmington,” Department of Black American Studies, University of Delaware.
 2012 “We are the 99%: A Roundtable Discussion of Occupy Wall Street and the Crisis of Higher Education,” Department of Black American Studies, University of Delaware.
 2011 “The Great Debaters: Bridging the Gap,” Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, University of Delaware.
 2011 “I Am Troy Davis: Call for Social Justice in the New Jim Crow Era,” Black Student Union, University of Delaware.
 2011 “Preserving the Peace: A Sit Down with Public Safety,” Black Student Union, University of Delaware.
 2011 “New Beginnings in the Middle East—Tunisia, Egypt, and Beyond,” University of Delaware.

Community

2016 “Forum to Advance Minorities in Engineering Former Student Panel,” F.A.M.E.,

- Wilmington, Delaware.
- 2016 “Black Arts Movement: Art, Social Activism, and Revolution to Affect Social Change,” Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, Delaware.
- 2013 “Black Youth in Wilmington,” Education, Youth and Citizenship Committee, Office of the Mayor, Wilmington, Delaware.
- 2012 “Third Annual College 101 Workshop,” Arthur J. Turner Scholarship Foundation, Wilmington, Delaware.
- 2012 “Open Forum on Trayvon Martin,” Black Student Union, University of Delaware.
- 2011 “Road to Success College Panel,” Glasgow High School, Newark, Delaware.
- 2011 “Senior Year Success,” 24th Annual Multi-Ethnic Career Development Conference, University of Delaware.

INVITED WORKSHOPS and POETRY READINGS

- 2015 “The Use of Victim Self-Protective Behaviors During Violent Crimes as Predictors of Post-Incident Socio-Emotional Distress.” Quantitative Applications in Sociology Workshop, Rutgers University (*with Jason Phillips and Alicia Raia-Hawrylak*).
- 2015 “Resistance, Activism and the Arts: An Experience in Self-Expression.” Symposium: The Difficult Conversation—Race and Social Justice in America, University of Delaware (*with James Church*).
- 2013 “Still I Rise” opening poem recitation, Black History Month Celebration, Lecture by Maya Angelou, Ph.D., University of Delaware.
- 2012 “We are Who We’ve Been Waiting For,” original poem, 40th Anniversary Alumni Luncheon, Department of Black American Studies, University of Delaware.
- 2012 “Nubia,” original poem, Black History Month Celebration, Lecture by Hill Harper, J.D., University of Delaware.
- 2011 “When a Dreamer Dreams,” Black History Month Celebration, Lecture by Cornel West, Ph.D., University of Delaware.

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

- 2015 – 2016 Program Committee Assistant, American Society of Criminology (ASC), with 2015 President Ruth Peterson, Laurie Krivo, and Katheryn Russell-Brown.
- 2015 ARESTY Undergraduate Research Mentor (Cynthia Duchantier), ARESTY Research Center, Rutgers University.
- 2014 – 2016 Faculty Meeting Representative, Graduate Union of Sociology Students (GUSS), Rutgers University.
- 2014 Research in Science and Engineering (RISE) Mentor (Bianca West), Rutgers University.
- 2014 Mentee, Women and Crime mentor group with Dr. Jody Miller, School of Criminal Justice, Rutgers University (Newark).
- 2013 – 2014 First-Year Representative, Graduate Union of Sociology Students (GUSS), Rutgers University.
- 2013 Multi-Generational Mentoring Program (MGM) Mentor (Kayla Prieto-Hodge), Rutgers University.
- 2013 Mentee, GradFund Graduate Funding Mentoring Program, Rutgers University.
- 2011 – 2013 Resident Assistant, Office of Residence Life, University of Delaware.
- 2010 – 2013 President, Black Student Union, University of Delaware.

2010 – 2013 Historian, Cultural Programming Advisory Board, University of Delaware.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2016 – Present Board of Directors, Culture Restoration Project, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware.
2015 – Present Student Member, Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network, Columbus, Ohio.
2014 – 2015 Member, American Society of Criminology.
2011 – 2013 Program Manager, Sketches from the Life, Dances from the Soul Community Project, University of Delaware.
2011 Campaign Assistant, Councilwoman Hanifa Shabazz Election Campaign, City of Wilmington, Delaware.
2010 – 2013 Leadership Board Member, Multi-Ethnic Career Development Conference, University of Delaware.
2008 Intern, JP Morgan Chase Bank, Card Services, Wilmington, Delaware.

(Selected) University Lectures Organized

2013 Maya Angelou, Ph.D. “Black History Month Extravaganza” Center for Black Culture, University of Delaware.
2012 Randal Pinkett, Ph.D., “Black Faces in White Places,” Black Student Union, University of Delaware.
2012 Hill Harper, J.D. “A Conversation with Hill Harper,” Center for Black Culture, University of Delaware.
2011 Angela Y. Davis, Ph.D., “New Terrains of Resistance,” Department of Black American Studies, University of Delaware.
2011 Common, “Raising Your Consciousness,” Cultural Programming Advisory Board, University of Delaware.
2011 Cornel West, Ph.D., “Restoring Hope through Living and Loving Out Loud,” Center for Black Culture, University of Delaware.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

2017 “First for July 7, 2017.” *Wilmington Street PAR* Project. PBS/WHYY-TV, Wilmington, Delaware.
2017 “Delaware Culture of Health Study.” *Public Service Announcement (PSA) Video*. Appearance. Delaware Center for Drug and Health Studies. Newark, Delaware.
2014 “The People’s Report.” *Research Documentary*. Appearance. Teleduction, Hearts and Minds Film Wilmington, Delaware.
2013 “Youth in the City of Wilmington.” *Congo Youth Corner*. TV Talk Show Guest. 8PM. Delaware Channel 28. Wilmington, Delaware.
2011 Herman Holloway Jr. Live. *The State of Black America*. TV Talk Show Guest. 6PM-7PM. Delaware Channel 28. Wilmington, Delaware.
2011 NewsTalk-AM (WILM 1450AM). *The Uprising in Egypt*. Radio Talk Show Guest with John Watson. 9AM-10AM. Wilmington, Delaware.

GLOBAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Haiti, Presbyterian Campus Ministry, Spring 2013.

Dominican Republic, Episcopal Campus Ministry, Spring 2012.

Egypt, American University of Cairo, Black American Studies and Psychology Study Abroad, Winter 2010.

