

George Thomas Weddington
Curriculum Vitae

Inclusive Excellence Postdoctoral Researcher
 Department of Sociology
 University of New Mexico
 Email: gweddington@unm.edu

Education:

- Ph.D. **University of Pittsburgh**
 Sociology (defended July 2022)
 Dissertation title: "Becoming Black Lives Matter: Racial Change and the
 Emergence of Black Movements"
 Committee: Suzanne Staggenborg (Chair), Joshua Bloom, Michael Murphy,
 Pamela Oliver (Professor Emerita University of Wisconsin Department of
 Sociology)
- M.A. **St. John's University**
 Government and Politics (2014), Concentration in International Relations
 Certificate in International Law
 Thesis: Feminist Security and Women's Participation in the PKK: A Call to Focus
 on Gender in Creating Insecurity
 Advisors: Dr. Barbara Koziak; Dr. Fred Cocozzelli
- B.A. **University of Rochester**
 International Relations (2012)
 Minors in Arabic and Spanish
University of Jordan – Amman
 Studied Modern Standard Arabic and Levantine Dialect (Spring 2011)

Peer Reviewed Publications:

Weddington, George. "Political ontology and race research: A response to "critical race theory, afro-pessimism, and racial progress narratives"." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 5, no. 2 (2019): 278-288.

Murphy, Michael Warren, George Weddington, and A. J. Rio-Glick. "Black Ecology and Critical Environmental Justice." *Environmental Justice* 14, no. 6 (2021): 393-397.

Weddington, George. "Racial Change and Black Movement Emergence: A Case from the Black Lives Movement." *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* 26, no. 4 (2021): 443-455.

Research and Teaching Interests:

Afropessimist theory, Black Studies, Black activism and social movements, Black Lives Matter and racial politics in the United States.

Service:

Refereed roundtable organizer and chair, “Social Sites of Cultural Difference,” at *American Sociological Association* 2021 annual conference.

Other Publications:

“The Fall of 2014: Recovering the Roots of the Black Lives Movement” blog post at *Race, Politics, Justice* online September 1, 2018.
<https://www.ssc.wisc.edu/soc/racepoliticsjustice/2018/09/01/the-fall-of-2014-recovering-the-roots-of-the-black-lives-movement/>

Working Papers:

“Rethinking Repression and Protest Behavior: Contestation within the Criminal Justice System”
 – The article argues that the criminal justice system represents a distinct social movement arena that often functions as the site over political contestation over which people deserve to be imprisoned and the terms of their incarceration.

Awards and Honors

New York State Political Science Association – Best Paper Award 2014
 Paper title: “Expanding the debate on Human Security: The Kurdish Case”
 K. Leroy Irvis Fellow 2014-2015 Academic Year
 Recipient World History Center Graduate Travel Award Summer 2015
 Recipient K. Leroy Irvis Summer Research Award Summer 2015 and Summer 2016
 Recipient Social Science Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship 2017-2018 Academic Year
 University of Pittsburgh Sociology Summer Research Fellowship Summer 2018
 K. Leroy Irvis Fellow 2018-2019 Academic Year

Teaching Experience:

Teaching Fellow in Sociology Summer 2019: Social Theory
 Teaching Fellow in Sociology Summer 2016: Global Sociology
 Teaching Assistant in Statistics Spring 2016: Introduction to Statistics
 Teaching Fellow Fall 2016: Wealth and Power
 Research Assistant in Sociology Spring 2016: Assistant Editor for *The Journal on World-Systems Research*
 Teaching Assistant in Sociology Fall 2015: Wealth and Power

Additional Conferences and Presentations:

“Organizing in and Against the Penal State” presented at the Notre Dame Center for the Study of Social Movements Young Scholars Conference May 3, 2019

“In the Shadow of the Prison: Police Brutality and Black Mobilization in the Movement for Black Lives” presented at The Association of Black Sociologists Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on August 9, 2018

“Organizing as Black Lives Matter” presented at *Mobilization* conference at San Diego State University on May 5, 2018

“Calling All Voices: Race, Inclusion, Expression, Protest, and Civility” panel at National Communications Association Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on November 13, 2016

“From Birmingham to Black Lives Matter” panel at University of Pittsburgh on October 20, 2016

“Intersectional Analysis of Social Movements: Beyond Organizations” presented at North Central Sociological Association 2016 annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois

“Race, Ideological Contention, and Organizational Change” accepted at *Mobilization* conference (canceled) at San Diego State University in 2020.

“Rethinking Repression and Protest Behavior: Liminal Sites in the Criminal Justice System” presented at Collective Behavior and Social Movements roundtable at *American Sociological Association* 2021 annual conference.

Research Experience:

Fieldwork – Black Lives Matter in Local Contexts

Conducting interviews with activists in Baltimore, Maryland and Albany, New York who have participated in the larger Black Lives Matter movement in their respective cities.

Black Lives Matter Protest Dataset

Spearheading a project since January 2016 to gather information about Black Lives Matter protests events using local and national media sources. Tasks included analyzing online media reporting, statistical analysis, and dataset production.

University of Rochester Rare Books Collection

Translated AIDS education and public health posters from various Arabic-speaking countries from Arabic to English. Translation work was part of the Rare Books Collection’s initiative to catalogue and archive the posters.

Professional Affiliations:**American Sociological Association**

Sections: Section on Race and Ethnic Minorities, Collective Behavior and Social Movements

Association of Black Sociologists**References:**

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 Occidental College
 Department of Black Studies
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