

Kiana Cox

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Race/Ethnicity; Gender; Intersectionality; Social Movements; African American History and Political Ideology; Popular Culture and Media Representations; Research Methods; Applied Statistics

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT

- 2021 – present **Research Associate II**
Pew Research Center
Race and Ethnicity
- 2018 – 2021 **Research Associate I**
Pew Research Center
Religion and Public Life
- 2014 – 2018 **Assistant Professor of Sociology**
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice Studies

EDUCATION

- Ph.D **University of Illinois at Chicago**
Sociology, Concentration in Race, Ethnicity, and Gender, 2014
Chair: Laurie Schaffner
- M.A. **Southern Illinois University Edwardsville**
Sociology, 2006
- B.S. **Southern Illinois University Edwardsville**
Psychology, 2002

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

2022. “Race Is Central to Identity for Black Americans and Affects How They Connect With Each Other”. Pew Research Center, April 14. <https://www.pewresearch.org/race-ethnicity/2022/04/14/race-is-central-to-identity-for-black-americans-and-affects-how-they-connect-with-each-other/>

2022. "For Black Americans, family and friends are a primary source of information on U.S. Black history". Pew Research Center, February 11. <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/02/11/for-black-americans-family-and-friends-are-a-primary-source-of-information-on-u-s-black-history/>
2021. "Across religious groups, a majority of Black Americans say opposing racism is an essential part of their faith". Pew Research Center, October 19. <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/10/19/across-religious-groups-a-majority-of-black-americans-say-opposing-racism-is-an-essential-part-of-their-faith/>
2021. "Nine-in-ten Black 'nones' believe in God, but fewer pray or attend services". Pew Research Center, March 17. <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/03/17/nine-in-ten-black-nones-believe-in-god-but-fewer-pray-or-attend-services/>
2021. "Faith Among Black Americans". Pew Research Center, February 16. <https://www.pewresearch.org/blackfaith>
2020. "Amid National Reckoning, Americans Divided on Whether Increased Focus on Race Will Lead to Major Policy Change". Pew Research Center, October 6. <https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2020/10/06/amid-national-reckoning-americans-divided-on-whether-increased-focus-on-race-will-lead-to-major-policy-change/>
2020. "Before protests, black Americans said religious sermons should address race relations". Pew Research Center, June 15. <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/06/15/before-protests-black-americans-said-sermons-should-address-race-relations/>
2019. "Americans Have Positive Views About Religion's Role in Society, but Want It Out of Politics". Pew Research Center, November 15. <https://www.pewforum.org/2019/11/15/americans-have-positive-views-about-religions-role-in-society-but-want-it-out-of-politics/>
2019. "Most U.S. adults feel what happens to their own racial or ethnic group affects them personally". Pew Research Center, July 11. <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/07/11/linked-fate-connectedness-americans/>
2019. "Race in America 2019". Pew Research Center, April 9. <https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2019/04/09/race-in-america-2019/>
2019. "Not Just Jezebel: Black Women, Nicki Minaj, and Sexualized Imagery in Rap Music". In *Race/Gender/Class/Media 4.0*, ed. Rebecca Ann Lind. New York, NY: Routledge.
2018. "Black men are less religious than black women, but more religious than white women and men". Pew Research Center, September 26. <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/09/26/black-men-are-less-religious-than-black-women-but-more-religious-than-white-women-and-men/>
2015. "New Ways of Knowing Black Politics: Unpacking Feminist Assumptions in Floyd's *Gender, Race, and Nationalism in Contemporary Black Politics*". National Political Science Review, 17:2.
2014. "We Need More Than Pink Cleats". *The Feminist Wire*, April 25. <http://thefeministwire.com/2014/04/pink-cleats/>

2013. “Gender and Race as Meaning Systems: Understanding Theoretical, Historical, and Institutional Implications of Sexualized Imagery in Rap Music”. In *Race/Gender/Class/Media: Considering Diversity Across Audiences, Content, and Producers Third Edition*, ed. Rebecca Ann Lind. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Allyn and Bacon.

“Patriarchy as Salvation: Male Prototypicality and Improving Black Communities”. *Revise and resubmit to Research in Social Movements, Conflicts, and Change*

“Incomplete Intersectionality: Gender and Black Social Justice Organizations in the 21st Century”. *Book Project – on hiatus*

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, CONFERENCES, AND PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 *Invited Lecture*. “Faith in Contemporary Black Life”. Conference of National Black Churches Annual Consultation, Orlando, FL.
- 2021 *Presenter and Panelist*. “Gender in the Academic Labor Market and Beyond: Taking Feminist Sociology Beyond the Academy”. American Sociological Association (ASA). Virtual presentation.
- 2021 *Presenter and Panelist*. “Unpacking Black American Religious Life: Findings from a new Pew Research Center Survey”. Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR). Virtual presentation: <https://youtu.be/H1ikEwxsz4>
- 2021 *Invited Lecture*. “Race in the Religious Lives of Black Americans”. Religion + Numbers Webinar Series, Woolf Institute, Cambridge University. Virtual presentation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vc_IPr4pm4U.
- 2021 *Presenter and Panelist*. “Faith Among Black Americans”. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Virtual presentation: <https://youtu.be/H1ikEwxsz4>
- 2021 *Guest*. “Majority-Black Congregations Have Long Been an Important Part of Black American Life. How Is That Evolving?”. AirTalk, Southern California Public Radio: <https://archive.kpcc.org/programs/airtalk/2021/03/08/66566/black-churches-have-long-been-an-important-part-of/>.
- 2021 *Presenter and Panelist*. “Black Churches, Black Catholics: Exploring a New Survey from Pew Research”. Center on Religion and Culture, Fordham University. Virtual presentation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDs7uwZiLOA>.
- 2021 *Presenter and Panelist*. “The Question of Faith in Contemporary Black Life”. Center on African-American Religion, Sexual Politics, and Social Justice, Columbia University. Virtual presentation: <https://theforum.columbia.edu/Faith>.
- 2021 *Presenter and Panelist*. “Unpacking Black American Religious Life”. Pew Research Center. Virtual presentation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjHxfkZRngw>
- 2020 *Panelist*. “gOD Talk 2.0: Black Religion in the Digital Age”. National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC), Washington, D.C.

- 2020 *Invited Lecture*. “Black Millennials: Religiosity and Views of Religious Public Life”. GW Interfaith Council. George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
- 2019 *Organizer and Presider*. “Survey Research in Religion Among African Americans: Best Practices and Challenges”. Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR), New York, NY.
- 2019 *Presenter*. “From Academia to Pew Research Center: Differences and Dilemmas”. Sociology of Practice Symposium. American Sociological Association (ASA), New York, NY.
- 2019 *Co-Presenter*. “Measuring Change in Evangelical Self-Identification in the Trump Era”. American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- 2016 *Session Organizer and Presider*. “New Directions in Black Movements: Structure, Leadership, and Black Twitter”. Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements. American Sociological Association (ASA), Seattle, WA.
- 2016 *Invited Lecture*. “Measuring Male Bias: Identifying Intragroup Inequality in Contemporary Black Politics”. Loftin Lecture Series, Mississippi State University.
- 2015 *Presenter*. “Patriarchy as Salvation: Male Bias and Improving Black Communities”. Present and Future of Civil Rights Movements Conference, Duke University School of Law, Durham, NC.
- 2015 *Presenter*. “Do All #BlackLivesMatter?: Intersectionality and Social Justice Lessons”. Women's Studies Speaker Series, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.
- 2015 *Presenter*. “Patriarchy as Salvation: Male Bias and Improving Black Communities”. Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), Washington, D.C.
- 2013 *Presider*, “Contested Boundaries Between and Within Racial Groups”. Section on Race, Gender, and Class Roundtable. American Sociological Association (ASA), New York, NY.
- 2013 *Presenter*. “Marginalized Privilege: The Reproduction of Gender Inequality in African American Empowerment Politics.”. American Sociological Association (ASA), New York, NY.
- 2012 *Presenter*. “Gender, Framing, and African American Social Justice Organizations: Early Findings from the Field”. Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2011 *Presenter*. “Gender, Suffering Hierarchies, and Victim Framing: Social Justice Lessons From the Dunbar Village Gang Rape Case”. Midwest Sociological Society (MSS), St. Louis, MO.
- 2010 *Presenter*. “Black America’s Favorite Victims? Gender and the Framing of Victimhood in the Dunbar Village Gang Rape Case”. Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), Atlanta, GA.
- 2010 *Presenter*. “Race Trumps Gender? Understanding the Use of the Race-Only Framework in Contemporary African American Civil Rights and Service Organizations”. Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), Santa Barbara, CA.

- 2009 *Presenter.* “Malika or the Monkey? Anti-Racist Organizations and Their Responses to Black Women’s Experiences of Gendered Racism”. Colloquium Series, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago.
- 2008 *Presenter.* “Booty Rockin’ Everywhere”: Hegemonic Femininity and Patterns of African American Women’s Sexualization in Rap Music”. Illinois African American and Latino Higher Education Alliance (IALHEA) Research Forum, Chicago, IL.
- 2006 *Presenter.* “Reaffirmation of the “Other”: A Content Analysis of the Representations of Black Womanhood in Popular Rap Music”. Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Colloquium, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago.
- 2003 *Co-Presenter.* “The Effects of Listener Motivation and Speaker Animation on Attention and Learning”. Midwest Psychological Association (MPA), Chicago, IL.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2021 *Shorty Awards.* Winner of the Audience Honor and finalist in Best Cultural Institution and Celebrity Facebook Campaign for the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture and Pew Research Center’s Facebook Live panel: “god-Talk 2.0: Digital #Blackfaith”.
- 2018 *Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Award.* Internal competitive grant program which allows faculty members to select one undergraduate to earn a \$750 research stipend to assist in the conducting of an approved faculty research project.
- 2017 *Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Award.* Internal competitive grant program which allows faculty members to select one undergraduate to earn a \$1000 research stipend to assist in the conducting of an approved faculty research project.
- 2015 – 2016 *Excellence in Undergraduate Education Faculty Grant.* Awarded annually by Southern Illinois University Edwardsville to faculty members who propose innovative projects designed to develop undergraduate curricula and programming. Awarded \$6900 as co-director of the Sustainability and Diversity Summer Program.
- 2014 – 2015 *David P. Street Dissertation Prize in Engaged Sociology.* Awarded annually to one graduate student by the Department of Sociology at the University of Illinois at Chicago for excellence in dissertation research for projects.
- 2012 – 2013 *JoAnn Gibson Robinson Dissertation Writing Award.* Awarded annually by the Association for the Study of Black Women in Politics to a doctoral candidate whose dissertation focuses on Black women in politics in the United States or internationally.
- 2011 – 2012 *Rue Bucher Memorial Award for Qualitative Studies in Social Process.* University of Illinois at Chicago. Annual university-wide award for a doctoral candidate using innovative qualitative methods in the study of women and gender. Awarded \$1250 toward dissertation expenses.
- 2010 – 2011 *Provost’s Award for Graduate Research.* University of Illinois at Chicago. Semi-annual competition for advanced graduate students in the social and biomedical sciences. One of 17 winners university-wide. Awarded \$1606 toward dissertation expenses.

- 2010 – 2011 *Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Teaching*. University of Illinois at Chicago, Department of Sociology. Awarded annually to a graduate student who exhibits excellence in undergraduate sociology education. Awarded based on faculty classroom observations, faculty recommendations, and a teaching portfolio.
- 2006 – 2007 *Abraham Lincoln Fellowship*. University of Illinois at Chicago, Graduate College. Awarded annually to students from underrepresented groups in order to increase the diversity and excellence of graduate programs university-wide.
- 2004 – 2005 *Joe R. Feagin Graduate Award for Outstanding Paper in Race and Ethnic Relations* for “Reinvigorating Jezebel: Prevailing Images of Black Women on Black Entertainment Television (BET)”. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Department of Sociology.
- 2001 – 2002 *Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology*. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

COURSES TAUGHT

Applied Statistics for the Social Sciences (Undergraduate and Graduate)

Constructionist Perspectives on Social Problems

Feminist Thought in Black History, Culture, and Politics

Research Methods for the Social Sciences

Senior Research Seminar

Social Movements

Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

SERVICE

- 2016 – 2018 Associate Director of Graduate Studies. Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- 2015 – 2018 Annual Review Committee. Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.
- 2015 – 2016 Policies Committee. College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Congress, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.
- 2014 – 2018 Graduate Committee. Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.
- 2014 – 2015 Advisor, Sociology Club. Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

- 2012 – 2013 Graduate Research Mentor, Summer Research Opportunities Program. University of Illinois at Chicago.
- 2006 – 2007 Steering Committee, 9th Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference. Loyola University Chicago.
- 2006 – 2007 President, Sociology Graduate Student Association. University of Illinois at Chicago.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association for Public Opinion Research

American Sociological Association (Sections on Race, Class, and Gender; Racial and Ethnic Minorities; Religion; Sex and Gender)

Association of Black Sociologists

Association for the Sociology of Religion

National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

Sociologists for Women in Society