

BROOKLYNN K. HITCHENS

Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
University of Maryland, College Park

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021– **Assistant Professor (Tenure-Track)**, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
University of Maryland, College Park
- 2020–21 **Postdoctoral Associate**, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
University of Maryland, College Park
Mentor: Maria B. Vélez

EDUCATION

- 2020 **Ph.D.**, Department of Sociology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (*Chair*: Lauren J. Krivo)
- 2015 **M.A.**, Department of Sociology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
- 2013 **B.A.**, Departments of Black American Studies and English, *Degree with Distinction*, University of Delaware

AFFILIATIONS

- 2025–Present Black and Brown Collective for Community Solutions to Gun Violence
- 2024–Present Prevent Gun Violence: Research, Empowerment, Strategies and Solutions Initiative (PROGRESS),
University of Maryland, College Park
- 2023–Present Regional Gun Violence Research Consortium, Rockefeller Institute of Government
- 2021–Present Department of African American and Africana Studies, University of Maryland, College Park
- 2018–Present Racial Democracy Crime and Justice Network (RDCJN)

AREAS of EXPERTISE

Urban Gun Violence & Trauma • Women & Crime • Race, Class & Gender Inequities in Crime & Victimization •
Hard-to-Reach Populations • Participatory Action Research (PAR) • Qualitative & Mixed Methods

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

- 2019–24 **Project Director**, National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research (NCGVR)
Research Site: Philadelphia, PA
PIs: Yasser A. Payne (University of Delaware) and Elise White (Center for Court Innovation)

BOOK MANUSCRIPT

- 2023 Murder Town, USA: Homicide, Structural Violence, and Activism in Wilmington
Payne, Yasser A., **Brooklyn K. Hitchens**, and Darryl L. Chambers
Rutgers University Press [[book link](#)]
- *Distinguished Book Award*: ASC's Division of Community and Place, James Short Senior Scholar Award
 - *Author-Meets Critics*: American Society of Criminology, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Association for Humanist Sociology

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES (* equal authorship; † graduate student)

15. Sun, Ivan Y., Jeanée C. Miller, Yuning Wu, Yasser A. Payne, and **Brooklyn K. Hitchens**. "Respectful, Fearful, and Trustworthy Policing: Assessing Street-Identified Black Men and Women's Tangled Feelings of the Police." (Accepted at *Law & Human Behavior*).
14. Sadeh, Naomi, Trevor Sanchez-Stevens†, Yasser A. Payne, **Brooklyn K. Hitchens**, and Nadia Bounoua. "Violence Exposure Relates Differently to Blood Pressure and Emotional Health as a Function of Cannabis Use Among Street-Identified Black Americans." (Accepted at *Clinical Psychological Science*).
13. **Hitchens, Brooklyn K.** 2025. "Street Participatory Action Research with Hard-to-Reach Black Women and

Girls: Advancing an Intersectional Criminological Approach." *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*. [[article link](#)]

12. Bounoua, Nadia R., **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, Yasser A. Payne, and Naomi Samimi-Sadeh. 2025. "Contextualizing Attitudes About Violence from the Vantage Point of Street-Identified Black Male Youth: The Role of the Perceived Neighborhood and Bypassing Adolescence in the Development of Black Masculinity." *Justice Quarterly* 42(4): 726-748. [[article link](#)]
11. Midgette, Greg, Thomas L. Spreen, Lauren C. Porter, Peter Reuter, and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. 2024. "A Model to Assess the Feasibility of 911 Call Diversion Programs." *Justice Quarterly* 41(5): 619-646. [[article link](#)]
10. Payne, Yasser A., Naomi Samimi-Sadeh, **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, and Nadia Bounoua. 2024. "Elevations in Blood Pressure Associated with Exposure to Violence are Mitigated by Pro-Gun Carrying Attitudes among Street-Identified Black Men and Women." *Journal of Urban Health* 101(1): 11-22. [[article link](#)]
9. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.**, Jeaneé C. Miller, Yasser A. Payne, Ivan Y. Sun, and Isabella Castillo†. 2023. "More than Race? Intra-group Differences by Gender and Age in Perceptions of Police among Street-Identified Black Men and Women." *Law & Human Behavior* 47(6): 634-653. [[article link](#)]
8. *Bounoua, Nadia R., Naomi Samimi-Sadeh, Yasser A. Payne, and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. 2023. "Structural Barriers Explain the Link between Negative Community Reentry Experiences and Motives for Illegal Behavior in Street-Identified Black Men and Women." *American Journal of Community Psychology* 73(1-2): 280-293. [[article link](#)]
7. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.** 2023. "The Cumulative Effect of Gun Homicide-Related Loss on Neighborhood Perceptions among Street-Identified Black Women and Girls: A Mixed-Methods Study." *Social Science & Medicine* 320, 115675. [[article link](#)]
6. *Brunson, Rod K., Brian A. Wade†, and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. 2022. "Examining Firearm Behaviors among High-Risk Gun Possessors." *Preventive Medicine* 165(A), 107179. [[article link](#)]
5. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.**, Ann M. Aviles, and Kathleen McCallops†. 2022. "Mothering in the Streets: The Familial Adaptation Strategies of Street-Identified Black Mothers." *Journal of Marriage & Family* 84(5): 1270-1290. [[article link](#)]
4. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.** 2019. "Girl Fights and the Online Media Construction of Black Female Violence and Sexuality." *Feminist Criminology* 14(2): 173-197. [[article link](#)]
 - 2018 Graduate Student Paper Award, Association of Black Sociologists (ABS)
 - 2018 Matilda White Riley Published Article Award, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University
3. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.**, Patrick J. Carr, and Susan Clampet-Lundquist. 2018. "The Context for Legal Cynicism: Urban Young Women's Experiences with Policing in Low-Income, High-Crime Neighborhoods." *Race & Justice* 8(1): 27-50. [[article link](#)]
2. *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): 874-895. [[article link](#)]
1. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.** 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. [[article link](#)]

BOOK CHAPTERS (* equal authorship; † graduate student)

4. *Payne, Yasser A., **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, and Jonathan Wilson. 2024. "Organizing *the Streets* to Enact Social Justice in the Age of Gun Violence and Draconian Policies." *The Oxford Handbook of Sociology and Social*

Justice, edited by C. Dolgon (pp. 203-236). New York, NY: Oxford University Press. [\[book chapter link\]](#)

3. **Hitchens, K. Brooklynn** and Yasser A. Payne. 2023. "Revisiting Brenda's Got a Baby: Black Motherhood, Families, and Structural Violence in the Streets." *Afrikan American Women: Living at the Crossroads of Race, Gender, Class, and Culture (2nd edition)*, edited by H. Jackson-Lowman (pp. 259-288). San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing.
2. *Friedman, Brittany and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. 2022. "Theorizing Embodied Carcerality: A Black Feminist Sociology of Punishment." *Black Feminist Sociology: Perspectives and Praxis*, edited by Z. Luna and W. Pirtle (pp. 267-276). New York: Routledge Press. [\[chapter link\]](#)
1. *Hayes, Endia†, Ashley Hollingshead†, Jomaira Salas†, and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. 2022. "Nothing About Us, Without Us: Reinscribing Black Feminism in Sociology." *Black Feminist Sociology: Perspectives and Praxis*, edited By Z. Luna and W. Pirtle (pp. 97-109). New York: Routledge Press. [\[chapter link\]](#)

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW (* equal authorship; † graduate student)

Aviles, Ann M., Michelle Bailey†, **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, & Yasser A. Payne. "Negotiating Marginal Housing: Street-identified Black Women, Black Geographies, and Resilience." (Under Review).

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION (* equal authorship; † graduate student)

Hitchens, Brooklynn K., Nadia Bounoua, Brielle Savage†, & Yasser A. Payne. "Coming of Age as Homicide Survivors: Social Cohesion Moderates the Relationship between Developmental Timing of First Loss and Criminal Attitudes." (In Preparation).

Brooklynn K. Hitchens, Demar F. Lewis, Toryn Sperry†, & Brian Wade. "'This Stuff Go Higher Rank': How Racialized Governance, Municipal Corruption, and Policing for Visions of Community Safety in Baltimore." (In Preparation).

Payne, Y. A., Naomi Samimi-Sadeh, **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, and Nadia Bounoua. "We Born into Poverty... We Born into 'This Game': How Psychological and Social Well-being Mediate Violent Victimization and Economic Well-being in a Small Urban Black City." (In Preparation).

Payne, Yasser A., **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, Naomi Samimi-Sadeh, and Nadia Bounoua. "Sites of Resilience in Street-Identified Black Boys and Men: How Resilience Mediates the Link between Economic Well-being and Attitudes Toward Violence." (In Preparation).

Miller, Jeanée C., **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, Yasser A. Payne, and Ivan Y. Sun. "Rethinking Willingness to Contact the Police: Cultural Attitudes among Street-Identified Black Residents following Police Violence." (In Preparation).

Porter, Lauren C., Toryn Sperry†, Greg Midgette, & **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. "These Kids Have Nowhere to Go": Examining Recreation Center Closings and Crime in Baltimore." (In Preparation).

Gordon, M.S., Ann M. Aviles, **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, Yasser A. Payne. "The Effects of Dispositional Optimism on the Physical and Psychological Well-being of Street-identified Black Men and Women." (In Preparation).

Hitchens, Brooklynn K. *Stress and Street Life: Black Women, Urban Inequality, and Coping in Small, Violent City*, Book Manuscript. (In Preparation).

Hitchens, Brooklynn K. and Nadia Bounoua. "The Relationship between Depressive Symptoms and Police Legitimacy: Gender as a Moderator among Black Homicide Survivors." (In Preparation).

Hitchens, Brooklynn K., Jed Knode, Marsha Capers, Yasser A. Payne. Police Violence and Health Outcomes.

REPORTS and PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

7. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.** and Yasser A. Payne. 2025. "Respect the Shooter: Philadelphia Youth Gun Culture." Arnold Ventures and Center for Justice Innovation. Report.
6. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.** and Lauren C. Porter. 2024. "What Can Be Done to Improve Police Community Relations in Baltimore? Exploring the Experiences and Perspectives of Black Residents." ABELL Foundation. [\[report link\]](#)
5. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.**, Greg Midgette, Lauren Porter, Peter Reuter, and Thomas L. Spreen. 2023. "Improving Baltimore Police Relations with the City's Black Community." Arnold Ventures, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Maryland. Report.
4. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.** 2022. "Second Killings: The Black Women and Girls Left Behind to Grieve America's Growing Gun Violence Crisis." Regional Gun Violence Research Consortium, Rockefeller Institute of Government. [\[op-ed link\]](#).
 - One of the *most read* op-eds of the RGVRC (As of Dec 2024: Read 2,122 times with 1,609 unique viewers).
 - Featured as the *first* RGVRC monthly "Member Spotlight" (January 2025)
3. Philpotts, Cimone and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. 2020. "Building People Power: The 2020 Delaware Main Street Marshall Report." Wilmington, Delaware: Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League. Report.
2. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.** 2018. "Violence and Crime." Pp. 23-24 in *The State of Our Union: Black Women and Girls in Delaware*. National Coalition for 100 Black Women Inc., Delaware Chapter (NC100BW-DE). [\[report link\]](#)
1. **Hitchens, Brooklynn K.** 2017. "Contextualizing Police Use of Force and Black Vulnerability: A Response to Whitesel." *Sociological Forum* 32(2): 434-438. [\[response essay link\]](#)

GRANTS

- 2021 **Co-Principal Investigator**, "Improving Baltimore Policing and Policy Community Relationships." Amount: \$369,832. Arnold Ventures. IRB#1710513-2.
Principal Investigator: Peter Reuter; *Co- Principal Investigators*: Greg Midgette, Lauren Porter, and Thomas Spreen.
- 2020 **Principal Investigator**, "Assessing the Public Attitudes toward 'Defund the Police' and the Function of the Baltimore Police Department." Amount: \$15,000. School of Public Policy and Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice. IRB#1710513-1.
Co- Principal Investigators: Lauren Porter, Peter Reuter, Greg Midgette, and Thomas Spreen.

FELLOWSHIPS

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 2019–20 | American Association of University Women (AAUW) Dissertation Fellowship |
| 2019 | Ford Dissertation Fellowship, Honorable Mention |
| 2018–19 | American Society of Criminology (ASC) Ruth D. Peterson Fellowship for Racial & Ethnic Diversity |
| 2018–19 | University & Louis Bevier Dissertation Fellowship, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University |
| 2018–19 | American Sociological Association (ASA) Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) |
| 2018 | Honors College Teaching Fellowship, The Honors College, Rutgers University |
| 2017–18 | James H. Gilliam Sr. Fellowship, Metropolitan Urban League, Wilmington, DE |
| 2016–17 | Rutgers Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (RASTL) Fellowship, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University |
| 2015 | NAEP-ETS Summer Pre-Doctoral Research Experience (SPRE) Fellowship, Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton, NJ |
| 2013–15 | Ralph J. Bunche Distinguished Graduate Fellowship, Sociology, Rutgers University |

AWARDS

- 2025 James Short Senior Scholar Award, Division of Community and Place, American Society of

- Criminology (ASC)
 2025 Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award, Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program
 2018 Graduate Student Paper Award, 1st Place, Association of Black Sociologists (ABS)
 2018 Matilda White Riley Published Article Award, Rutgers University
 2018 Teaching Assistant Professional Development Award, Rutgers University
 2018 Sociology Research Grant, Rutgers University
 2016 Outstanding Student Award, Division on People of Color & Crime (DPCC), American Society of Criminology (ASC)
 2015–18 Undergraduate Teaching Honor Roll, Rutgers University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 “Authors-Meet-Critics: Murder Town, USA: Structural Violence and Activism in Wilmington,” *American Society of Criminology*, Washington, DC.
Critics: Aaron Kupchik (Chair), Caterina Roman, Alex Vitale
 2025 “Coming of Age as Homicide Survivors: Social Cohesion Moderates the Relationship between Developmental Timing of First Loss and Criminal Attitudes,” *European Society of Criminology*, Athens, Greece.
 2024 “Roundtable: Community Engaged Scholarship: Insights Gained from Collaboration with System-Impacted Populations and Community Partners,” *American Society of Criminology*, San Francisco, CA.
 2024 “Street Participatory Action Research with Hard-to-Reach Black Women and Girls: Towards an Intersectional Criminological Approach,” *American Society of Criminology*, San Francisco, CA.
 2024 “How Developmental Timing of Loss Impacts Violence- and Anti-Snitching Attitudes among Homicide Survivors,” *American Society of Criminology*, San Francisco, CA.
 2023 “Recreation Centers and Crime: A Mixed Methods Study of Closures in Baltimore City,” *American Society of Criminology*, Philadelphia, PA.
 2023 “A Model of Emergency Call Risk with Implications for Tasks Assigned to Police and Other Agencies,” *American Society of Criminology*, Philadelphia, PA.
 2023 “Relationship Between Blood Pressure, Victimization, and Pro-Gun Carrying Attitudes Among Street-Identified Black Men and Women,” *American Society of Criminology*, Philadelphia, PA.
 2023 “Sites of Resilience in Street-identified Black Males: How Resilience Mediates Economic Well-being and Pro-violent Attitudes,” *American Society of Criminology*, Philadelphia, PA.
 2023 “Innovations in Community-Engaged Research on Gun Violence and Activism: Understanding Black Youth Involvement in Violence,” *American Society of Criminology*, Philadelphia, PA.
 2023 “Preconference: Research-Informed Community Empowerment Approaches in Race-Class Subjugated Communities,” *American Sociological Association*, Philadelphia, PA.
 2022 “Patterns of Gun Homicide-Related Loss and Co-Victimization among Black Women and Girls: A Mixed Methods Analysis,” *American Society of Criminology*, Atlanta, GA.
 2022 “The Process of Designing a Mixed Methods Research Study Using Secondary Data,” *American Educational Research Association (AERA)*, San Diego, CA.
 2021 “Street Participatory Action Research: Employing Research and Activism to Combat Structural Violence,” *Critical Race Studies in Education Association (CRSEA)*, Newark, DE.
 2020 “The Street PAR Health Project: Working with *the Streets* to Examine Opportunity, Health and Violence,” *Eastern Sociological Society*, Philadelphia, PA.
 2019 “Coping in Murder Town USA: How Urban Black Women Adapt to Structural Strain in a Violent, Small City,” *American Sociological Association*, New York City.
 2019 “The Street PAR Health Project: Working with *the Streets* to Examine Opportunity, Health and Violence,” *Free Minds Free People Conference*, Twin Cities, MN.
 2018 “The Street PAR Health Project: Working with *the Streets* to Examine Opportunity, Health and Violence,” *American Society of Criminology*, Atlanta, GA.
 2018 “Street Participatory Action Research: Doing Research & Activism with The Streets of Black America,” *Racial Democracy Crime and Justice Network (RDCJN)*, Newark, NJ, (with Yasser A. Payne and Darryl Chambers).
 2016 “The Use of Victim Self-Protective Behaviors during Violent Crimes as Predictors of Post-Incident Emotional Distress,” *American Society of Criminology*, New Orleans, LA, (with Jason Phillips and Alicia Raia-Hawrylak).
 2015 “Gender Differences in Attitudes toward Police in Three Philadelphia Neighborhoods,” *American Society of Criminology*, Washington D.C., (with Patrick J. Carr and Susan Clampet-Lundquist).

- 2015 “‘CNN of the Ghetto?’ Analyzing Black Girls and Violence as Entertainment on WorldStarHipHop,” *American Sociological Association*, Chicago, IL.
- 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.
- 2015 “Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset among Low-Income, ‘At Risk’ High School Students,” *ETS Corporate Internship Symposium*, Princeton, NJ.
- 2015 “Walk with Me: Organizing *the Streets* to Constructively Engage Law Enforcement,” *Annual Winter Roundtable Conference Teacher’s College*, Columbia University, (with Yasser Payne and Darryl Chambers).
- 2014 “Girl-on-Girl Street Fighting: The Connection Between Black Girls, Urban Street Violence, and Social Media,” *American Society of Criminology*, San Francisco, CA.

INVITED TALKS, SYMPOSIUMS and WORKSHOPS

- 2025 “Unpacking the Triggers: The Evolving Roles of Street-Identified Black Women and Girls in Urban Gun Violence,” GVRC Summit, New Jersey Gun Violence Research Center, **Rutgers University – New Brunswick** (Keynote Address).
- 2025 “The Future of Qualitative Criminology,” Summer Research Institute (SRI), Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network (RDCJN), **University of Maryland**.
- 2025 J-PAL - North America, Initiative for Effective Crime Policy, **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**.
- 2025 “Murder Town, USA: Homicide, Structural Violence, and Activism in Wilmington,” Black Communities: Emancipatory Research and Pathways to Liberation,” **McGill University**, Montreal, Canada (Keynote Address; McGill is recognized as one of most elite institution globally).
- 2025 “Bridging Gun Divides, Elevating the Gun Debate” Symposium, Center for the Study of Guns in Society (CSGS), **Arizona State University** (Keynote Address).
- 2024 Author-Meets-Critics: Murder Town, USA: Homicide, Structural Violence, and Activism in Wilmington, *Association for Humanist Sociology (AHS)*, Rochester, NY.
Critics: Corey Dolgon (chair), Timothy Black, Phillip Harris
- 2024 “In and Out ‘the Mix’: How Street-Identified Black Girls (De)Escalate Gun Violence in Trauma Deserts,” New York State Youth Justice Institute (YJI), **University of Albany – SUNY**.
- 2024 “In and Out ‘the Mix’: How Street-Identified Black Girls (De)Escalate Gun Violence in Trauma Deserts,” Qualitative Research Network, **Temple University**.
- 2024 “Gun Violence Research: Design Justice,” Prevent Gun Violence: Research Empowerment Strategies & Solutions (PROGRESS) Workshop Series, **University of Maryland**.
- 2024 “In and Out ‘the Mix’: How Street-Identified Black Girls (De)Escalate Gun Violence in Trauma Deserts,” Institute for Population Research (IPR), **The Ohio State University**.
- 2024 Author Meets Critics: Murder Town, USA: Homicide, Structural Violence, and Activism in Wilmington, *Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)*, Montreal, Canada.
Critics: Jamie Fader (chair), Anthony Peguero, Claire Renzetti, Louis Esparza, and Robert Peralta
- 2024 “Stress and Street Life: Black Women, Urban Inequality, and Coping in Small, Violent City,” Summer Research Institute (SRI), Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network (RDCJN), **University of Maryland**.
- 2024 “Second Killings: Black Women and Girls Left Behind to Grieve America’s Growing Gun Violence Crisis,” *The Cost of Gun Violence Conference, Parents Encouraging Accountability and Closure for Everyone (PEACE)*, Buffalo, NY.
- 2024 “Moving Beyond Research’s Sake: Reflections on Becoming Critical Young Scholars,” 10th Annual Regional Undergraduate Student Research Conference, **University of Delaware** (Keynote Address).
- 2024 “Using Street PAR to Engage Incarcerated Populations,” Punishment Beyond Mass Incarceration Symposium, Urban Institute and Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, **Brown University**, Providence, RI.
- 2024 “Street Violence in the Era of Social Media,” A Day of Black History: Stories of Empowerment, School of Public Policy Teach-In, **University of Maryland**.
- 2024 “We Clean it Up: Black Female Homicide Survivorship in Context,” Prevent Gun Violence: Research Empowerment Strategies & Solutions (PROGRESS) Distinguished Speaker Series, **University of Maryland**.
- 2023 Book Talk for Murder Town, USA: Homicide, Structural Violence, and Activism in Wilmington, *Delaware Historical Society*, Wilmington, DE.
- 2023 “Police-Community Relations in Baltimore: A Qualitative Exploration of Attitudes, Experiences, and

- Perceptions of Black Residents,” Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice, **University of Maryland**.
- 2023 “The Answer is You: How Black Women Can Interrupt the Cycle of Incarceration and Violence,” *We are Better Together – Warren Daniel Hairston Project*, Boston, MA.
- 2023 Author-Meets-Critics: Invisible Mothers: Unseen Yet Hypervisible after Incarceration by Janet Garcia-Hallett, *Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences*, National Harbor, MD.
- 2023 “Lethal Links: Guns and Violence Against Women,” Bearing the Burden Webinar Series, Center for Advancing Research, Methods, and Scholarship (ARMS) in Gun Injury Prevention, **University of Connecticut**.
- 2022 “Second Killings: How Gun Homicide Covictimization Alters Neighborhood Perceptions among Street-Identified Black Women and Girls,” Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP), **University of Wisconsin-Madison**.
- 2022 “Second Killings: Black Women and Girls Left Behind to Grieve America’s Growing Gun Violence Crisis,” Brown Bag Series, Department of African American Studies, **University of Maryland**.
- 2022 “Patterns of Firearm Homicide-Related Loss among Black Women and Girls: A Mixed Methods Analysis,” Equity Committee Speaker Series, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice, **University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL)**.
- 2021 “Connecting Theory, Inquiry, and Practice: Working within Communities,” Gender and Equity Research Symposium, **North Carolina State University**.
- 2021 “Mothering in the Streets: The Familial Adaptation Strategies of Street-Identified Black Mothers,” Annual Ruth Peterson Fellow Development Program Workshop, *American Society of Criminology (ASC)*, Chicago, IL.
- 2021 “The Enduring Link between Race/Ethnicity and Violence: Causes and Collateral Consequences,” Be Informed: Virtual Lecture Series, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, **University of Maryland** (with Maria Vélez).
- 2020 “Annual Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration: Race and Policing in America,” Center for Black Culture, **University of Delaware** (with Benjamin Crump).
- 2020 “Professionalization Workshop: Securing External Fellowships and Awards,” Department of Sociology, **Rutgers University**.
- 2019 “Community Capacity Building for a Better Tomorrow,” Critical Participatory Action Research Think Tank, **Drexel University**.
- 2019 “I Never Thought I’d Get That Call: Reverberations of Violence and Crime in a Small City.”
- Invited Lecture, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice, **University of Maryland**.
 - Invited Lecture, Department of Sociology, **Old Dominion University**.
 - Invited Lecture, Department of Sociology, **Syracuse University**.
 - Invited Lecture, School of History & Sociology, **Georgia Institute of Technology**.
 - Jason B. Phillips Memorial Lecture, Department of Sociology, **Rutgers University**.
 - Emerging Scholars Program, Department of Sociology, **Boston University**.
- 2019 “Legacies: Collective Work, Responsibility, and the Importance of Community,” Office of Residence Life, **University of Delaware**.
- 2019 “Professionalization Workshop: Developing Research Proposals,” Department of Sociology, **Rutgers University**.
- 2018 “The Street PAR Health Project: Working with The Streets to Examine Opportunity, Health and Violence in Wilmington, DE,” Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice, **University of Delaware** (with Yasser Payne, Darryl Chambers, and Coley Harris).
- 2018 “Mentoring & Being Mentored in a Predominantly White Academy: Guiding the Next Generation to Work Inside Low-Income Communities of Color,” Students of Distinction Dinner, **University of Delaware** (Keynote Address).
- 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**.
- 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).
 2014 *Convocation*, Department of Black American Studies, *University of Delaware* (Keynote Address).
 2013 “The People’s Report: A Panel Discussion on Violence in Wilmington,” Department of Black American Studies, *University of Delaware*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Maryland

Course (UG): Urban Crime and Violence (Fall 2024; Spring 2026)

Course (Grad): Race, Crime, and Criminal Justice (Fall 2023, Spring 2025)

Course (UG): Race, Crime, and Justice (Fall 2021; Spring 2022; Fall 2022; Fall 2024; Fall 2025; Spring 2026)

Course (UG): Responses to Violence (Fall 2022; Spring 2023; Spring 2024; Spring 2025)

Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University

Course: Introduction to Sociology (Summer 2017 Hybrid; Summer 2018 Hybrid)

Course: Race Relations (Summer 2016 Online; Spring 2017; Fall 2017)

Course: Sociology of the Family (Summer 2014; Summer 2015; Summer 2016)

Course: Honors College Forum for first-year students (Spring 2018)

Other Course Instruction (Community-Based)

Course: GED Prep, Fathership Foundation (Summer 2014)

Course: Microsoft Office, AvTech Technology Inc. (Summer 2014)

Course: GRE Prep, McNair Scholars Program, University of Delaware (Summer 2013)

Course: College Prep, Upward Bound Math Science Program, University of Delaware (Summer 2013)

Course: First Year Seminar, University of Delaware (Fall 2012)

THESIS and DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

PhD Dissertation:

2025 **Committee Member** (University of Maryland, CCJS), Abbey Potter (in prog)

2025 **Committee Member** (University of Maryland, Kinesiology), Roger Isom (in prog)

2024 **Comp Exam Committee Member** (University of Maryland, Kinesiology), Roger Isom (completed)

2023 **Committee Member** (University of Maryland, CCJS), Sarah Silberman (in prog)

2022 **Committee Member** (University of Delaware, Department of Human Development & Family Sciences), Kathleen McCallops (completed)

Master’s Thesis:

2024 **Committee Member** (University of Maryland, CCJS), Erika Fenney (in prog)

2024 **Committee Member** (University of Maryland, CCJS), Grace Phelps (in prog)

2024 **Committee Member** (University of Maryland, CCJS), Alexandra Wood (in prog)

2023 **Committee Member** (University of Maryland, CCJS), Kristen Milsap (completed)

2023 **Chair** (University of Maryland, CCJS), Alessia Shaw (in prog)

2022 **Chair** (University of Maryland, CCJS), Isabella Castillo (completed)

- *Health Policy Research Scholar (HPRS), Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

2025 **Member**, General Qualifier Exam Committee, University of Maryland

2025 **Member**, Graduate Student Professionalization Seminar, University of Maryland

2024 **Proctor**, General Qualifier Exam Committee, University of Maryland

2022- **Member**, Faculty Search Committee, University of Maryland

2022 **Member**, Speaker Series Committee, University of Maryland

2020-25 **Member**, Human Relations Committee, University of Maryland

2020- **Member**, Qualifying Exam (Policy) Committee, University of Maryland

2020- **Member**, CCJS Racial Competence Workgroup, University of Maryland

COLLEGE and UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

2023- **Faculty Mentor**, Ronald E McNair Scholars Program, University of Maryland
 2021- **Member**, BSOS Anti-Black Racism Initiative (ABRI), University of Maryland

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

Member	American Society of Criminology (ASC), American Sociological Association (ASA), European Society of Criminology (ESC), Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network (RDCJN), Division on People of Color and Crime (DPCC), Division on Women and Crime (DWC)
Leadership	American Society of Criminology (ASC) 2026 Member, Gene Carte Student Paper Awards Committee 2025 Member, Gene Carte Student Paper Awards Committee 2022 Chair, Sub-Area “Inequality and Justice,” Area VII: The Criminal Justice System 2015 Program Committee Assistant Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) 2021 Editorial Board Member
Mentorship	2025 Trinity Smith, BSOS Summer Research Initiative (SRI), University of Maryland 2025 Sara Mohammad, Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, University of Maryland 2025 Ria Kapur, Independent Studies, University of Maryland 2025 Christianah Amadi, Independent Studies, University of Maryland 2025 Shanze Nadeem, Honors Program/Independent Studies, University of Maryland 2024-2025 Leandra Williams, Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, University of Maryland ○ <i>Student Award, Academic Excellence</i> 2024 Megan Kang, BRIDGS Emergent Scholar Fellowship: Bringing Research & Innovation into the Debate on Guns in Society, Arizona State University 2024 Brielle Savage, BRIDGS Emergent Scholar Fellowship: Bringing Research & Innovation into the Debate on Guns in Society, Arizona State University 2023-2025 Chidinma Okeke, Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, University of Maryland 2015 Cynthia Duchantier, ARESTY Undergraduate Research Center, Rutgers University 2014 Bianca West, Research in Science and Engineering (RISE), Rutgers University 2013 Kayla Prieto-Hodge, Multi-Generational Mentoring Program (MGM), Rutgers University
Reviewer	<i>Criminology, American Sociological Review, Criminology & Public Policy, Social Problems, Gender & Society, Sociological Forum, Journal of Marriage & Family, Homicide Studies, Criminology & Criminal Justice, Critical Criminology, Feminist Criminology, Journal of Urban Health, Race & Justice, Social Currents, Violence & Gender</i>
Project Evaluator/Consultant/Grant Writer	2024 Annie E. Casey Foundation, Juvenile Justice Reform, Baltimore, MD. 2024 Project M.E.N.D Reentry Program, Baltimore, MD. 2023 YEAH Philly Violent Crime Initiative (VCI), Temple University. 2023 We are Better Together (WAB2G), Boston, MA. 2021 Equitable Workforce Investment Project, Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League. 2020 Building People Power Campaign, Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League. 2019 Consumer Racial Profiling and Shoplifting Project, Rutgers University.

MEDIA

2025	Featured on “ Dr. Hitchens Receives 2025 Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award ,” <i>UMD Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice</i> .
2025	Featured on “ RGVRC Member Spotlight: Brooklynn Hitchens ,” <i>Rockefeller Institute of Government</i> .
2025	Quoted in “ Gun Violence Took Their Sons. Now These Moms Help Others Navigate Grief ,” <i>Christian Science Monitor</i> .

- 2024 **Featured** on *Maryland Public Television (MPT)*, "[Direct Connection: Police Community Relations](#)," July 1, Episode 26.
- 2024 **Featured** in "[How BSOS Researchers are Addressing a Grand Challenge](#)," *BSOS Be the Solution Magazine*.
- 2024 **Featured** in "[Could More 911 Call Diversions Fix Baltimore's Policing Woes?](#)" *Baltimore Sun*.
- 2024 **Quoted** in "[UMD Study: Some Black Residents Still Distrust Baltimore Police Department, Even After Reforms](#)," *Maryland Today*.
- 2022 **Featured** in "[UMD Study: High-Risk Communities Would Benefit from Firearm Safety Training](#)," *UMD Maryland Today*.
- 2022 **Featured** in "[Philly Residents Affected by Gun Violence will be Researching the Root Causes of the Crisis](#)," *Philadelphia Tribune*.
- 2022 **Featured** in "[Philly Residents Affected by Gun Violence will be Researching the Root Causes of the Crisis](#)," *WHYY-PBS*.
- 2022 **Appearance** in "[Seeking Peace in Philly: Searching for Solutions to Philadelphia's Gun Violence Crisis](#)," *NBC10 Philadelphia*.
- 2022 **Featured** on Hour-long Segment, Philly Service Announcement (PSA) Podcast, "[Gun Violence in Philadelphia: 3-29-22](#)," Philadelphia, PA.
- 2021 **Quoted** in "['Defund the Police': What it Means and What the Research Says on Whether More Police Presence Reduces Crime](#)," *The Journalist's Resource*, Harvard Kennedy School.
- 2020 **Quoted** in "[Gun Violence and COVID-19: The Epidemic and Pandemic Collide](#)," *Delaware Call*.
- 2019 **Featured** on Hour-long Segment, Missing Dad Podcast, "Black Fatherhood in Wilmington," Wilmington, DE.
- 2017 **Featured** on PBS/WHYY-TV, "First for July 7, 2017," Wilmington Street PAR Project, Wilmington, DE.
- 2017 **Appearance** in Public Service Announcement (PSA), "Delaware Culture of Health Study," Delaware Center for Drug and Health Studies. Newark, DE.
- 2014 **Featured** on "The People's Report Documentary," Teleduction, Hearts and Minds Film Wilmington, DE.
- 2013 **Featured** on Hour-long Segment, Congo Youth Corner, "Youth in the City of Wilmington," TV Talk Show Guest, Delaware Channel 28, Wilmington, DE.
- 2011 **Featured** on Hour-long Segment, Herman Holloway Jr. Live, "The State of Black America," TV Talk Show Guest, Delaware Channel 28, Wilmington, DE.
- 2011 **Featured** on Hour-long Segment, *NewsTalk-AM WILM 1450AM*, "The Uprising in Egypt," Radio Talk Show Guest with John Watson, Wilmington, DE.