

MICHELLE ESTHER O'BRIEN

Curriculum vitae

NYU Department of Sociology
295 Lafayette Street, 4th Floor
New York, New York 10012

(347) 265-9307
michelleobrien@nyu.edu

Education

- Current Doctoral Candidate in the Department of Sociology, New York University.
Dissertation: "Queer Lives and Class Politics in New York City, 1978-2015."
Dissertation committee: Jeff Goodwin (chair), Gianpaolo Baiocchi, Jeff Manza, Steven Lukes
- 2011 MSW, Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, City University of New York (CUNY). Concentrations in Organizational Management and Leadership & Group Work. Dean's Award, Graduated with honors.
- 2000 BA in Women's & Gender Studies, Macalester College (St. Paul, MN).
Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa.

Research Interests

Social Movements, Political Economy, Political Sociology, Sexualities, LGBTQ Studies, Gender, Urban History, Welfare State, Public Sociology, Socially Engaged Research

Honors & Fellowships

- 2017-2018 American Association of University Women, American Dissertation Fellow
- 2016-2017 Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award, New York University
Department of Sociology.

Journal Articles

- Submitted "Queer Workplace Organising Strategy in NYC Retail," *Work, Employment and Society*.
- 2019 "The Influence of Donors on Cross Class Social Movements: Same Sex Marriage and Trans Rights Campaigns in New York State." *Social Movement Studies*, 18(5):586-601, DOI: [10.1080/14742837.2019.1598354](https://doi.org/10.1080/14742837.2019.1598354)

Book Chapters

- In Preparation "Political Opportunities for LGBTQ Movements During New York City's Financialization." *The Political Economy of Social Movements*, edited by Jeff Goodwin and Michael Schwartz.

- Forthcoming "Trans Work: Employment Trajectories, Labor Discipline, and Gender Freedom." *Transgender Marxism*, edited by Jules Joanne Gleeson and Elle O'Rourke. London, UK: Pluto Press.
- 2018 Paula England, Jessie Ford and Michelle O'Brien. "Gender and Sexualities." Pp. 108-41. *Social Problems: The Sociology Project*, edited by Jeff Manza and Patrick Sharkey. New York, NY: Pearson.
- 2013 "Tracing this Body: Transsexuality, pharmaceuticals & capitalism." Pp. 56–65. *Transgender Studies Reader 2*, edited by Susan Stryker and Aren Z. Aizura. New York, NY: Routledge.
- 2003 "Stayin' Alive: Trans survival and struggle on the streets of Philadelphia." Pp. 305–311. *That's Revolting! Queer Strategies for Resisting Assimilation*, edited by Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore. Berkeley, CA: Soft Skull Press.

Book Reviews

- In Press "Organised By Crisis: A review of *Fear City: New York's Fiscal Crisis and the Rise of Austerity Politics* by Kim Phillips-Fein. (New York, NY: Metropolitan Books, 2017)." *Historical Materialism*.
- 2017 "Queer in the Eras of Capital: A review of *Warped: Gay Normality and Queer Anticapitalism* by Peter Drucker. (Chicago, IL: Haymarket, 2014)." H-Net Humanities and Social Sciences Online, H-Socialisms List. <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=46200>
- 2016 "Learning from Trans Prison Abolitionists: A review of *Captive Genders: Trans Embodiment and the Prison Industrial Complex, Expanded Second Edition*. Edited by Eric A. Stanley & Nat Smith. (Oakland, CA: AK Press, 2011/2015)." H-Net Humanities and Social Sciences Online, H-Socialisms. <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=45475>

Other Publications

- Forthcoming "The Communization of Care," *Pinko*. October 2019.
- Forthcoming "To Free Straight Society: Stonewall and Black Insurrection." *Invert Journal*. September 2019.
- In Press "To Abolish the Family: The Working-Class Family and Gender Liberation in Capitalist Development." *Endnotes* 5:86-137. October 2019.
- 2019 "Fifty Years of Queer Insurgency: Inside Stonewall 50, a struggle for the next half-century of queer history," *Commune Magazine*. <https://communemag.com/fifty-years-of-queer-insurgency/>
- 2015 Lead editor, and author of Epilogue of *Revolutionary Feminism: Communist Interventions, vol. 3*, edited volume of left feminist theoretical debates. Oakland, CA: Communist Research Cluster.

- 2003 “Whose Ally?: Thinking critically about anti-oppression ally organizing,”
Published on *Colours of Resistance*. <http://www.coloursofresistance.org/370/whose-ally-thinking-critically-about-anti-oppression-ally-organizing-part-1/>

Invited Talks

- 2019 Visiting lecturer for course on Queerness & Labor. The New Centre for Research & Practice (online).
- 2019 Discussant, “TransLatinx Américas: A Roundtable Discussion and Reception,” *Transgender Studies Quarterly (TSQ)* & Hemispheric Institute of Performance & Politics (NY, NY).
- 2019 Presenter at “The Politics And Ethics of the Archive,” *Scholar & Feminist Online* & Barnard Center for Research on Women, Barnard College (NY, NY).
- 2019 Panelist, “Gay Liberation Press Today,” *Pinko Magazine* & New York Public Library, Tompkins Square Library (NY, NY).
- 2019 Panelist, “From the Margins: Queer Archives,” New York Public Library, Mid-Manhattan Branch Library (NY, NY).
- 2018 Visiting lecturer, “To Free Straight Society: The Gay Liberation Front’s Relationship to Global Insurrection,” The Juilliard School, Writing Center (NY, NY).
- 2017 Panelist, “Trans Oral History and the Politics of Trans Employment,” CLAGS: The Center for LGBTQ Studies, City University of New York Graduate Center.
- 2008 Visiting presenter, Community Organizing, City College of CUNY (NY, NY).
- 2003 Visiting presenter, “Transgender Identity,” Temple University (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2003 Visiting lecturer, “Feminism and Trans Politics Reimagining self-determination,” Reed College (Portland, OR).
- 2003 Visiting lecturer, “Tracing this Body Transgender bodies, pharmaceuticals and transnational capital,” Haverford College (Haverford, PA) and Hampshire College (Hampshire, MA).
- 2003 Visiting lecturer, “Reading Trans-Health/Reading Race War,” Vassar College, (Poughkeepsie, NY) and Swarthmore College (Swarthmore, PA).
- 2002 Guest lecturer, “Queer Theory and Movements” to Sexual Minorities HSED 645 MSW Course, Widener University Center for Education (Wayne, PA).

Academic Conference Presentations

- 2018 “Structural Dependency on Movement Donors: Gay Marriage and Trans Rights in New York State,” American Sociological Association (Philadelphia, PA).

- 2018 “Trans and Queer Politics in NYC Retail Worker Organizing,” American Sociological Association Sexualities Pre-Conference (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2018 “Self-Expression and Class Position in Trans Employment,” Eastern Sociological Society, Annual Meeting (Baltimore, MD).
- 2018 “Queer and Trans Rights in Workplace Organizing Struggles,” Historical Materialism (London, U.K).
- 2018 “To Abolish the Family: Communist Struggle and the Working-Class Family in Capitalist Development,” Historical Materialism (London, U.K).
- 2017 “Queer Movements and Class Politics in New York City,” Historical Materialism (London, U.K).
- 2017 “AIDS and Austerity: Gay Men’s Health Crisis and the Causes of Nonprofit Proliferation.” Presented at “Neoliberal Governance and Biomedical Battlefields,” Regular Session Panel. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Montreal, Canada).
- 2017 “Anticipating the Global City: Elite Planning in the 1960s Redevelopment of Lower Manhattan,” Section Roundtable on Urban Planning. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Montreal, Canada).

Teaching

- 2018-2019 Teaching Assistant, SOC-UA 474 Terrorism and Political Violence in the Modern World, NYU (2 semesters)
- 2017 Adjunct Instructor, SOC-UA 21 Sociology of Gender and Sexuality, NYU
- 2013-2017 Teaching Assistant, SOC-UA 111 Sociological Theory, NYU (5 semesters)
- 2016 Teaching Assistant, SOC-UA 135 Race and Ethnicity, NYU
- 2013-2014 Adjunct Instructor, SOC-UA 511 Sexual Diversity in Society, NYU (2 semesters)
- 2014 Adjunct Instructor, SOC 234 Urban Sociology, Lehman College, CUNY
- 2013 Teaching Assistant, SOC-UA 471 Power Politics and Society, NYU
- 2012 Teaching Assistant, SOC-UA 301 Sociological Research Methods, NYU (2 semesters)

Non-Academic Positions

- 2017-Current Community Oral History Coordinator of the New York City Trans Oral History Project, New York Public Library (NY, NY).
- 2018-2019 Stonewall Project Coordinator, New York Public Library, (NY, NY). Coordinating 37 events at NYPL branch libraries for the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots.
- 2019-Current Board of Directors, New York Transgender Advocacy Group, (NY, NY).

- 2010-2011 Social Work Internship, Queers for Economic Justice (NY, NY).
- 2010 Campaign Manager, Housing Here and Now (NY, NY).
- 2008-2009 Executive Director, Housing Here and Now (NY, NY).
- 2007-2008 Social Work Intern, Rivington House (NY, NY).
- 2005-2007 Community Organizer, Gay Men's Health Crisis (NY, NY).
- 2004-2005 Transitional Case Manager, Access to Treatment Program, NY Harm Reduction Educators (NY, NY).
- 2003-2004 Prevention Case Manager, Transgender Specialist, Action AIDS (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2003 Intensive Case Manager, Transgender Specialist, Action AIDS (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2008 Board of Directors, Third Wave Foundation (NY, NY).
- 2004-2006 Board of Directors, Sylvia Rivera Law Project (NY, NY).
- 2003-2004 Co-Chair, Sexual and Gender Minorities Subcommittee of the Mayor's Taskforce on Homelessness (Philadelphia, PA).
- 1995-1996 Executive Board, Community Alliance of Lane County (Eugene, OR).

Conference Planning Committees

- 2008 Many Stories, Many Strategies, Making Money Make Change.
- 2003 Healthy Bodies, Healthy Lives, Healthy Communities, 3rd Annual Philadelphia Trans Health Conference (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2003 Our Bodies, Ourselves Too, 2nd Annual Philadelphia Trans Health Conference (Philadelphia, PA).

Other Presentations and Workshops

- 2019 Panelist, *Commune Magazine*, issues 3 release (NY, NY).
- 2010 & 2011 Presenter, International Women's Day, Raha Iranian Feminist Collective (NY, NY).
- 2010 Workshop co-presenter, United States Social Forum "Radical and Revolutionary Approaches to Reform Struggles," & "Revolution on the Daily" (Detroit, MI).
- 2009 Co-presenter, "Organizing to Build Power", Young Democratic Socialist Conference (NY, NY).
- 2009 Co-facilitator, "Making Demands and Building Alternatives," Strategic Dialogue of Revolutionary Work in Our Time (Chicago, IL).
- 2009 Housing Justice Award Recipient and Speaker, City-Wide Taskforce on Housing Court (NY, NY).

- 2009 Presenter, "Rent regulation and organizing," City-Wide Taskforce on Housing Court (NY, NY).
- 2008 Panelist "Thank You Advocates," Redlines Housing Crisis Learning Center Exhibition, Queens Museum of Art (Queens, NY).
- 2003 Presenter, "HIV/AIDS Risk Reduction," Drexel University (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2003 Trainer, "Transgender Care for Outreach Workers," Youth Health Empowerment Project (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2003 Co-presenter, "HIV/AIDS in Transgender Communities," Renaissance Support Group (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2003 Co-trainer, "Down To Basics Basics of Trans Issues for Social Service and Health Providers," Philadelphia Trans Health Conference (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2003 Presenter, "Living Trans," Central High School (Philadelphia, PA).
- 2003 Workshop presentations, "Strategy and Accountability in Organizing," at Reed College (Portland, OR), Swarthmore College (Swarthmore PA) and Hampshire College (Hampshire, MA); "Down to Basics An intro on trans politics," at Vassar College (Poughkeepsie, NY) and Haverford College, (Haverford, PA).

References

Jeff Goodwin, NYU - jeff.goodwin@nyu.edu, (212) 998-8378

Gianpaolo Baiocchi, NYU - gb97@nyu.edu, (212) 992-6312

Jeff Manza, NYU - manza@nyu.edu, (212) 998-8935

Steven Lukes, NYU - sl53@nyu.edu