

VICTOR TAN CHEN

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EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Virginia Commonwealth University. Associate Professor, Department of Sociology. *2020–present.*

Virginia Commonwealth University. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology. *2014–2020.*

University of California, Berkeley. National Science Foundation and American Sociological Association postdoctoral fellow, Institute for Research on Labor and Employment and the Department of Sociology. *2012–2014.* PI: Neil Fligstein

Harvard University, PhD in Sociology and Social Policy. *2012.*

Dissertation: “Meritless: Unemployed Autoworkers, the Social Safety Net, and the Culture of Meritocracy in America and Canada.”

- *Committee:* William Julius Wilson (co-chair), Katherine S. Newman (co-chair), Bruce Western
- *Co-winner of Labor and Employment Relations Association’s Thomas A. Kochan and Stephen R. Sleigh Best Dissertation Award.*

Master’s Thesis: “Global Confederates: From Social Movements to ‘Movements of Movements,’ the Strange Career of Global Justice Activism.”

- *Committee:* William Julius Wilson (chair), Martin K. Whyte, Sidney G. Tarrow

Harvard College, BA in History and Literature, magna cum laude. *1998.*

BOOKS

Chen, Katherine K., and Victor Tan Chen, eds. *Organizational Imaginaries: Tempering Capitalism and Tending to Communities through Cooperatives and Collectivist Democracy.* Vol. 72 of *Research in the Sociology of Organizations*, edited by Michael Lounsbury. Bingley, UK: Emerald, 2021.

Cut Loose: Jobless and Hopeless in an Unfair Economy. Oakland: University of California Press, 2015.

- *Winner of Labor and Employment Relations Association's John T. Dunlop Outstanding Scholar Award.*
- *Winner of Virginia Commonwealth University College of Humanities and Sciences Faculty Award for Excellence in Scholarship (Humanities and Social Sciences).*

Newman, Katherine S., and Victor Tan Chen. *The Missing Class: Portraits of the Near Poor in America*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2007.

- *Selected as one of Library Journal's Best Business Books of 2007.*
- *Anthologized in The Inequality Reader: Contemporary and Foundational Readings in Race, Class, and Gender, 2nd ed., edited by David B. Grusky and Szonja Szelényi (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2011), 147–52.*

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

["An Economy of Grace."](#) *Religions* 8, no. 3 (March 2017): 1–13.

Doody, Sean, Victor Tan Chen, and Jesse Goldstein. ["Varieties of Entrepreneurial Capitalism: The Culture of Entrepreneurship and Structural Inequalities of Work and Business Creation."](#) *Sociology Compass* 10, no. 10 (October 2016): 858–876.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Chen, Katherine K., and Victor Tan Chen. "'What If' and 'If Only' Futures beyond Conventional Capitalism and Bureaucracy: Imagining Collectivist and Democratic Possibilities for Organizing." In *Organizational Imaginaries: Tempering Capitalism and Tending to Communities through Cooperatives and Collectivist Democracy*, Vol. 72 of *Research in the Sociology of Organizations*, edited by Katherine K. Chen and Victor Tan Chen. Bingley, UK: Emerald, 2021.

Korte, Patrick, and Victor Tan Chen. "Economic Dislocation and Trauma." In *Routledge International Handbook of Working-Class Studies*, edited by Michele Fazio, Christie Launius, and Tim Strangleman. New York: Routledge, 2021.

Chen, Victor Tan, and Katherine S. Newman. "Streetwise Economics." In *Chutes and Ladders: Navigating the Low-Wage Labor Market*, by Katherine S. Newman, 173–210. New York and Cambridge, MA: Russell Sage Foundation and Harvard University Press, 2006.

OTHER ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

"Mobile Entrepreneurs: An Ethnographic Study of the Migration of the Highly Skilled" (book review). *Contemporary Sociology* 49, no. 4 (June 2020).

Chen, Victor Tan, and Katherine S. Newman. "The Missing Class: The Near Poor." *Poverty & Race* 16, no. 6 (November/December 2007): 3–8.

- *Anthologized in America's Growing Inequality: The Impact of Poverty and Race, edited by Chester Hartman (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2014).*

WORKS IN PROGRESS

"The Mirage of Meritocracy and the Morality of Grace." In *The Routledge Handbook on the American Dream*, edited by Robert C. Hauhart and Mitja Sardoč. New York: Routledge. [forthcoming]

Bland, Timothy, and Victor Tan Chen. "Class, Status, and Power." In *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*, 2nd ed., edited by George Ritzer and Chris Rojek. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell. [forthcoming]

Chen, Victor Tan, and Jesse Goldstein. *Failing Forward: Learning to Innovate in the Entrepreneurial University*. [under contract with the University of California Press]

Chen, Victor Tan, and Jesse Goldstein. "The Theatre of Entrepreneurship: Learning to Perform the Speculative Self in University Entrepreneurship Programs." [Revise and Resubmit at Social Problems]

Chen, Victor Tan, Sabina Pultz, and Ofer Sharone, eds. *Handbook on Unemployment and Society*. [under contract with Edward Elgar Publishing]

Bodnar-Deren, Susan, Victor Tan Chen, and Howard Leventhal. "Individualistic and Collectivist Perspectives on Advance Care Planning: Cultural Differences in Perceptions of Burden and Control among Older Adults Approaching the End of Life."

Chen, Victor Tan, and Gabriela León-Pérez. "Don't Judge a Book by its Format: Development and Adoption of an Open Textbook for Sociology Research Methods."

AWARDS AND HONORS

Labor and Employment Relations Association. Winner of the John T. Dunlop Outstanding Scholar Award for "contributions to research that address industrial relations/employment problems of national significance." 2017.

Virginia Commonwealth University. Winner of College of Humanities and Sciences Faculty Award for Excellence in Scholarship (Humanities and Social Sciences). 2016.

Labor and Employment Relations Association. Co-winner of Thomas A. Kochan and Stephen R. Sleight Best Dissertation Award. 2012.

Library Journal, Best Business Books of 2007. *The Missing Class* was named one of the two best books on the US economy. 2007.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Virtual Library of Virginia. Course Redesign Grant, \$30,000 grant (with Gabriela León-Pérez, Julie Honnold, and Volkan Aytar). *2019.*

Virginia Commonwealth University. Affordable Course Content Award, \$15,000 grant (with Gabriela León-Pérez). *2019.*

Virginia Commonwealth University. College of Humanities and Sciences Seed Award, \$5,000 grant. *2018–2019.*

Canadian Studies Program, University of California, Berkeley. \$1,500 research grant. *2013.*

Graduate Society, Harvard University. Dissertation Completion Fellowship. *2011–2012.*

Joblessness and Urban Poverty Research Program, Harvard University. Dissertation award, \$30,000 grant. *2009.*

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University. Canada Research Fellow, \$10,000 grant. *2009.*

Harvard Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality & Social Policy. Doctoral fellowship, including a 2005 European Network on Inequality (ENI) fellowship at Sciences Po Paris. *2002.*

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Honorable mention. *2002.*

Jens Aubrey Westengard Fund. Harvard University award for summer research. *2002.*

Investigative Reporters and Editors. Computer-assisted reporting fellowship. *2000.*

OTHER PUBLICATIONS (SELECTED)

Chen, Victor Tan, and Ofer Sharone. "[The Second Phase of Unemployment Will Be Harsher.](#)" *The Atlantic*, April 19, 2020.

- Republished by [MSN](#), April 20, 2020.

"[Meritocracy's Casualties.](#)" *Dissent*, Oct. 2, 2019.

"[Adulging While Poor.](#)" *Dissent*, Fall 2018.

- Part of a [special section](#) on housing featuring work by Thomas J. Sugrue, Matthew Desmond, Gianpaolo Baiocchi, Rachel M. Cohen, and Keeanga-Yamahтта Taylor.

"[Beware of this misleading snapshot.](#)" *Newsday*, August 10, 2018.

[“America, Home of the Transactional Marriage.”](#) *The Atlantic*, August 20, 2017.

[“Are Campus Activists Too Dogmatic?”](#) *The Atlantic*, July 30, 2017.

[“Hate the Game.”](#) *Contexts*, Spring 2017.

[“The Spiritual Crisis of the Modern Economy.”](#) *The Atlantic*, December 21, 2016.

[“Living in an Extreme Meritocracy Is Exhausting.”](#) *The Atlantic*, October 26, 2016.

[“The Pain Behind the Pennsylvania Primary.”](#) *Zócalo Public Square*, April 26, 2016.

[“All Hollowed Out: The Lonely Poverty of America’s White Working Class.”](#) *The Atlantic*, January 16, 2016.

[“Forget Denmark: The United States Should Emulate Canada.”](#) *The Atlantic*, October 18, 2015.

[“The Journalist and the Ethnographer.”](#) *orgtheory.net*, September 21, 2015.

[“No full-time worker should live in poverty.”](#) *Newsday*, July 30, 2015.

Newman, Katherine S., and Victor Tan Chen. [“The Crisis of the Near Poor.”](#) *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, October 5, 2007.

PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

Chen, Victor Tan, and Jesse Goldstein. “The Theatre of Entrepreneurship: Learning to Perform the Speculative Self in University Entrepreneurship Programs.” Paper presented or accepted at the following conferences:

- American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting (roundtable), San Francisco, August 8, 2020. [*virtual presentation due to Covid-19*]
- Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) annual meeting, San Francisco, August 2020. [*meeting canceled due to Covid-19*]

Hamilton, Katrina, and Victor Tan Chen. “Relative Economic Disadvantage and Deaths of Despair: A Comparison of Rates of Suicide and Drug-Related Deaths in Booming and Shrinking Cities.” Paper accepted for the Urban Affairs Association (UAA) annual meeting. Washington, DC, April 3, 2020. [*meeting canceled due to Covid-19*]

“The Theatre of Entrepreneurship: The Presentation of Self in the New Entrepreneurial Economy.” Paper presented at the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics annual meeting, New York, June 29, 2019.

“The Cultural Contradictions of the American Dream.” Invited lecture at the Global Influence of the American Dream symposium, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU), Ljubljana, Slovenia, May 25, 2019.

- *Cosponsored by the Slovenian Educational Research Institute.*

Franco, Lucas A., Stephen Silvia, Tobias Schulze-Cleven, Christian Ibsen, Marilyn Sneiderman (discussant), and Victor Tan Chen (discussant). “Changing Union Strategies: American, European, Transatlantic.” Discussant for panel at the Labor and Employment Relations Association annual meeting, Baltimore, June 13, 2018.

Chen, Victor Tan, and Brian Halpin. “[Structural and Cultural Barriers to Employment for the Working Class](#).” Webinar for the Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin–Madison, May 22, 2018.

“Family Structure and Social Ties Context for Low-Income Men.” Invited lecture at the Promoting Work and Well-Being among Low-Income Men workshop, US Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC, November 15, 2017.

- *Convened by the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in conjunction with the US Collaborative of Poverty Centers Poverty, Employment, and Self-Sufficiency Network.*
- *Supported by the Office of Human Services Policy, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, US Department of Health and Human Services.*
- *Workshop participants included: Wade Horn, former Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Children and Families; Nicholas Eberstadt, American Enterprise Institute; Isabel V. Sawhill, Brookings Institution; and Timothy Smeeding, University of Wisconsin–Madison.*

“What Are the Structural Challenges Faced by the Deep Poor?” Invited lecture at the Deep Poverty in the United States convening, US Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC, June 27, 2017.

- *Jointly convened by the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and the Urban Institute.*
- *Hosted and supported by the Office of Human Services Policy, Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation, US Department of Health and Human Services.*
- *Panel included: Luke Shaefer, University of Michigan; Scott W. Allard, University of Washington; Edgar Olsen, University of Virginia; and Jorge Blandón, Family Independence Initiative.*

“LERA 2017 Award Winners' Roundtable.” Featured speaker for panel at the Labor and Employment Relations Association annual meeting, Anaheim, CA, June 3, 2017.

“The Rise of Meritocratic Morality and the Failure of Institutions: A Study of Unemployed Autoworkers in the US and Canada.” Paper presented at the following conferences:

- North American Labor History Conference, Wayne State University, Detroit, October 21, 2016.

- How Class Works conference, State University of New York at Stony Brook, June 10, 2016.
- American Sociological Association annual meeting, San Francisco, August 17, 2014.

“Cut Loose: Jobless and Hopeless in an Unfair Economy.” Plenary speaker for the multidisciplinary research conference *Growing Apart: The Implications of Economic Inequality*, sponsored by Boston College’s Jesuit Institute, April 9, 2016.

- *The other plenary speakers for the conference were Senator Elizabeth Warren and Dr. Shaji George Kochuthara (Dharmaran College, Bangalore, India).*

Chen, Victor Tan, Dan Clawson, Juliet Schor, and Tom Shapiro. “Author Meets Critics: Victor Chen, Cut Loose: Jobless and Hopeless in an Unfair Economy.” Featured author for panel at the Eastern Sociology Society annual meeting, Boston, March 20, 2016.

“The Rise of Meritocratic Morality and the Failure of Institutions: A Study of Unemployed Autoworkers in the US and Canada.” Invited lectures at the following institutions:

- University of Iowa’s Department of Sociology, February 26, 2016.
- Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations, September 29, 2015.
- University of California, Berkeley’s School of Social Welfare, January 27, 2014.
- MIT Sloan School of Management, January 23, 2014.
- University of Chicago’s Department of Comparative Human Development, January 14, 2014.
- Oregon State University’s Sociology Program and School of Public Policy, December 3, 2013.
- Rutgers University’s School of Management and Labor Relations, November 22, 2013.
- University of California, Berkeley’s Canadian Studies Program Colloquium Series, October 17, 2013.
- Stanford University’s Economic Sociology Workshop, June 3, 2013.

“My Job Was Like My Mother and Father’: The Impact of Social Policy on the Families of Unemployed Autoworkers in Detroit and Windsor.” Invited lecture at the following institutions:

- University of Michigan’s Department of Sociology, December 5, 2011.
- City College of the City University of New York’s Social Science Seminar, December 1, 2011.
- Northwestern University’s School of Education and Social Policy, November 29, 2011.

“The Missing Class: Portraits of the Near Poor in America.” Invited lecture at the following institutions:

- New York Public Library, Mid-Manhattan Branch, December 10, 2007.
- United for a Fair Economy, Boston, December 5, 2007.

Newman, Katherine S., and Victor Tan Chen. “The Missing Class.” Invited lecture at the following institutions:

- First Parish, Cambridge MA, broadcast by *Cambridge Forum* (WGBH Forum Network), December 5, 2007.
- New America Foundation, Washington, DC, October 1, 2007.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Faculty, Virginia Commonwealth University

Undergraduate Teaching:

- Sociology of Economic Inequalities, *Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019.*
- Sociology Senior Seminar, *Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2021.*
- Research Methods in the Social Sciences, *Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2019, Spring 2020.*
- Sociology of Labor and Inequality, *Spring 2016.*

Graduate Teaching:

- Sociological Research Methods, *Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020.*
- Applications of Sociological Research Methods (Qualitative Segment), *Spring 2021.*
- Social Stratification, *Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2019.*

Teaching Fellow, Harvard University

- Sociology 96: Community Research Internship (sole instructor), *Spring 2004*

Graduate advising

Committee chair

- Leiva, Manuel Nikolas. "Citizenship, Illegality, and the Political Economy of Border Enforcement." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology. [*in progress*]
- Quach, Alice. "The Student Experience of Higher Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic: How Class and Race Shape Socially Distanced Learning at a Public University." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology, 2021.
- Bland, Timothy Beryl. "Predators and Principles: Think Tank Influence, Media Visibility, and Political Partisanship." PhD diss., VCU Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, 2020.
- Fairchild, Tabitha. "It's Funny Because It's True: The Transmission of Explicit and Implicit Racism in Internet Memes." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology, 2020.
- Hamilton, Katrina. "Hopeless Heartland: Space and Labor in Virginia." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology, 2020.
- Pierre-Louis, Sasha Ayana. "Come and Get Your Capital, Sis: The Use of Twitter to Compensate for Gendered and Racialized Job Networks among Creatives." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology, 2020.
- Walton, Joseph Buckler. "Why We Use a New Currency: The Role of Trust and Control in Explaining the Perception and Usage of Bitcoin." PhD diss., VCU Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, 2020.
- Harrison, Jullian Wade. "Pushed without Direction: Privileged Problems and the Configuration of Class and Race." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology, 2016.
- Stolz, Jennifer. "Rethinking Terrorism: Towards a Better Understanding of Categorical Terrorism." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology, 2015.

Committee member

- Sami, Waleed. PhD diss., VCU School of Education. [*in progress*]
- Farley, William Curtis. "The Just Host: Understanding the Distribution of Economic Benefits from Tourism." PhD diss., VCU Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, 2021.
- Douglas, Carrie S. "A Comparative Study of the Influence of Credential Attainment on Employment Outcomes in Rural and Urban Localities." PhD diss., VCU Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, 2020.
- Clary, Anthony Logan. "University Hackathons: Novelty in the Aftermath of Foreclosure and Filtering." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology, 2020.
- Coelho, Larissa Ferreira. "Legal Permanent Residents in the US Labor Market: Occupational Mobility of High-Skilled and Low-Skilled Immigrants." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology, 2020.
- Shaheen, Shabana. "The Identity Formation of South Asians: A Phenomenological Study." MS thesis, VCU Department of Sociology, 2017.

Guest teaching (selected)

- Kirschner, Jessica, and Victor Tan Chen. "Detox Your Textbook with Open Educational Resources." Guest lecture for Faculty Wellness Day, VCU Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE), October 9, 2020.
- Kirschner, Jessica, and Victor Tan Chen. "VCU Libraries Open Educational Resources (OER)." Guest lecture for New Faculty Orientation, VCU Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE), August 12, 2020.
- "Writing/Posting for Public Consumption." Guest lectures in the Electronic Learning Portfolio Development Series coordinated by Zachary G. Goodell and Tara M. Stamm, Virginia Commonwealth University Department of Sociology, March 11, 2019, February 24, 2020, and March 29, 2021.
- "Good Practices for Taking Notes in the Field." Guest lecture in the Graduate Methods Workshop, Virginia Commonwealth University Department of Sociology, April 23, 2019.
- "Working in the Precarious Economy: Structural Barriers to Gainful Employment (or, Why Your Kids Are Not to Blame for Still Living at Home)." Guest lecture at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of Richmond, February 6, 2019.
- Guest speaker in the "Justice and Civil Society" course taught by Thad Williamson, University of Richmond, October 12, 2018.
- "The Process of Social Research." Guest lecture at the Social Science Librarians Boot Camp RVA, University of Richmond, August 8, 2018.
- Guest speaker in the "Work in the New Economy" course taught by Richard E. Ocejo, Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY), March 5, 2018.
- "Dislocation and Despair." Guest lecture in the "America Unequal: Inequalities and the American Promise, from the Founders to the Present" course taught by Josh Mound, University of Virginia, March 1, 2018.
- "Economic Inequality in America." Guest lectures in the Virginia Commonwealth University American Studies Program (for visiting students from Fudan University in Shanghai, Jiangsu University in Zhenjiang, and Yantai University), 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019.

- “Social and Income Inequality in America.” Guest lecture in the “American Society and Culture” course taught for visiting students from the Shanghai Institute of Visual Arts, Virginia Commonwealth University, September 20, 2016.
- Guest speaker in the “Journalism and the American Road” course taught by David Dent, New York University, October 28, 2008.

Teaching development activities (selected)

- Virtual Library of Virginia (VIVA) Course Redesign Grant, 2019, and VCU Affordable Course Content Award, 2019. *Gabriela León-Pérez, Julie Honnold, Volkan Aytar, and I have received grant funding to create an openly licensed textbook for research methods in sociology that will be used in the Department of Sociology’s courses and can be used by instructors and students anywhere for free.*
- VCU Sociology Research Symposium, May 2, 2018. *Organized a symposium featuring panel presentations of original research by senior seminar and graduate students, sponsored by the Department of Sociology and a national AKD grant.*
- Training, VCU Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE), 2017–2018. *At my request, CTLE director Enoch Hale met with me regularly to discuss best practices in teaching and how to integrate them into my classes.*
- “Preparing Your Teaching Portfolio: Options and Opportunities,” VCU Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE), February 21, 2018.
- VCU–University of Richmond Faculty Development Workshop, February 9, 2018. *Attended workshop focused on developing students’ professional identities and skills through community-engaged teaching and service-learning.*
- Small Group Instructional Diagnosis (SGID), Fall 2014 and Fall 2017. *At my request, Dr. Hale of CTLE surveyed students and moderated discussions in my classes about my teaching, drafting reports with individualized recommendations.*
- Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) 2016 Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research. *Took coursework at the University of Michigan to update my skills in teaching quantitative methods.*
- New Faculty Academy, VCU ALT Lab, August 13–14, 2014. *Instruction regarding lecturing, managing class discussions, and using technology in the classroom.*

RESEARCH TRAINING AND APPOINTMENTS

Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC), Syracuse University, fellow, 2018–present.

- For research being conducted by thesis advisee Manuel Nikolas Leiva.

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, University of Michigan, attendee, 2016

- Coursework in regression analysis, R, rational choice theory, and data visualization.

Fragile Families Summer Data Workshop, Columbia University, attendee, 2012

- Selected attendee at workshop devoted to the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study.

Harvard University, research assistant, 2003–2006

- Assisted with research that led to two publications:
 1. Newman, Katherine S. *Chutes and Ladders: Navigating the Low-Wage Labor Market*. New York and Cambridge, MA: Russell Sage Foundation and Harvard University Press, 2006.
 2. Putnam, Robert D. “E Pluribus Unum: Diversity and Community in the Twenty-first Century.” *Scandinavian Political Studies* 30, no. 2 (2007): 137–74.

REVIEWS (SELECTED)

Janoski, Thomas. “[Cut Loose: Jobless and Hopeless in an Unfair Economy](#)” (Review). *Contemporary Sociology* 45, no. 6 (November 2016): 730–31.

Cunningham, Molly. “[Afterlives of the American Dream: Cut Loose: Jobless and Hopeless in an Unfair Economy and Exit Zero: An Industrial Family Story](#)” (Review). *New Labor Forum* 25, no. 3 (September 2016): 123–26.

Kalleberg, Arne L. “[Cut Loose: Jobless and Hopeless in an Unfair Economy](#)” (Review). *American Journal of Sociology* 122, no. 1 (July 2016): 286–88.

Piehl, C. K. “[Cut Loose: Jobless and Hopeless in an Unfair Economy](#)” (Review). *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* 53, no. 5 (January 2016).

Wilson, Angelia R. “[Cut Loose: Jobless and Hopeless in an Unfair Economy, by Victor Tan Chen](#)” (Review). *Times Higher Education*, October 15, 2015.

Cords, Sarah Statz. “[Rising Tides](#)” (Review). *Library Journal*, March 15, 2008.

Collins, Chuck. “[Portraits of the Near Poor](#)” (Review). *Sojourners*, February 2008.

Coleman, John A. “[Either Too Poor or Too ‘Rich’](#)” (Review). *America*, November 26, 2007.

Green, James. “[Dirty work](#)” (Review). *Boston Globe*, November 4, 2007.

Siegfried, David. “The Missing Class.” *Booklist*, August 2007.

“[The Missing Class](#).” *Publishers Weekly*, July 9, 2007.

“[The Missing Class](#).” *Kirkus Reviews*, July 1, 2007.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS AND DISCUSSION (SELECTED)

Vassallo, Guido. “[Trabajadores de Amazon luchan para formar su primer sindicato](#).” *Página/12* (Argentina), February 21, 2021.

Interview by Cathy Lewis. *HearSay with Cathy Lewis* (WHRV, NPR affiliate, Norfolk, VA), [April 28, 2020](#), and [February 1, 2021](#).

Interview by Mike Collins. *Charlotte Talks* (WFAE, NPR affiliate, Charlotte, NC), July 20, 2020.

Pinsker, Joe. "[The New Boomerang Kids Could Change American Views of Living at Home.](#)" *The Atlantic*, July 3, 2020.

Llana, Sara Miller, and Hillary Chura. "[In a pandemic, is a fast government check better than a larger one?](#)" *Christian Science Monitor*, June 29, 2020.

Sherman, Natalie. "[Will coronavirus change America's jobless stigma?](#)" BBC News, May 28, 2020.

Pope, Michael Lee. "[Hunger Rising.](#)" *Alexandria Gazette Packet*, May 8, 2020.

Interview by Katie Couric. "[How will the pandemic change jobs—and who will be left behind?](#)" *Next Question with Katie Couric*, April 30, 2020.

Vassallo, Guido. "[El desempleo amenaza con convertirse en la nueva pandemia de Estados Unidos.](#)" *Página/12* (Argentina), April 28, 2020.

Busch, Clare. "[Georgia's Furloughed Workers Struggled To Get Unemployment Benefits. Now They Worry About Losing Them.](#)" *The Real News*, April 24, 2020.

Kristof, Nicholas, and Sheryl WuDunn. "[Who Killed the Knapp Family?](#)" *New York Times*, January 9, 2020.

Kristof, Nicholas, and Sheryl WuDunn. *Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope*. New York: Knopf, 2020.

Interview by Rob Ferrett. *Central Time* (Wisconsin Public Radio, NPR affiliate, Madison, WI), October 23, 2019.

LeTourneau, Nancy. "[A View of Whiteness That Is Literally Killing People.](#)" *Washington Monthly*, April 30, 2019.

Pinsker, Joe. "[The Not-So-Great Reason Why Divorce Rates Are Declining.](#)" *The Atlantic*, September 25, 2018.

Yang, Andrew. *The War on Normal People: The Truth about America's Disappearing Jobs and Why Universal Basic Income Is Our Future*. New York: Hachette Books, 2018.

Davis, Zachary. "[Demeritocracy.](#)" *Ministry of Ideas* (podcast of the Religious Literacy Project at Harvard Divinity School), December 18, 2017.

Smith, Tammie. "[Finding work can be harder for some laid-off workers.](#)" *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, November 24, 2017.

Cusick, Catherine. "[Working Class Jilts America's Sweetheart Deal.](#)" *Longreads*, August 29, 2017.

Interview by Veronica Ruekert. [Central Time](#) (Wisconsin Public Radio, NPR affiliate, Madison, WI), August 28, 2017.

Interview by Krys Boyd. [Think](#) (KERA, NPR affiliate, Dallas), August 28, 2017.

"[Transactional Marriage. Lots of Stuff. King of Audiobooks.](#)" *Pocket Hits*, August 22, 2017.

Interview by Richard E. Ocejo. [New Books Network](#), July 24, 2017.

O'Brien, Kerri. "[8News Investigates: Food stamp fraud.](#)" (8News, ABC affiliate WRIC), April 26, 2017.

Pope, Michael. "[Food Stamps in Virginia: A Look at the Numbers.](#)" (Virginia Public Radio, WVTF/Radio IQ), April 13, 2017.

Interview by Matt Townsend. [The Matt Townsend Show](#) (BYU Radio, Provo, UT, and Sirius XM Radio), January 30, 2017.

Laitman, Michael. "[When Robots Take Our Jobs.](#)" *Haaretz*, January 5, 2017.

Interview by Joy Cardin. [The Joy Cardin Show](#) (Wisconsin Public Radio, NPR affiliate, Madison, WI), December 29, 2016.

Purdy, Jedediah. "[Donald Trump's Brutal Charm.](#)" *Huffington Post*, January 27, 2016.

Interview by Sarah McConnell. [With Good Reason](#) (nationally syndicated). November 11, 2015.

Segment by Gary Price. [Viewpoints](#) (nationally syndicated). September 20, 2015.

Interview by Cynthia Canty. [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) (Michigan Radio, NPR affiliate, Ann Arbor, MI), September 2, 2015.

Interview by Leonard Lopate. [The Leonard Lopate Show](#) (WNYC, NPR affiliate, New York), August 31, 2015.

Interview by David Pakman. [The David Pakman Show](#) (nationally syndicated), August 13, 2015.

Interview by Peter Werbe. [The Peter Werbe Show](#) (WRIF, Detroit and nationally syndicated), August 9, 2015.

Interview by Kris LaGrange. [UComm Radio with Kris LaGrange](#) (WABC, New York), August 9, 2015.

Siegelbaum, Debbie. "[American Dream breeds shame and blame for job seekers.](#)" BBC America, March 25, 2014.

Longhofer, Wesley, Shannon Golden, and Arturo Baiocchi. "[A fresh look at sociology bestsellers.](#)" *Contexts*, Spring 2010.

Herbert, Bob. "[Sharing The Pain.](#)" *New York Times*, March 11, 2008.

Newman, Katherine S., and Victor Tan Chen. "[Book Discussion on The Missing Class: Portraits of the Near Poor in America.](#)" *Book TV* (C-SPAN2), December 16, 2007.

Herbert, Bob. "[Send In the Clowns.](#)" *New York Times*, October 6, 2007.

Uchitelle, Louis. "[Is There \(Middle Class\) Life After Maytag?](#)" *New York Times*, August 26, 2007.

SERVICE

Virginia Commonwealth University

College of Humanities and Sciences:

- Technology Committee (chairs: John Seo and John Skaritzka), 2014–present.
- Faculty Advisor, VCU chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) international sociology honor society, 2014–2018. As part of duties, oversaw planning for invited talks by Michael Kimmel (2015), Erik Olin Wright (2016), Silvia Federici (2017), Richard E. Oejo (2017), and Jessie Daniels (2018), as well as a departmental student research symposium.
- Cluster Hire in Migration Studies Search Committee (chair: R. McKenna Brown), 2017–2018. Three hires: Gabriela León-Pérez, Paula Rodriguez, and Indira Sultanic.
- College Strategic Planning Steering Committee (chair: Ed Acevedo), 2017.
- College Awards Selection Committee (chair: Winnie Chan), 2017.
- Future Distinguished Faculty panel member, 2017.

Department of Sociology:

- Graduate Committee, 2014–2016, 2017–2018, 2019–present.
- Faculty Evaluation (ad hoc), 2019–2020.
- Third-Year Review Committees, 2021. Faculty reviewed: Gabriela León-Pérez, Alex Keena

- Teaching Faculty Search Committees, *2014–2016, 2019*. Five hires: Meredith Katz, Christine Mowery, Tara Stamm, Zachary Goodell, and Volkan Aytar.
- Tenure-Track Faculty Search Committee, *2018–2019*. One hire: Gina Longo.
- Methods Committee (ad hoc), *2017*.
- Undergraduate Committee, *2016–2017*.
- Promotions Committee (Christine Mowery), *2016*.

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE)

- Organizer, Network A: Communitarian Ideals and Civil Society, *2021-present*

Peer reviewer

- Princeton University Press (editor: Meagan Levinson)
- *Religions* (special-issue editors: Kenneth Himes and Kate Ward)
- *Research in the Sociology of Work* (editor: Steven Vallas)
- *Social Forces* (editor: Arne Kalleberg)
- *Sociology Compass* (editor: Erin Hatton)
- Washington Center for Equitable Growth (director of academic programs: Korin Davis)
- *Work and Occupations* (editor: Daniel B. Cornfield)
- W. W. Norton (research methods textbook, editor: Sasha Levitt): Carr, Deborah, Elizabeth Heger Boyle, Benjamin Cornwell, Shelley Correll, Robert Crosnoe, Jeremy Freese, and Mary C. Waters. *The Art and Science of Social Research*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2018.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Sociological Association (ASA)
- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE)

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Data analysis

- R, SPSS, Stata, NVivo, Dedoose
- Attended Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) 2016 Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research.

Coding: PHP, MySQL, CSS, HTML/XHTML, Unix

Nonprofit management

- Currently serve as treasurer of the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) for Wilder Middle School in Chamberlayne, Henrico County, Virginia (2019–21).
- Previously served as president and executive director of In The Fray, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Managed board/staff in all areas, including grantwriting and marketing.
- Authored biennial report for the Asian American Federation of New York.

Journalism

- Worked as a reporter for *Newsday*.
- Founding editor of *In The Fray*, an award-winning magazine devoted to personal stories on global issues.
- Wrote for the *Miami Herald*, the *Oregonian*, the *Philadelphia Daily News*, and the *Minority Law Journal*.

Other

- Proficient in reading, writing, and speaking Spanish (researcher-writer in Chile for *Let's Go* travel guide; summer study in Spain).
- Black belt in taekwondo (American Taekwondo Association).

REFERENCES

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