

BROOKLYNN K. HITCHENS

Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021– **Assistant Professor (Tenure-Track)**, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
University of Maryland, College Park
Chair: Lauren J. Krivo
- 2020–21 **Post-doctoral Associate**, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
University of Maryland, College Park
Postdoctoral Mentor: Maria B. Vélez

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.”
- 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

AREAS of EXPERTISE

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

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

- 2019–Present **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)
- 2017–20 **Inclusive Excellence Project Coordinator**, Office of the Vice Provost for Diversity, Carol E. Henderson, University of Delaware

BOOK

1. 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; Anticipated 2023).

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES (* equal authorship)

5. **Hitchens, K. Brooklynn**, Ann M. Aviles, and Kathleen McCallops†. Forthcoming. “Mothering in the Streets: The Familial Adaptation Strategies of Street-Identified Black Mothers.” *Journal of Marriage & Family*. DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12848.
4. **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
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.

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.

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.

BOOK CHAPTERS (* equal authorship; † graduate student)

3. **Hitchens, K. Brooklynn** and Yasser A. Payne. Forthcoming. "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.

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.

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.

OTHER WRITING

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

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).

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

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Bounoua, Nadia R., Yasser Payne, **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, and Naomi Sadeh. "Structural Barriers Explain the Link between Negative Reentry Perceptions and Pro-Criminal Attitudes in Street-Identified Black Men and Women." (Under Review at *Law & Human Behavior*)

Brunson, Rod K., Brian A. Wade†, and **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**. "I'm a Felon, They Ain't Teaching Me How to Shoot:" Examining Firearm Behaviors among High-Risk Gun Possessors." (Under Review at *Preventive Medicine*)

*Payne, Yasser A., **Brooklynn K. Hitchens**, and Jonathan Wilson. "'The Streets Got to Fight Back in a New Way!': Street PAR in the Age of Gun Violence, Draconian Policing and Mass Incarceration." In Preparation for *The Oxford Handbook of Sociology and Social Justice*.

Hitchens, Brooklynn K. "Prevalence, Relational Proximity, and Timing of Firearm Homicide-Related Loss among Black Women and Girls: A Mixed Methods Analysis." (In Preparation).

Hitchens, Brooklynn K. "Sampling a Hard-to-Reach Population: Using Mixed-Methods and Street Participatory Action Research (Street PAR) to Recruit Urban Black Women and Girls." (In Preparation).

Hitchens, Brooklynn K. "I Done Watched Too Many Die:" Black Women's Negotiation of Gun Homicide and

Legal Cynicism in Urban Trauma Deserts.” (In Preparation).

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 and 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

- 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

- 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.
- 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-Hanrylak*.
- 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

- 2022 “Patterns of Firearm Homicide-Related Loss among Black Women and Girls: A Mixed Methods Analysis,” Equity Committee Speaker Series, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Missouri – St. Louis.
- 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).
- 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

- 2021 “Connecting Theory, Inquiry, and Practice: Working within Communities,” Gender and Equity Research Symposium, North Carolina State University.
- 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.

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.

INVITED WORKSHOPS

- 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 “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

- 2022 “Black Mothering in the Streets of Wilmington, Delaware,” *Street Ethnography*, Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice, University of Delaware.
- 2022 “Engaging Black Women and Girls in the Streets and Criminal Justice System: A Street PAR Approach,” *Participatory Action Research*, College of Education, University of Maryland.
- 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 EXPERIENCE

Professor, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Maryland
 Course: Race, Crime, and Justice (Fall 2021; Spring 2022; Fall 2022)
 Course: Responses to Violence (Fall 2022)

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:

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

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

2020-21 **Member**, Human Relations Committee, University of Maryland.

2020-21 **Member**, Qualifying Exam (Theory and Policy) Committee, University of Maryland.

COLLEGE and UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

2021- **Member**, BSOS Anti-Black Racism Initiative (ABRI), University of Maryland.

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

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

Member American Society of Criminology (ASC), American Sociological Association (ASA), 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 Program Committee, American Society of Criminology (ASC)
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

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

American Sociological Review, Criminology & Public Policy, Social Problems, Sociological Forum, Criminology & Criminal Justice, Critical Criminology, Social Currents

Consulting

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

2022 **Appearance** in “Seeking Peace in Philly: Searching for Solutions to Philadelphia’s Gun Violence Crisis,” NBC10 Philadelphia, <https://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/seeking-peace-in-philly/researchers-and-residents-search-for-solutions-for-surg-ing-philly-violence/3203047/>.

2022 **Featured** on Hour-long Segment, Philly Service Announcement (PSA) Podcast, “Gun Violence in Philadelphia: 3-29-22,” Philadelphia, PA, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dF4V4bNckNI>.

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, <https://journalistsresource.org/criminal-justice/defund-the-police/>.

- 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_-z2O8ILjoIu04OOkSlpsCgMfyN4tix-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 **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,” Teleducation, 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.