

JAYANTI OWENS

Brown University

Department of Sociology and Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs

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Employment

Mary Tefft and John Hazen White, Sr. Assistant Professor of International and Public Affairs and Sociology, Brown University, Providence, RI 2016-

Assistant Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs, Brown University, Providence, RI 2015-

Postdoctoral Fellow, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Scholars Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 2013-2015

Summer Fellow, Mathematica Policy Research, Human Services Division, Princeton, NJ 2008, 2011

Research Assistant, Urban Institute, Education Policy Center, Washington, DC 2006-2007

Education

Joint Ph.D., Sociology and Demography, Princeton University 2013

M.A., Sociology, Princeton University 2010

B.A., Political Science (concentration: Public Policy) and Sociology, Swarthmore College 2006
High Honors, Phi Beta Kappa

Research Areas and Teaching Interests

Stratification, Education, Children and Families, Race/Ethnicity, Gender, Population Health

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Owens, Jayanti. Forthcoming. "Relationships Between an ADHD Diagnosis and Future School Behaviors among Children with Mild Behavioral Problems" *Sociology of Education*.

Owens, Jayanti and Sara S. McLanahan. Forthcoming. "Unpacking the Drivers of Racial Disparities in School Suspension and Expulsion" *Social Forces*.

Featured coverage in: ABC6 News (television interview), Annenberg Institute, *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, Brown University, Futurity.org, *Huffington Post*, Journal of Blacks in Higher Education, Uprise RI, phys.org, Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality

Owens, Jayanti and Heide Jackson. 2017. "Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Severity, Diagnosis, and Later Academic Achievement in a National Sample." *Social Science Research* 61: 251-265.

Owens, Jayanti. 2016. "Early Childhood Behavior Problems and the Gender Gap in Educational Attainment in the United States" *Sociology of Education* 89(3): 236-258.

Featured coverage in: BBC (radio program), *U.S. News & World Report*, *Forbes*, *The Telegraph (UK)*, *The Seattle Times*, *Deseret News*, *Inside Higher Ed.*, *Science Daily*, *Philly.com*, *Health Day*,

WebMD, Iran Daily News, The American Interest, The Pacific Standard, American Sociological Association homepage, Associated Press (AP)

Owens, Jayanti. 2014. "Racial/Ethnic Variations in the Consequences of Religious Participation for Academic Achievement at Elite Colleges and Universities." *Sociology of Religion* 75(1): 80-112.

Massey, Douglas S. and **Jayanti Owens.** 2014. "Mediators of Stereotype Threat among Black College Students." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 37(3): 557-575.

Owens, Jayanti and Scott M. Lynch. 2012. "Black and Hispanic Immigrants' Resilience against Negative-Ability Stereotypes at Selective Colleges and Universities in the United States." *Sociology of Education* 85(4): 303-328. (Lead Article)

Owens, Jayanti and Douglas S. Massey. 2011. "Stereotype Threat and College Academic Performance: A Latent Variables Approach." *Social Science Research* 40(2011): 150-166.

Owens, Jayanti. 2010. "Foreign Students, Immigrants, Domestic Minorities and Admission to Texas' Selective Flagship Universities Before and After the Ban on Affirmative Action." *Peabody Journal of Education* 85(4): 486-510.

Undergraduate Publications:

Owens, Jayanti. 2006. "The Current Status of the Pell Grant Program: Limiting or Opening Access to Higher Education?" *Mellon Mays Undergraduate Journal* 12(1): 68-83.

Owens, Jayanti. 2006. "The Role of the Federal Government in Creating Intellectual Capital to Break the Cycle of Poverty." *Alchemy: Annual Academic Journal of Swarthmore College*

Papers Submitted for Peer Review

Owens, Jayanti. "Social Class, ADHD Diagnosis, and Child Well-Being: The Hidden Costs of Medicating for Success" (*Revise & Resubmit, Journal of Health & Social Behavior*)

Rivera, Lauren A. and **Jayanti Owens.** "Do Birds of a Feather Flock Together or Opposites Attract? Interviewer-Applicant Sex Similarity in Job Interviews" (*Under Review, Social Forces*)

Owens, Jayanti. "Social Class Differences in the Drivers of Childhood ADHD Diagnoses" (Working paper available)

Owens, Jayanti. "Diagnosing Kids on the Clinical Margins: Mediators of the Relationships between an Early Childhood ADHD Diagnosis and Later Academic Achievement among Children with Less Severe ADHD-Related Behaviors Prior to Diagnosis"

Research In-Progress

Owens, Jayanti. "Exclusionary Discipline: Race and Color Disparities in How Educators Evaluate and Punish Misbehavior"

Owens, Jayanti and Jackelyn Hwang. "School Suspension is in the Air: How School Disciplinary Environment Shapes Parent Perceptions of Children's Early Behavior Problems"

Owens, Jayanti and Prabhdeep Kehal. "Racialized Pathways: Differential Returns to Family Resources and the Effects of School Sorting on Boys' Educational Attainment"

Owens, Jayanti. “The Rise of Social Control and the Spatial Embedding of Racial Disparities in Child Behavior: The Intergenerational Effects of the Concentrated Rise in Arrests”

Fellowships and Honors

National Academy of Education (NAEd)/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$70,000)	2017-18
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$160,000)	2013-2015
Population Association of America (PAA) Poster Award	2009, 2019
Advisor, Rhymes with Reason Online Education Platform	2015
Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR), University of Wisconsin-Madison, Advancing Health Equity and Diversity (AHEAD) Pilot Grant (\$10,000)	2015
Consultant, New Jersey Department of Health & Human Services, Assisted Living Projections	2015
Invited External Examiner, Swarthmore College Honors Program, Urban Policy	2011, 2013, 2014
Departmental Nomination, Princeton University Honorific Fellowship	2012
Keller Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation Fellowship, Princeton University	2011-2012
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (\$90,000 direct)	2007-2009, 2010-2011
National Institutes of Health Traineeship in Demography (\$28,000 direct)	2009-2010
Princeton University Religion and Public Life Fellowship	2009-2010
Princeton University Fellowship (declined 2007-2011)	2007-2013
Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship	2004-2006
Harvey Milk / Grace Lee Boggs Award for Community Leadership, Swarthmore College	2006
Public Policy and International Affairs (PPIA/JSI), University of California-Berkeley	2005
Peace Corps Headquarters, Director’s Service Award for Leadership	2003

Grants

Social Science Research Institute (Brown University), Seed Grant for “Exclusionary Discipline: Racial Disparities in How Educators Evaluate and Sanction Misbehavior (\$10,000)	2018-19
Office of the Vice President for Research (Brown University), Salomon Faculty Grant Award for “Exclusionary Punishment: Racial Disparities in how Educators Evaluate and Sanction Student Misbehavior.” (\$15,000)	2017-18
Dean of the College’s Office (Brown University), Course Development Grant, “Experiments on Race, Class, and Gender.” (with Maria Abascal) (\$5,000)	2017
Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs (Brown University) Collaborative Seed Grant Award for “Exclusionary Punishment: Racial Disparities in how Educators Evaluate and Sanction Misbehavior.” (with Maria Abascal) (\$10,000)	2016
The CV Starr Program in Business, Entrepreneurship and Organizations (Brown University)	2016

Competitive Faculty Research Award for “RCT Evaluation of the Rhymes with Reason Educational Platform.” (\$8,000)	
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program (UW-Madison) Competitive Pilot Grant for “The ADHD Diagnostic Label & Academic Outcomes” (\$21,815)	2015
Social Science Research Council, Dissertation Completion Grant (\$10,000)	2012
Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, Dissertation Research Grant (\$10,000)	2012
National Science Foundation, Dissertation Improvement Grant. “Childhood Behavioral Skills & Educational Attainment” Doug Massey (PI) and Jayanti Owens (Co-PI) (\$6,780)	2011-12
National Science Foundation, Travel Grant (\$2,500)	2010
La Universidad Católica (Santiago, Chile), Global Network on Inequality Grant (\$10,000)	2010
Social Science Research Council, Pre-Dissertation Research Grant	2009
National Institutes of Health, Spatial and Multi-Level Modeling Workshop Grant	2009
Social Science Research Council, Travel Grant	2008
Princeton University, Office of Population Research & Dept. of Sociology, Travel Grants	2007-2011

Invited Talks (Since 2014)

“Exclusionary Discipline: Racial Disparities in How Educators Evaluate and Sanction Misbehavior.”

- University of Texas-Austin, Population Center (Apr 2020, scheduled)
- University of Wisconsin, Interdisciplinary Training Seminar (Mar 2020, scheduled)
- Harvard University, Social Demography Seminar (Feb 2020, scheduled)
- Duke University, Population Center (Feb 2020, scheduled)
- Swarthmore College, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Research Fellowship (MMUF) Mid-Atlantic Annual Conference; Keynote address (Nov 2019, scheduled)
- Brown University, Annenberg Institute (Apr 2019)
- University of Connecticut, Industrial/Organizations Unit Colloquium, Department of Psychological Sciences (Mar 2019)
- Princeton University, Education Research Section (ERS) Workshop (Apr 2018)
- Princeton University, Department of Politics, Experiments Workshop (Feb 2018)

“Differential Punishment: Unpacking the Drivers of Racial Disparities in School Suspension and Expulsion in the U.S.”

- Brown University, Taubman Center for American Politics and Policy (May 2019)
- Boston College, Department of Sociology (Jan 2018)
- New York University, Department of Applied Statistics, Social Sciences, and Humanities (Dec 2017)
- University of Notre Dame, Department of Sociology (Nov 2017)
- Brown University, Department of Education (Apr 2017)
- Princeton University, Office of Population Research (Nov 2016)
- Princeton University, Fragile Families and Child Well-Being Seminar (Mar 2015)

“Racial Differences in the Returns to Early Cognitive Ability”

- Princeton University, Fragile Families and Child Well-Being Seminar (Sep 2017)

“Unintended Consequences of Medical Adaptation to Academic Pressure: ADHD Diagnosis, Socioeconomic Status, and Children’s School Behaviors”

- Brown University, Taubman Center for American Politics and Policy (Sep 2019)
- University of Wisconsin, Department of Population Health Sciences (Apr 2015)
- University of Wisconsin, Interdisciplinary Training Seminar (ITP) (Apr 2015)

“Coloring the ‘Boys will be Boys’ Chronicle: Race and the Rise in Behavior Problems Across Two Decades”

- Brown University, Population Studies and Training Center (Apr 2016)
- University of California, Berkeley, Department of Demography (Feb 2016)
- Brown University, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs (Feb 2016)
- Princeton University, Office of Population Research (Dec 2015)
- Rutgers University, Department of Sociology (Dec 2015)
- Brown University, Center for the Study of Race & Ethnicity in America (Nov 2015)
- University of Wisconsin, Center for Demography & Ecology, Madison, WI (Feb 2014)

Conference Presentations (Since 2014)

“Children Under Pressure: Socioeconomic Status, ADHD Diagnoses, and Future Social and Academic Behaviors”

- American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, New York NY (Aug 2019)

“Unintended Consequences of Medical Adaptation to Academic Pressure: ADHD Diagnosis, Socioeconomic Status, and Children’s School Behaviors”

- American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (Aug 2018)

“Exclusionary Discipline: Racial Disparities in How Educators Evaluate and Sanction Misbehavior.”

- Society for Longitudinal & Life Course Studies (SSLCS) Annual Conference, Milan (Jul 2018)

“The Origins of the Racial Gap in School Suspension and Expulsion”

- American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, Montreal, CA (Aug 2017)
- Population Association of America Annual Meeting (PAA), Chicago, IL (Apr 2017)

“Coloring the ‘Boys will be Boys’ Chronicle: Race and the Rise in Behavior Problems Across Two Decades”

- Population Association of America Annual Meeting (PAA), Washington, DC (Apr 2016)
- Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM), Albuquerque, NM (Nov 2014)
- Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (SLLS), Lausanne, Switzerland (Oct 2014)
- Population Association of America Annual Meeting (PAA), Boston, MA (May 2014)

“Diagnosing Kids on the Clinical Margins: The Effects of an ADHD Diagnostic Label on Academic Performance among Children with Less Severe ADHD”

- Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM), Miami, FL (Nov 2015)
 - Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (SLLS), Dublin (Oct 2015)
 - ASA, Chicago, IL (Aug 2015)
 - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Meeting, Chapel Hill, NC (May 2015)
 - PAA, San Diego, CA (May 2015)
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Teaching

Graduate Courses:

Sociology of Discrimination (SOC 2260B), Brown University: Fall 2019

Statistics II for Public Policy Analysis (PLCY 2035), Brown University: Fall 2015, Fall 2016

Undergraduate Courses:

Discrimination and Public Policy (PLCY 1701R), Brown University: Fall 2019

Introduction to Statistics for Social Research (SOC 1100), Brown University: Spring 2019

Experiments on Race, Class, and Gender (SOC 1290), Brown University: Spring 2017

Methods of Social Research (SOC 1020), Brown University: Spring 2019, Spring 2016, Spring 2017

Teaching Assistant/Preceptor:

Methods of Social Research (WWS 333), Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University: Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Fall 2010

Introduction to Urban Studies (SOC 201/URB 301), Princeton University: Fall 2008

Training in Pedagogy:

Teaching Observations, Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University: Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2019

Fellow, Teagle Foundation Seminar on Teaching and Learning, Princeton University: Fall 2010, Spring 2011

Student Mentoring

Graduate Advising:

Dissertation Committee Member: Ieva Zumbayte

Independent Study/R&R Advisor: Jonathan Acosta and Chiv Heng (Fall 2019)

MA Thesis Reader: Prabhdeep Kehal (May 2017)

First-Year Faculty Mentor: Jordan Mosby (2019-20)

Qualifying Examination Committee Member: Chinyere Agbai, Hilary Barker, Tate Kihara, Salma Mutwafy, Haoming Song, Keenan Wilder, Elizabeth Brennan, Anairis Hernandez Jabalera

Undergraduate Advising:

Sociology Thesis Advisor: Kendra Offiaeli (2019-20), Uchechukwu Onwunaka (2018-19), Timothy Ittner (2017-18)

Sociology Thesis Reader: Jardelle Johnson (2018-19)

Watson Institute Policy Capstone Advisor: Uchechukwu Onwunaka (2018-19)

Taubman Center Student-Faculty Research Grant Supervisor and Mentor: Kathleen Scheibal (Summer 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Summer 2019, Fall 2019), Amy Miao (Fall 2017), Haley Schiff (Summer/Fall 2018)

Sociology Independent Study/R&R: Austin Martin (Fall 2016)

UTRA Undergraduate Research Supervisor and Mentor: Kathleen Scheibal (Summer & Fall 2018, Spring 2019), Timothy Ittner (Summer 2017), Margot Cohen (Fall 2017), Emilia Halvorsen (Fall 2017), Uchechukwu Onwunaka (Summer 2018)

Creator & Facilitator, BehaviorsLab: online tools for undergraduates to study social inequality (2017-)

Career Mentoring Program, Sociology of Education Section, ASA

Denise Ambriz (2019)

Professional Service

Service to Brown University:

Sociology Department:

Organizer, Sociology Department Colloquium Series (2019-20)
Member, Target of Opportunity (TOO) Search Committee (2019-20)
Member, Ad Hoc Governance Committee (Spring 2019, AY 2019-20)
Organizer, Experimental Design and Implementation Workshop (2019)
Member, TOO Search Committee (Fall 2016)
Member, Preliminary Exam Committees in Social Inequality, Social Demography, and Health and Illness (2015-)
Reviewer, Graduate Admissions in Sociology, Areas of Gender, Social Inequality, Education, Race/Ethnicity (2015-)
Member, Organizational Committee for 125th Anniversary Celebration of Brown Sociology (2015)

Watson Institute:

Member, Target of Opportunity Search Committee (2019-20)
Concentration Adviser, Undergraduate concentrators in Public Policy (~10 students/year) (2015-)
Member, Public Policy Undergraduate Concentration Committee (2015-)
MPA Advisor, Brown Master in Public Affairs (~5 students/year) (2015-2017)
Organizer, Panel on Social Inequality (Keynote: Prof. Tom DiPrete, Columbia) (2019)
Steering Committee Member, Brown Public Policy Program (2016-2017)
Steering Committee Member, Women's Empowerment Series (WE) (2016-2017)
Advisor, Health Policy Track, Masters in Public Affairs Program (2015-2017)

University:

Creator & Instructor, University-Level "Power, Diversity, and Identity" Course (SOC1290, UNIV 1701) (2017-)
Speaker, "The Academic Job Search: Negotiating the Job Offer," CareerLAB (2015)

Service to the Discipline:

Elected Member, Sociology of Education Section Council (ASA 2019-2022)
Selection Committee, Willard Waller Career Award, Sociology of Education Section (ASA 2020)
Selection Committee, Sections on Education Policy (APPAM 2016)

Invited Discussant or Session Chair:

Chair, "Intended and Unintended Consequences of Health Care Mechanisms" (APPAM 2015)
Discussant, "Demography of Mental Health" (PAA 2015)
Chair, "Inputs into Children's Cognitive and Socio-Emotional Wellbeing" (APPAM 2014)
Discussant, "Socioeconomic Dimensions of Immigrant Assimilation" (PAA 2014)
Discussant, Global Network on Inequality Annual Conference (Princeton University 2009)

Ad-Hoc Reviewer: *American Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Sociology of Education*, *Demography*, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Educational Researcher*, *Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS)*, *American Education Research Journal (AERJ)*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management (JPAM)*, *Social Science Research*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Sociology of Religion*, *Sociological Quarterly*, *Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference (APPAM) Education Section*, *Gender & Society*

Affiliations:

Faculty Affiliate, Annenberg Institute, Brown University (2018-)

Faculty Affiliate, Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University (2015-)

Professional Memberships:

American Sociological Association (ASA)

Population Association of America (PAA)

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)

Academy of Management (AOM)

Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (SLLS)

Specialized Skills

Languages: Spanish, Marathi

External Certifications: Spatial and Multi-Level Modeling (National Institutes of Health, Pennsylvania State University, College Station, PA, June 2009)

Specialized Skills: STATA (for GLM, survival analysis), R, MPlus (for structural equations, latent growth curve models), MLwin (for multi-level models), LaTeX; Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint

Media Interviews

[BBC News](#) – Analysis – Interview with David Grossman (Released: 7 October 2019)

[ABC6 News](#) – Interview with John Krinjak (Released: 31 July 2019)

Media Coverage of Research

Jill Kimball. “Teacher treatment of student factors into racial gap in school suspensions” [Brown University](#) (18 July 2019)

Jayanti Owens. “Unpacking the Drivers of Racial Disparities in School Suspension and Expulsion” [Annenberg Institute \(video interview\)](#) (July 2019)

Jill Kimball-Brown. “Harsher Punishment Leads to More Suspensions for Black Kids” [Futurity.org](#) (22 July 2019)

“Racial Disparities in School Discipline Have Little to Do with Different Student Behavior” [Journal of Blacks in Higher Education](#) (29 July 2019)

ASA News. “Early Behavior Problems Impact Educational Attainment of Boys More than Girls” [American Sociological Association](#) (3 August 2016)

Nick Morrison. “Poor Behavior Hits Boys Hardest” [Forbes](#) (22 June 2016)

Lauren Camera. “Boys Bear the Brunt of School Discipline” [US News and World Report](#) (22 June 2016)

Javier Espinoza. “Naughty girls ‘more likely to get away with misbehaving’, study shows” [The Telegraph UK](#) (22 June 2016)

John Higgins. “Same behavior problems hinder boys more than girls” [The Seattle Times](#) (24 June 2016)

“Early behavior problems impact long-term educational attainment more for boys than girls” [Science News](#) (24 June 2016)

Eric Schulzke. "New study sheds light on girls' resilience and the academic gender gap" [Deseret News](#) (12 July 2016)

Raymond Scott. "Report: Behavior Discipline Policies Contribute to Gender Gap in Ed" [Education News](#) (02 July 2016)

Scott Jaschik. "Early Behavioral Issues, Gender and College Attainment" [Inside Higher Ed](#) (22 June 2016)

Tom Jacobs. "The Downside of ADHD Diagnosis" [Pacific Standard Magazine](#) (14 June 2017)

Stephen Suh. "Not So Different: Color-Blindness and Diversity" [The Society Pages](#) (13 July 2015)

Gender Matters. "School Discipline Hits Boys Hardest" [The American Interest](#) (22 June 2016)

PTI "Girls more likely to get away with misbehaving than boys" [The Free Press Journal](#) (22 June 2016)

"Naughty girls more likely to get away with misbehaving" [The Iran Daily News](#) (22 June 2016)

Andrew Sitorus. "Naughty Girls 'More Likely to Get Away with Misbehaving', Study Shows" [CEI International](#) (22 June 2016)

Chika Dunu. "Boys' Childhood Behavioral Problems Negatively Affect Academics in Adulthood" [The Epoch Times](#) (24 June 2016)

Robert Franklin. "Discrimination in Punishment By Schools Against Boys Increases Education Gap" [National Parents Organization Blog](#) (27 June 2016)

"Los problemas de conducta afectan mas a los ninos que a las ninas" [La Prensa](#) (26 June 2016)

Robert Preidt. "Behavior Woes Hamper More Boys vs. Girls in School" [WebMD](#) (22 June 2016)

Jaleesa Baukman. "Early Childhood Behavior Problems May Hurt Boys More Than Girls Once They Get to High School" [Medical Daily](#) (22 June 2016)