

BARBARA J. KIVIAT

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EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Ph.D., Sociology and Social Policy, expected May 2019

Dissertation: *Prediction and the Moral Order: Contesting Fairness in Consumer Data Capitalism* (Frank Dobbin, chair; Jason Beckfield and Mario Small, committee members)

A.M. Sociology, November 2015

Thesis: *The Art of Deciding with Data: Evidence from How Employers Translate Credit Reports into Hiring Decisions* (With Distinction)

New York University, New York, New York

M.P.A., Public Policy concentration, May 2012

Columbia University, New York, New York

M.A., Journalism, Business and Economics concentration, May 2006

Thesis: *The Town That Wal-Mart Left: How Livingston, Alabama Fought For—and Lost—Its Most Important Store* (Best Thesis Prize)

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

B.A., Writing Seminars, Psychology minor, May 2001

University and departmental honors

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Kiviat, Barbara. 2018. “The Art of Deciding with Data: Evidence from How Employers Translate Credit Reports into Hiring Decisions.” *Socio-Economic Review* (forthcoming).

- Ronald Burt Outstanding Student Paper Award, Economic Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association
- Best Student Paper Award, Consumption Section of the American Sociological Association
- Honorable Mention, Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity Section of the American Sociological Association

O’Brien, Rourke and **Barbara Kiviat.** 2018. “Disparate Impact? Race, Sex and the Use of Credit Reports in Hiring.” *Socius* 4(1):1-20.

Desmond, Matthew, Carl Gershenson, and **Barbara Kiviat.** 2015. “Forced Relocation and Residential Instability among Urban Renters.” *Social Service Review* 89(2): 227-262.

- Semifinalist, Frank R. Breul Memorial Prize for the best article in *Social Service Review*

Kiviat, Barbara. 2012. “U.S. Unemployment Insurance: Explaining Welfare State Expansion in an Era of Retrenchment.” *The Wagner Review* 19:25-34.

UNPUBLISHED PAPERS

Kiviat, Barbara. “The Moral Limits of Predictive Practices: The Case of Credit-Based Insurance Scores.” Revise and resubmit; *American Sociological Review*.

Kiviat, Barbara and Rourke O’Brien. “The Moral Order of Unpaid Debt: Evidence from a National Survey Experiment.” Working paper; manuscript available.

DISSERTATION

Prediction and the Moral Order: Contesting Fairness in Consumer Data Capitalism

Increasingly we live in a “big data” economy, where corporations gather massive amounts of personal data to predict how individuals will behave so that they can more profitably price goods and allocate resources like insurance, credit, and jobs. In this dissertation, I use an in-depth qualitative case study of public policy debates about car insurance pricing to elucidate the moral commitments on which such economic arrangements rest—and to show how people push back with other ideas about market fairness.

BOOK REVIEW

Kiviat, Barbara. 2012. *Beyond Our Means: Why America Spends While the World Saves*, by Sheldon Garon. *Public Administration Review*. 72(5): 772-775.

WHITE PAPERS

Freeman, Allison, Mat Despard, **Barbara Kiviat**, Jennifer Fox, and Carly Hoffmann. Forthcoming. *Employers’ Use of Credit Reports in Hiring and Employment: What are the Disparate Impacts on the Economically Vulnerable and How Can They Be Addressed?* Battle Creek, MI: W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Kiviat, Barbara and Jonathan Morduch. 2012. *From Financial Literacy to Financial Action*. New York: McGraw-Hill Research Foundation.

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Award, 2018

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Early Career Workshop, 2018

Washington Center for Equitable Growth, doctoral fellow, 2017-18

Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics Graduate Fellowship, 2016-2017, full-year fellowship
Tobin Project Graduate Student Fellow, 2015-2016
Center for American Political Study, Harvard University, graduate research seed grant, 2014
Inequality & Social Policy doctoral fellowship, Harvard University, awarded 2013
Presidential Scholar Fellowship, Harvard University, 2012
Sterling D. Spero Prize for Writing, New York University, 2012
David Bohnett Public Service Fellowship, New York University, full scholarship, 2010-2012
Columbia Journalism School, Best Thesis Prize, May 2006
Bollinger Scholarship, Columbia University Office of the President, full scholarship, 2005-2007
Phi Beta Kappa, 2001
Jacob H. Hollander Prize for outstanding achievement in The Writing Seminars, 2001
Provost's Undergraduate Research Award (\$2,000 research grant), awarded Spring 2000
Hodson Trust Scholarship (Johns Hopkins), merit-based scholarship, awarded May 1997

PRESENTATIONS

“The Moral Limits of Predictive Practices: The Case of Credit-Based Insurance Scores”
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, August 2018
Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting, Kyoto, June 2018

“Disparate Impact? Race, Sex and the Use of Credit Reports in Hiring”
Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Mexico City, June 2017

“The Moral Order of Unpaid Debt: Evidence from a National Survey Experiment”
Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting, Berkeley, June 2016
Harvard-MIT Economic Sociology Seminar, Cambridge, Mass., November 2015

“Borrowing History: How Employers Use Credit Reports in Hiring”
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, August 2015
Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, May 2015
Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting, Chicago, July 2014

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Harvard University, Research Assistant to:
Kathryn Edin, on a project about landlords and the rental housing market (2013)
Matthew Desmond, on a project about residential mobility (2013-2014)
James Greiner, on a project about debt collectors and courts (2013-2014)
Robert Putnam, on a project about economic mobility in American society (2012)

New York University Financial Access Initiative, Research Associate, 2010-2012
Core member of a research team conducting a 16-month-long study of the financial lives of 300 low-income American families

SELECTED JOURNALISTIC PUBLICATIONS (SINCE FALL 2010)

“How the Equifax Hack Could Hurt Anyone Applying for a Job.” *TheAtlantic.com*, Oct. 4, 2017.

“The CFPB Is Making Government More Accountable. The GOP Wants to Stop It.” *Washington Monthly.com*, June 8, 2017.

“Housing is Back... As Long as You Live in the Right Place at the Right Time.” *Time* special issue, Spring 2014.

“Explaining the Financial Crisis: Why Do We Still Not Know What Happened?” *Time.com*. Sept. 16, 2013.

“The Big Jobs Myth: American Workers Aren’t Ready for American Jobs.” *TheAtlantic.com*. July 25, 2012.

“Below the Line: For a decade, the ranks of the poor have been rising. Debunking myths about poverty in America could help change that.” *Time*. Nov. 28, 2011.

“The Case Against Homeownership: Buying a house is supposed to make us better citizens, better investors and better off. But that American dream may well be a fantasy.” *Time*, cover story. Sept. 8, 2010.

In my career as a journalist, I wrote hundreds of articles for Time magazine, including two cover stories, as well as articles for other outlets such as Fortune, Money, The Miami Herald, The Arizona Republic, The Chronicle of Higher Education, Reuters, ConsumerReports.com, The Baltimore City Paper, and HarvardBusinessReview.org.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Office of the Mayor of New York City, Bohnett Fellow, 2011

Time magazine, Staff Writer, 2003-2010

Mutual Funds magazine, Reporter, 2002-2003

The Arizona Republic, Pulliam Fellow, 2001-2002

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Harvard University, Department of Sociology

Models of Social Science Research, Head Teaching Fellow and Guest Lecturer, Fall 2015

Money, Work, and Social Life, Teaching Fellow, Spring 2015 and Spring 2016

Economic Sociology: Global Perspectives, Teaching Fellow, Fall 2014

New York University, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

Introduction to Public Policy, Teaching Assistant, Fall 2011

Statistical Methods, Tutor, Summer 2011

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Harvard Department of Sociology, junior faculty search committee, 2017-2018

Accounts, the newsletter of ASA's Economic Sociology section, editor, 2015-2016

Graduate Student Mentor, 2015-2017

Harvard-MIT Economic Sociology Seminar, student coordinator, 2014-2015

Harvard Department of Sociology, graduate admissions committee representative, 2014-2015

Harvard Graduate Student Council, Social Policy representative, 2013-2014

The Wagner Review, a policy journal, Review Board member, 2010-2012

REFERENCES

Frank Dobbin, Professor of Sociology

Harvard University

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Jason Beckfield, Professor of Sociology

Harvard University

617-495-3895

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Mario Small, Professor of Sociology

Harvard University

617-495-8672

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Kathryn Edin, Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs

Princeton University

609-258-4436

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