

Shradha Sahani

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Maryland
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PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC INTERESTS

Interests include racial/ethnic inequality in crime and criminal justice, immigration and crime, extremism, radicalization and deradicalization, and evidence-based criminal justice policy

EDUCATION

Doctoral Candidate, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice *Expected 2023*

University of Maryland

Dissertation Title: *The Consequences of Racial Residential Segregation and Immigration on the Ethno-Racial Divide in Neighborhood Crime Change in U.S. Cities, 2000-2013*

Committee: Dr. María Vélez (chair), Dr. Rod Brunson, Dr. Bianca Bersani, Dr. Greg Midgette, Dr. Perla Guerrero

Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice 2018

University of Maryland

Thesis Title: *Examining the Association Between Social Media and Violent Extremism: A Social Learning Approach*

Committee: Dr. Gary LaFree (chair), Dr. Laura Dugan, Dr. David Maimon

Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice, Minor in 2016

Global Terrorism, Honors College Citation-Gemstone

University of Maryland

PUBLICATIONS

Sahani, Shradha., LaFree, Gary., & Jensen, Michael. A Multi-level Approach to Understanding Violent Extremism. *In Progress*.

Sahani, Shradha., Kozerra, Meghan., Xie, Min., & Baumer, Eric., Immigration and Crime in Context: Examining the Dynamics of Immigrant Settlement Patterns. *In Progress*.

Sahani, Shradha., LaFree, Gary., & Midgette, Greg. Are individuals who radicalize online more violent?. *In Progress*.

Howell, C. Jordan., Burruss, George., Maimon, David., & **Sahani, Shradha.** (2019). Website defacement and routine activities: Considering the importance of hackers' valuations of potential targets. *Journal of Crime and Justice*, 42(5), 536-550.

REPORTS

Jensen, M., LaFree, Gary., Kane, Sheehan., & **Sahani, Shradha.** "A Multi-level Approach to the Study of Violent Extremism," Final report to the National Institutes of Justice, award number 2017-ZA-CX-000, June 2022.

PRESENTATIONS

Sahani, Shradha., Kozerra, Meghan., Xie, Min., & Baumer, Eric. Immigration and Crime in Context: Examining the Dynamics of Immigrant Settlement Patterns. PENN/PSU/UMD Virtual Mini-Conference. 2021.

*also accepted at the *American Society of Criminology* Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. 2020.-cancelled due to COVID-19

Sahani, Shradha., LaFree, Gary., & Midgette, Greg. Violent Extremism: Understanding the Implications of Exposure to Extremist Content on Social Media. *The American Society of Criminology* Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. 2019.

Kozerra, Meghan., **Sahani, Shradha.**, Xie, Min., & Baumer, Eric. The Relationship between Immigration and Homicide: Examining 40 Years of Change. *The American Society of Criminology* Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. 2019.

Sahani, Shradha., Howell, C. Jordan., Shah, Asma., Maimon, David., & Burruss, George. The Impact of Motivation on Targets of Web Defacements. *The American Society of Criminology* Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. 2018.

Howell, C. Jordan., Burruss, George., Maimon, David., **Sahani, Shradha.**, & Shah, Asma. The Influence of Cyber-threat on Website Defacement. *The American Society of Criminology* Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. 2018.

Burruss, George., Maimon, David., **Sahani, Shradha.**, Shah, Asma. & Howell, C. Jordan. Deterring Website Defacement: Preliminary Findings from a Field Experiment. *The American Society of Criminology* Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. 2018.

Shah, Asma., Maimon, David., Howell, C. Jordan., **Sahani, Shradha.**, & Burrus, George. Web Defacement Hacks and Attackers Use of Social Media Platforms: Preliminary Findings. *The American Society of Criminology* Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. 2018.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

“Census Data.” Invited Lecture at *Profiles of Individual Radicalization in the United States (PIRUS) Project* Intern meeting at the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START). —Virtual, July 2021.

“Immigration and Crime.” Invited Lecture at *Profiles of Individual Radicalization in the United States (PIRUS) Project* Intern meeting at the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START). —Virtual, September 2020 & February 2021.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant - University of Maryland

Profiles of Individual Radicalization in the United States (PIRUS) Project, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) Jul 2020- Dec 2021

Dr. Michael Jensen - *Supervisor*

- Contributed to an NSF funded project entitled *A Multi-level Approach to the Study of Violent Extremism*
- Worked to expand the PIRUS dataset to integrate county of residence information for individuals previously included
- Designed a codebook and collected data from the Census Bureau and the Southern Poverty Law Center to build a dataset of relevant county-level

factors to integrate into the dataset

- Worked on multi-level analyses focused on understanding how county characteristics shape individual engagement in violent extremism
- Attended weekly meetings with a team of interns on the project
- Conducted open-source data collection to update the PIRUS dataset to include specific plot-level information
- Worked on a team with multiple researchers and contributed to papers, and wrote literature reviews as the only criminologist on the team

Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Dr. Gary LaFree

2018-2020

- Worked on a collaboration with Dr. Amy Adamcyk (John Jay) on using social media to examine religiosity cross-nationally
- Used a Python scraper to collect data from Google Trends on the prevalence of google searches for key search terms
- Built a dataset with data from the World Value Survey, The Association of Religion Data Archives and Google Trends
- Conducted analyses to understand how google searches are related to a host of country factors such as religiosity and wealth
- Contributed to multiple grant proposals for NIJ

Dr. María Vélez

2018-2020

- Contributed to data collection for the National Neighborhood Crime Study Panel Dataset
- Worked with spatial maps and mapping software (GeoDa and ArcGIS) to create spatial weights matrices and spatial lags for multiple variables including neighborhood violent and property crime rates
- Collecting data from the Census Bureau on a host of city and metro level factors

Dr. Min Xie

2017-2018

- Assisted and contributed to the project entitled *Crime Risk and Police Notification in Immigrant Communities: A Multilevel Analysis of the NCVS across Traditional and New Destinations*
- Worked with longitudinal Census data to examine the relationship between immigration and crime
- Assisted in data collection to build a dataset with information about county level 287(g) program detainees and local/federal immigration partnerships
- Collaborated with a team of graduate students to write an NIJ grant proposal

Dr. David Maimon

2017-2018

- Assisted and contributed to research on website defacement
- Collaborated on a project with researchers at the University of South Florida—organized team meetings and managed an experiment targeting known hackers on Twitter
- Wrote a codebook to collect data on website defacement from Zone H
- Conducted training for undergraduate research assistants on data collection and coding

- Managed a team of undergraduate students working on the research project
- Involved in Phase 3 of project entitled Physical, Social and Situational Factors as Determinants of Public WiFi Users Online Behaviors

Dr. John Laub

Spring
2018

- Conducted data analysis using the Survey of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities and the Survey of Inmates in local jails

Graduate Teaching Assistant

CCJS100: Introduction to Criminal Justice

2016-2017

Dr. Justine Madoo

Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Maryland

- Designed lesson plans and taught discussion sections to reinforce concepts covered in lecture
- Created activities and assignments to foster in-depth learning of course content
- Held additional office hours to answer student questions
- Taught four weekly discussion sections with a total of 120 students

AWARDS AND HONORS

University of Maryland Dean's Fellowship

Fall 2022

Awarded \$2,500 of funding in support of academic endeavors

Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship

Spring
2022

The Graduate School University of Maryland

Awarded one semester of full-time support for dissertation research

University of Maryland Dean's Fellowship

2016-2017

Awarded \$5,000 of funding in support of academic endeavors

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

Manuscript Reviewer

Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency

Terrorism and Political Violence

Department Service-Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Maryland

Student Ambassador, University of Maryland

2018-Present

Graduate Student Mentor, University of Maryland

2017-Present

Graduate Student Representative

2019-2020

- Served as the liaison between graduate students and faculty
- Represented the graduate student perspective at monthly faculty meetings
- Managed and facilitated graduate student involvement in faculty searches

Coordinated events for both prospective and first-year students

Organizer, Engaging in Current Events as Criminologists Lecture Series

2018-2019

- *Topic:* The Barriers to Successful Reentry
- Student-led lecture series
- Organized panels, each addressing a different component of translational research, from generating policy-relevant research questions based on the experiences of community members and law enforcement, to getting

research into the hands of decision-makers
Coordinator, Graduate Student Research Workshops (Smackdown) 2018-2019
Assistant, Engaging in Current Events as Criminologists Lecture Series 2017-2018

- *Topic: Police-Community Relations in Marginalized Neighborhoods*

Department Involvement-*Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Maryland*

Organizing Member: Graduate Student Race and CJS Workgroup
CCJS Racial Competency Working Group

Student Moderator: After Selma: Voter Suppression (CCJS and Bowie State/Social Justice Alliance)

Professional Organizations

Member: American Society of Criminology

Member: Alpha Phi Sigma-National Criminal Justice Honor Society

RESEARCH SKILLS & RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Software Packages

STATA
HLM
GeoDa
Python
Zotero (citation software)
Microsoft Office Suite

Coursework

Statistics

Introduction to Regression Analysis
Limited and Categorical Dependent Variables
Causal Inference
Data Visualization and Programming in STATA

Content Knowledge

Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism
History of Criminological Thought
Crime and the Life Course
Race and Crime
Activism and Global Movements
Policy Analysis

Languages

American English (Native/Bilingual)
Hindi (Native/Bilingual)