

Joshua Murray

Department of Sociology
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Current as of: 12/2021

Professional Experience

Associate Professor, Vanderbilt University, Department of Sociology, 2020-present

Assistant Professor, Vanderbilt University, Department of Sociology, 2013-2020
Affiliated Faculty, Vanderbilt University, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, 2013- present

Education

Postdoctoral Fellow, Vanderbilt University, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, 2012-13

Ph.D. Sociology, Stony Brook University, 2012

Dissertation: Transnational Interlocks and Global Business

M.S. Sociology, Portland State University, 2007

Thesis: Sickness For Sale: Pharmaceutical Direct-to-Consumer Prescription Drug Television Advertising

B.S. Sociology, Portland State University, 2005

Areas of Specialization

Political and Economic Sociology, Historical and Comparative Sociology, Social Movements, Global/Transnational Sociology, Social Networks, Quantitative Methods

Publications

Books:

Joshua Murray and Michael Schwartz. 2019. *Wrecked: How the American Automobile Industry Destroyed Its Capacity to Compete*. NY: Russell Sage Foundation

Articles:

Tarun Banerjee and Joshua Murray. 2021. Class Dominance or Fracturing? Sources of Broad Interest in Lobbying by Fortune 500 Corporations. *Sociological Perspectives*, 64(2): 157-75.

Joshua Murray and Megan L. Jordan*. 2019. "Sources of Continued Corporate Dominance", *Race, Class, and Corporate Power*, 7(2): Article 8.

- Jennifer Heerwig and Joshua Murray. 2019. "The Political Strategies and Unity of the American Corporate Inner Circle: Evidence from Political Donations, 1982-2000," *Social Problems*, 66(4): 580-608
- Joshua Murray and Michael Schwartz. 2017. "The Dialectics of Class Conflict in the Auto Industry: Management by Stress and the Activation of Structural Leverage." *Catalyst: A Journal of Theory and Strategy*, 1(3): 151-168.
- Joshua Murray. 2017. "Interlock Globally, Act Domestically: Corporate Political Unity in the 21st Century." *American Journal of Sociology*, 122(6): 1617-1663.
- Joshua Murray and Michael Schwartz. 2016. "Collateral Damage: How Capital's War on Labor Killed Detroit," Forthcoming at *Catalyst: A Journal of Theory and Strategy*. Pp: 1-30.
- Samantha Perez* and Joshua Murray. 2016. "Latino Faces, Corporate Ties: Latino Advocacy Organizations and their Board Members." *Sociological Forum*, 31(1): 117-137.
- Joshua Murray and Michael Schwartz. 2015. "Moral Economy, Structural Leverage, and Organizational Efficacy: Class Formation and the Great Flint Sit-Down Strike, Detroit 1936-7," *Critical Historical Studies*, 2(2): 219-259
- Tarun Banerjee and Joshua Murray. 2015. "What Shapes Corporate Involvement in Voter Referendums: The Case of Opposition to GM Food Labeling" *Sociological Perspectives*, 58(3): 464-48.
- Joshua Murray. 2014. Evidence of a transnational capitalist class-for-itself: the determinants of PAC activity among foreign firms in the Global Fortune 500, 2000–2006. *Global Networks*, 14:230-250.
- Joshua Murray, Arnout van de Rijt, and John M. Shandra. 2013. Why They Juice: The Role of Social Forces in Performance Enhancing Drug Use by Professional Athletes. *Sociological Focus*, 46:4, 281-294
- Joshua Murray. 2009. Direct-to-consumer Prescription Drug Advertising in a Global Context: A comparison between New Zealand and the United States. *Salute e Societa (Health and Society)*, Anno VIII (2): 189-208, edited by Antonio Maturo and Peter Conrad and published in Italian and English

*Indicates graduate student author

Work in progress

Joshua Murray and Jennifer Heerwig. *The Evolution of Corporate Elite Politics, 1980-2014*, book manuscript under preparation for the Russell Sage Foundation.

Popular Writing

Megan L. Jordan*, Joshua Murray, Michael Schwartz, and Kevin A. Young. 2020. "When Black Movements Win, Everybody but the 1 percent Wins."

Truthout, December 24.

Joshua Murray. 2019. "Why the United Auto Workers GM Strike is Headed for Failure." *The Conversation*, September 23.

Joshua Murray. 2019. "The Real Solution to Saving U.S. Automakers Isn't Tariffs, It's Empowering Workers." *Washington Post*, August 14

Jennifer Heerwig and Joshua Murray. 2018. "The Corporate Outer Circle Goes to Washington: Trump and the Divided Politics of the Corporate Elite." *Public Seminar*, www.publicseminar.org, June 7.

*Indicates graduate student author

Fellowships and Grants

Vanderbilt University Research Scholar Grant, "Agency vs. Structure: Investigating the Political Donations of Corporate Directors and Political Action Committees, 1980-2014", \$34,890

Russell Sage Foundation, "Partisanship, Unity, and Inter-Corporate Networks" Political Donations of the Corporate Elite, 1980-2014," 2015-2016, (Jennifer Heerwig, Co-PI), \$33,000

National Science Foundation, Dissertation Improvement Grant, Sociology Program, "Transnational Interlocks and Global Business," 2011-12, \$3,635

Northwest Health Foundation, Fund for Excellence in Health Research, "Sickness for Sale: Pharmaceutical Direct-to-Consumer Television Advertising," 2006, \$500

Honors and Awards

Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. 2019. College of Arts & Science, Vanderbilt University

Outstanding Marxist Sociology Article Award. 2017. "Moral Economy, Structural Leverage, and Organizational Efficacy: Class Formation and the Great Flint Sit-Down Strike, Detroit 1936-7," *Critical Historical Studies*, 2(2): 219-259, Marxist Sociology section of the American Sociological Association

Hanan Selvin Award. 2009. "Why They Juice: Performance Enhancing Drug Use in Major League Baseball, 1985-2007," Department of Sociology, Stony Brook University

Graduate Commendation Award. 2007. Outstanding Academic Achievement, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Portland State University

Invited Presentations

"Election Connections: corporate elite political donations and the invisible primary of political appointees" Political Economy Working Group, Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts Amherst, December 2019.

- “Historians and the Current Crisis: Old/New Ideas for Organizing Against Wealth and Power” Left Forum, Brooklyn, NY, June 2019 (invited by Historians for Peace and Democracy)
- “The Evolution of Corporate Elite Political Unity, 1980-2008” (with Jennifer Heerwig), Russell Sage Foundation (RSF), New York, April 2019.
- “The Partisanship and Ideology of the American Corporate Inner Circle: Evidence from Political Donations, 1982-2000” (with Jennifer Heerwig, Stony Brook University), Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vanderbilt University, October 2015
- “Hierarchical Networks: Supplier Relations in the Early American Automobile Industry”, World Economic History Conference, Kyoto, Japan (invited by Yongdo Kim, Hosei University), August 2015
- “Transnational Interlocks, Global Class Formation, and Corporate Political Behavior”, Department of Sociology, University of Louisville, February 2013
- “Globalization and Corporate Unity”, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vanderbilt University, October 2012
- “Transnational Business Influence: the Determinants of PAC Activity Among Firms in the Global Fortune 500, 2000-06”, Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Vanderbilt University, November 2011
- “The Influence of the Transnational Capitalist Class on U.S. Politics: Determinants of PAC Formation among Firms in the Global Fortune 500, 2000-06,” Conference on Global Capitalism and Transnational Class Formation, Prague, sponsored by International Sociological Association, Global Studies Association of America, Centre for Global Studies, September 2011

Conference Presentations

- “Partisan Divisions, Corporate Ties,” Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis, Virtual, July 2021.
- “Elite Connections,” American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Virtual, August 2020.
- “Elite Connections: Corporate Elite Political Donations and the Invisible Primary of Top Cabinet Appointees,” Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis, Virtual, July 2020.
- “What is the Primary Interest of the Capitalist Class,” American Sociological Association Annual Conference, New York, NY, August 2019.
- “Beyond Interlocking Directorates: the Policy Planning Network as the Center of Corporate Power Structure,” 3rd European Conference on Social Networks, Mainz, Germany, September 2017.

- “Class Dominance or Fracturing? Sources of Broad Interest in Lobbying by Fortune 500 Corporations,” American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Montreal, Canada, August 2017.
- “Occupied by Wall Street: Finance Capital at the Center of the Policy Network”, *Who Rules America? Who Rules the World? Three Generations of Power Structure Research*, Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, August 2016.
- “Beyond Inter-Corporate Networks: Finance Capital at the Center of Corporate Political Activity”, How Class Works Conference, Stony Brook, NY, June 2016
- “Globalists in the American Inner Circle”, XXXVI Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis, Newport Beach, CA, April 2016
- “The Inner Circle: Reports of its Death Are Greatly Exaggerated”, XXXV Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis, Brighton, UK, June 2015
- “Production Geographies and the Decline of the U.S. Automobile Industry” American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA, August 2014
- “Interlocking Directorates and Transnational Corporate Political Unity”, ISA World Congress of Sociology, Yokohama, Japan, July, 2014
- “Class Formation and the Great Flint Sit-Down Strike”, Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL, November 2013
- “Globalization and Corporate Unity”, American Sociological Association, New York, NY, August 2013
- Discussant, “Money at Work: On the Job with Priests, Poker Players and Hedge Fund Traders” by Kevin Delaney, Author Meets Critics, Eastern Sociological Association, Boston, MA, March 2013
- “Moral Economy, Structural Leverage, and Organizational Efficacy: Class Formation and the Great Flint Sit-Down Strike, Detroit 1936-7” (with Michael Schwartz), Eastern Sociological Association, Boston, MA, March 2013
- “Unity Within the Transnational Capitalist Class: The Significance of Transnational Interlocks,” American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV, August 2011
- “The Social Determinants of Performance Enhancing Drug Use in Professional Sports” (with Arnout Van de Rijt and John M. Shandra), Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, MA, March 2010
- “Why They Juice: Performance Enhancing Drug Use in Major League Baseball, 1985-2006” (with Arnout Van de Rijt and John M. Shandra), American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA, August 2009
- “Direct-to-consumer Prescription Drug Advertising in a Global Context: A comparison between New Zealand and the United States,” American Sociological Association, Boston, MA, August 2008
- “The Case for Naturopaths as Primary Care Providers,” Pacific Sociological

Association, Oakland, CA, April 2007
“Sickness for Sale: Pharmaceutical Direct-to-Consumer Television Advertising,” Pacific Sociological Association, Oakland, CA, April 2007

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate

Vanderbilt University (2012-present): Politics, State, and Society, Contemporary Social Issues: Corporations and Society, First Year Writing Seminar on War and Capitalism, Human Behavior in Organizations, Sociology through Baseball

Portland State University (2010-12): Complex Organizations, Social Change, Political Sociology

Stony Brook University (2009-10): Statistical Methods in Sociology, Historical Development of Sociological Theory

Graduate

Vanderbilt University (2012-present): Multivariate Analysis I and II

Mentorship and Supervision

Dissertation Committee:

Megan Jordan. “A Labor of Love Tainted by Money: A Comparative Study of the Emotional Labor of Grassroots Activists, Movement Professionals, and Artist Activists.” (Chair).

Hannah Ingersoll. “A Tale of Two Solutions to the College Affordability Crisis.”

Rachel Skaggs. 2018. “Writing Up: Commercial Success, Reputation, and Pathways to Success in the Careers of Nashville Songwriters”

Anna Jacobs. 2017. “Greasing the Skids: How Corporate Elite Campaign Donations Shape State-Level Collective Bargaining Legislation.”

Dasom Lee. “Corporate Morality, Disproportionality, Industry Opportunity Structures, and Non-Competing Institutional Logics”

Rachel McKane. “Assessing Gentrification, Displacement, and Patterns of Environmental Inequity Surrounding Light Rail Stations, Bus Stops, and Transit Deserts”

Master’s Thesis Committee:

Ryan Johnson. 2014. “New American Idols? The Impact of Neoliberalism on Commencement Speaker Selection.”

Rachel McKane. 2016. "Toxic Waste & Race: The Changing Demographics Surrounding Superfund Sites in Tennessee."

Magdalena Sudibjo. 2017. "The Proliferation of Open-Source Licenses: The Cooptation of an Industrial Transition Movement by Multiple Institutions."

Dasom Lee. 2017. "Intersectional Identity Politics within a Worker Movement: the 2006 Immigrant Rights Protests and Changes in Identity Politics."

Megan Jordan. 2019. "Power to the People: An Intersectional Class Approach to Racial Inequality Alleviation" (Chair)

Undergraduate Research Projects Supervised:

Isaac Swafford. 2020. A New Cold War? American Institutional Perspectives on U.S.-China Relations, 2010-2020

Lachanda Reid. 2018. "Is Your President a Dictator? Authoritarianism and the American Presidency" Sociology Honors Thesis; passed with high honors

Mary C. Dachille. 2018. "Rewriting the Rulebook: Should College Athletes Be Paid? A Marxian Analysis." Sociology Honors Thesis; passed

Clee Malfitano. 2016. "Value of an Agent within the Baseball Industry." Summer research project.

Huaren Liang. 2015-16. "Only One Way to the American Dream? College-For-All Mentality and Academic Trajectories of Minority Students with Economic Insecurities." Sociology Honors Thesis; passed with honors.

Allyson Conely. 2013-14. "A Comparative Look at Determinants of University Responses to On Campus Sexual Assault Accusations." Sociology Honors Thesis; passed with high honors

Professional Affiliations

American Sociological Association
International Network for Social Network Analysis
Society for the Study of Social Problems

Professional Service

External Service:

Article Reviewer, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*,
Work and Occupations, *British Journal of Sociology*, *Journal of World-Systems Research*, *Review of International Political Economy*, *Social Currents*

- Conference Panel Organizer, “Corporate Networks Around the Globe” (3 panels), 3rd *European Conference on Social Networks*, Mainz, Germany, September 2017
- Conference Panel Organizer, “Corporate Elite Networks” (5 panels), XXXVI *Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis*, Newport Beach, CA, April 2016
- Conference Panel Organizer, “Pathways of Capitalist Class Influence on State Policy”, *How Class Works Conference*, Stony Brook, NY, June 2016

University/Departmental Service

- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University 2021-present
- Faculty Senate, Senator, Vanderbilt University 2020-21.
- Strategic Planning and Academic Freedom Committee, Faculty Senate, Vanderbilt University 2020-21.
- AXLE Implementation Committee, College of Arts & Sciences, Vanderbilt University 2020-21.
- Departmental Speakers Series Committee, Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University 2019-2020
- Nomination, Awards, and Publicity Committee, Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University 2018-19
- Graduate Committee, Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University 2015-16, 2017-18, 2020-21
- Undergraduate Committee, Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University 2014-15
- Chair of the Departmental Speaker Series Committee, Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University 2013-14
- Quantitative Analytics Steering Committee, College of Arts & Sciences, Vanderbilt University 2016-17
- Honors Council, Faculty Advisor, College of Arts & Sciences, Vanderbilt University 2017-18