

BROOKLYNN K. HITCHENS

Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
University of Maryland, College Park
2153 Lefrak Hall
College Park, MD 20742

hitchens@umd.edu
www.brooklynnhitchens.com

EDUCATION

- 2020 **Ph.D.**, Department of Sociology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Dissertation: “Stress and Street Life: Black Women, Urban Inequality, and Coping in a Small Violent City.”
Committee: Lauren J. Krivo (Chair), Patrick J. Carr (Co-Chair), Dana M. Britton, and Yasser A. Payne.
- 2015 **M.A.**, Department of Sociology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
- 2013 **B.A.**, Departments of Black American Studies and English, University of Delaware
Degree with Distinction

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021– *Assistant Professor (Tenure-Track)*, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
University of Maryland, College Park
- 2020–Present *Post-doctoral Associate*, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
University of Maryland, College Park
Postdoc Mentor: Maria B. Vélez

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Race, Class & Gender in Crime & Victimization • Urban Violence & Trauma • Urban Ethnography • Black Female Survivors of Violence • Participatory Action Research (PAR) • Qualitative & Mixed Methods

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

- 2019–Present *Project Director*, Center for Court Innovation, National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research
Research Site: Baltimore, Maryland
PIs: Yasser A. Payne and Elise White
- 2017–20 *Inclusive Excellence Project Coordinator*, Office of the Vice Provost for Diversity, Carol E. Henderson
University of Delaware

BOOK

Payne, Yasser A., **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, and Darryl L. Chambers. *Murder Town, USA: Homicide, Structural Violence, and Activism*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press (Under Contract).

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES (*denotes equal authorship)

Hitchens, Brooklynn K. 2019. “[Girl Fights and the Online Media Construction of Black Female Violence and Sexuality.](#)” *Feminist Criminology* 14(2): 173-197.

- 2018 *Graduate Student Paper Award*, Association of Black Sociologists (ABS)
- 2018 *Matilda White Riley Published Article Award*, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University

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.

*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.

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.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Hitchens, K. Brooklynn and Yasser A. Payne. "Revisiting Brenda's Got a Baby: Black Motherhood, Families, and Structural Violence in the Streets." *African American Women: Living at the Crossroads of Race, Gender, Class, and Culture (2nd edition)*, edited by H. Jackson-Lowman. San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing. (Forthcoming).

*Friedman, Brittany and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. "Theorizing Embodied Carcerality: A Black Feminist Sociology of Punishment." *Black Feminist Sociology: Perspectives and Praxis*, edited by Z. Luna and W. Pirtle. New York: Routledge Press. (Accepted).

*Hayes, Endia, Ashley Hollingshead, Jomaira Salas, and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. "Nothing About Us, Without Us: Reinscribing Black Feminism in Sociology." *Black Feminist Sociology: Perspectives and Praxis*, edited by Z. Luna and W. Pirtle. New York: Routledge Press. (Accepted).

OTHER WRITING

Philpotts, Cimone and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. 2020. "[Building People Power: The 2020 Delaware Main Street Marshall Report.](#)" Wilmington, Delaware: Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League.

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).

Hitchens, Brooklynn K. 2017. "[Contextualizing Police Use of Force and Black Vulnerability: A Response to Whitesel.](#)" *Sociological Forum* 32(2): 434-438. (Invited).

GRANTS

Internal

2020 Start-up Funding, University of Maryland, "Making Sense of 'Defund the Police.'" (\$15,000).

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

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
 2013-19 Conference Travel Award, Rutgers University
 2013 Senior Thesis, Degree with Distinction, University of Delaware
 2013 Justice & Multiculturalism Young Scholar Paper Award, 3rd Place, University of Albany

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 “The Street PAR Health Project: Working with *the Streets* to Examine Opportunity, Health and Violence,” Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia.
- 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.
- 2012 “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, 2012.
 - 2nd Regional Undergraduate Research Conference, Delaware State University, 2012.
- 2012–14 “Brenda’s Got a Baby: Black Single Motherhood in the Streets of Wilmington, Delaware.”
- Black Doctoral Network Conference, Philadelphia, PA, 2014.
 - Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Delaware, 2013.
 - Explorations in Justice Symposium, University of Albany, 2013.
 - 30th Annual Winter Roundtable, Teacher’s College, Columbia University, 2013.
 - Mid-Atlantic Law and Society Inaugural Conference, Drexel University, 2012.

INVITED TALKS

- 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 Tech.
 - Jason B. Phillips Memorial Lecture, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University.
 - Emerging Scholars Program, Department of Sociology, Boston University.
- 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.
- 2014 *Convocation*, Department of Black American Studies, University of Delaware (*Keynote Address*).

INVITED PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Academic

- 2020 “Annual Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration: Race and Policing in America,” Center for Black Culture, University of Delaware (*with Benjamin Crump*).
- 2019 “Maximizing Summer Research,” Ronald E. McNair Scholars, University of Delaware.
- 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*).
- 2015 “McNair Alumni Panel,” Ronald E. McNair Scholars, University of Delaware.
- 2015 “Criminal Justice Alumni Networking Event,” Department of Criminal Justice, Rutgers University.
- 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 “I Am Troy Davis: Call for Social Justice in the New Jim Crow Era,” University of Delaware.

Community

- 2018-19 “State of Our Union: Black Women and Girls’ and Violence in Wilmington,” Mary Anne Shadd/Senator Rose Henry Program, Wilmington, DE.
- 2016 “Forum to Advance Minorities in Engineering Former Student Panel,” F.A.M.E., Wilmington, DE.
- 2016 “Black Arts Movement: Art, Social Activism, and Revolution to Affect Social Change,” Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, DE.
- 2013 “Black Youth in Wilmington,” Education, Youth and Citizenship Committee, Office of the Mayor, Wilmington, DE.
- 2012 “Open Forum on Trayvon Martin,” University of Delaware.

INVITED WORKSHOPS

- 2020 “Professionalization Workshop: Securing External Fellowships and Awards,” Department of Sociology, Rutgers University.
- 2019 “Professionalization Workshop: Developing Research Proposals,” Department of Sociology, Rutgers University.
- 2019 “Legacies: Collective Work, Responsibility, and the Importance of Community,” Office of Residence Life, University of Delaware.
- 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*).

ACADEMIC GUEST LECTURES

- 2019 “Brenda’s Got A Baby: Black Motherhood in the Streets,” *The Family*, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Delaware.
- 2019 “Black Motherhood, Street Life, and Dis-Opportunity in Wilmington,” *Street Ethnography*, Departments of Africana Studies and Sociology, University of Delaware.
- 2018 “Girl Fights and the Online Media Construction of Black Female Violence and Sexuality,” *Qualitative Methods*, Department of Communications, Rutgers University.
- 2018 “Women’s History Month Film Series,” film about queer, justice-involved women of color, Department of

Women and Gender Studies, University of Delaware.

- 2016 “Black Lives Matter Movement,” *Introduction to Sociology*, Department of Sociology, Rutgers University.
 2016 “Fighting Girls: The Media Construction of Female Violence and Sexuality,” *Urban Communication*, Department of Communications, Rutgers University.

TEACHING

Independent Instruction, 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)

Teaching Assistant (TA), Department of Sociology, Rutgers University

- Course: Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2015; Spring 2016; Fall 2016; Spring 2017; Spring 2018)

Other Course Instruction

- 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)

SERVICE

Ad Hoc Reviewer

Social Problems, Sociological Forum, Criminology & Criminal Justice, Social Currents

Service

Program Committee Assistant, 2015 – 2016, American Society of Criminology (ASC), (with 2015 President Ruth Peterson, and Co-Chairs Laurie Krivo and Kathryn Russell-Brown).

Memberships

Academic: American Sociological Association (ASA), American Society of Criminology (ASC), Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network (RDCJN)

Community: Smart Justice Campaign at the ACLU, Wilmington Under Pressure, Culture Restoration Project, Inc.

Mentorship

- 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.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2020 Quoted in “Gun Violence and COVID-19: The Epidemic and Pandemic Collide,” Delaware Call, http://delawarecall.com/2020/08/13/gun-violence-and-covid-19-the-epidemic-and-pandemic-collide/?fbclid=IwAR0Yv7R6Qae78_-z2O8LJoIu04OOkSlpsCgMfyN4tix-EWcZN4Trckc_nY.
- 2020 Quoted in “Why I Can’t Stand Out in Front of My House?” A Study About Black Poverty, Oppression, and Police,” Your Black World, <http://yourblackworld.net/2020/05/27/why-i-cant-stand-out-in-front-of-my-house-a-study-about-black-poverty-oppression-and-police/>.
- 2020 Quoted in “Study Analyzes Media’s New Trend of Promoting Violent & Masculated Young Girls of Color,” Your Black World, <http://yourblackworld.net/2020/02/24/study-analyzes-medias-new-trend-of-promoting-violent-masculated-young-girls-of-color/>.
- 2019 Hour-long, Featured 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 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 Hour-long, Featured Segment, Congo Youth Corner, “Youth in the City of Wilmington,” TV Talk Show Guest, 8PM, Delaware Channel 28, Wilmington, DE.
- 2011 Hour-long, Featured Segment, Herman Holloway Jr. Live, “The State of Black America,” 2011, TV Talk Show Guest, 6PM-7PM, Delaware Channel 28. Wilmington, DE.
- 2011 Hour-long, Featured Segment, *NewsTalk-AM* WILM 1450AM, “The Uprising in Egypt,” Radio Talk Show Guest with John Watson. 9AM-10AM. Wilmington, DE.