

# JAYANTI OWENS

Brown University

Department of Sociology and Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs

[jayanti\\_owens@brown.edu](mailto:jayanti_owens@brown.edu)

[www.jayantiowens.org](http://www.jayantiowens.org)

## 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 <i>High Honors, Phi Beta Kappa</i>	2006

## Research Areas and Teaching Interests

---

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

## Peer-Reviewed Publications (\*graduate student collaborator)

---

**Owens, Jayanti.** Forthcoming. "Social Class, ADHD Diagnosis, and Child Well-Being" *Journal of Health & Social Behavior*.

**Owens, Jayanti.** 2020. "Relationships Between an ADHD Diagnosis and Future School Behaviors among Children with Mild Behavioral Problems" *Sociology of Education*.

**Owens, Jayanti** and Sara S. McLanahan. 2019. "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**

---

Rivera, Lauren A. and **Jayanti Owens.** "Glass Floors and Glass Ceilings: Interviewer-Applicant Sex Similarity in Job Interviews" (*Revised & Resubmitted, Social Forces*)

**Owens, Jayanti.** "Social Class Differences in the Drivers of Childhood ADHD Diagnoses" (*Under Review*)

#### **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"

**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”

### **Fellowships and Honors**

---

William T. Grant Foundation Faculty Scholars Award	2020-25
Foundation for Child Development Promising Scholars Award	2020-21
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**

---

William T. Grant Foundation Faculty Scholars Award (\$350,000)	2020-25
Foundation for Child Development Promising Scholars Award (\$20,000)	2020-21
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) Competitive Faculty Research Award for "RCT Evaluation of the Rhymes with Reason Educational Platform." (\$8,000)	2016
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."

- Princeton University, Center for Child Health and Wellbeing Seminar (May 2020, scheduled)
- University of Texas-Austin, Population Center Seminar (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)
- 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 (Aug 2019)
- Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meeting, Austin (April 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.”

- Population Association of America Annual Meeting (PAA), Washington, DC (Apr 2020)
- American Education Research Assoc. Annual Meeting (AERA), San Francisco (Apr 2020)
- 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)
- American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (Aug 2015)
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Meeting, Chapel Hill, NC (May 2015)
- Population Association of America Annual Meeting (PAA), San Diego, CA (May 2015)

## **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, Spring 2020

### 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 Zumbyte

*Independent Study/Re&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), Timothy Ittner (2017-18)

*Sociology Thesis Reader:* Jardelle Johnson (2018-19)

*Watson Institute Policy Capstone Advisor:* Hannah Rosenstein (2019-20), 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/Research:* 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 125<sup>th</sup> 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)

[Watson Institute, Trending Globally Podcast](#) – Interview with Sarah Baldwin-Beneich (Released: 26 September 2019)

#### Media Coverage of Research

---

Jill Barshay. “Study questions educational benefits of labeling kids with mild forms of ADHD” [The Hechinger Report](#) (9 March 2020)

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