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**yan Ashley Caldwell**rcaldwell@soka.edu ♦ (979) 324-9109 *mobile*

1 University Drive ♦ Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

**Director of Social and Behavioral Sciences Concentration**

**associate professor of sociology**

**Soka University of America**

My primary areas of interest are cultural and social theory, with an added emphasis on gender, sexuality, feminist and queer theory given my extensive training in women’s/gender and sexuality studies. I currently research how gender and sexuality are understood within social organizations and groups, and how these concepts become defined and socially constructed regarding identity and value, norms, institutions, power, and through practices/performance. I am concerned with how certain bodies and identities question normativity and what this might mean for theoretical and experiential understandings of the body in several ways—for the individual, as a “self” existing under the constraints of culture (micro and macro), in reference to one’s community, with regard to intersectionality, and how “possibilities” of identity (gender and beyond) are linked to specific contexts for conception and value.  *How can we think beyond these concepts and constructs?* I further engage my academic interests as a non-profit board member with The Los Angeles Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (as Sister Electra-Complex), where I research how cultural representations engage ideas of empowerment and stigma, and through performative queer scholar-activism (“drag-tivism”). My nonprofit work benefits several areas simultaneously as a feedback loop: the community in terms of service to/knowledge of community needs, my research agenda as an embedded public sociologist with insider knowledge, my teaching/students given my constant engagement with individual’s/communities’ lived experiences associated with my teaching/research expertise.

My varied and multiple areas of research have delightfully merged in practice and praxis for me associated with medical sociology and public health (in)equity, and I have been able to engage doctors, medical students, PAs, chiropractors, and other health professionals in identifying best practices for institutional, patient, and self-care regarding issues of race, gender, sex, and queer sexuality. These trainings engage not only the folks being trained, but also best, larger practices for university educational materials, research, and course development. My goal is to begin discussions about privilege/partial perspective regarding essentialized cis-heteronormative presuppositions for medical care, and how these assumptions do not fully equate to patient experience. Trainings were developed with academic administrators and deans and with goals of transformative justice as central to organization.

Recent areas of scholarship include: drag and performance art; critical disability studies and education; studies of body and embodiment; CRT and intersectionality; the production/performance of cultural identity; power and consent within kink and BDSM culture; and the art of interview. At all levels, I apply social theoretical concepts to empirical data to understand social behavior and power differentials to provide analysis of social and cultural activity.

Future areas of scholarship and research reflect existing interests but are not limited to them. My interdisciplinary training allows me to develop a research and teaching strategy with cross-discipline applications. As a bonus, I am an applied ethicist with an extensive background in philosophy, ethics, bioethics, social epistemology and power analysis. I have applied training as an ethicist, overlapping with the social sciences in my previous role as chair of The Internal Review Board, as Director of Social and Behavioral Sciences, through my current membership with CARAS (a sexualities research consortium), and also as an activist-scholar with The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

**Education**

**Ph.D. in Sociology,** Texas A&M University 2007 *Dissertation Title:* Gender and the Homoerotic Logic of Torture at Abu Ghraib

<http://oaktrust.library.tamu.edu/bitstream/handle/1969.1/ETD-TAMU-1617/CALDWELL-DISSERTATION.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

*Dissertation Chair:* Stjepan G. Mestrovic, PhD,

*Committee:* John J. McDermott, PhD, Alex McIntosh, PhD, Don Albrecht, PhD

**Women's/Gender Studies Certificate,** Texas A&M University 2006

**M.A. in Philosophy,** Texas Tech University 2002

*Thesis Title:* Exposing the Domination of Language: An Investigation of Luce Irigaray’s

Project in “Women on the Market”

*Thesis Committee:* Alice Sowaal, PhD and Mark Owen Webb, PhD

**B.A. in Liberal Arts,** Austin College 1999

*Capstone Title*: A Study in Bioethics: Killing or Letting Die

*Capstone Mentor*: Kurann Durland

Philosophy Concentration: study abroad spent in Roma, Italy

**Fields of Research & Teaching**

Social Theory (Classical, Contemporary & Postmodern)

Philosophy of Feminism Sociology of Knowledge Gender & Sexuality Queer Theory Race, Gender, Science & Technology Cultural Sociology

Critical (Dis)ability Philosophy of the Social Sciences Social Problems

Sociology of Culture Sociology of Education Bioethics

Women’s/Gender Studies Institutional Diversity Training Applied Ethics

Sexuality, Consent & Power Philosophy of Social Sciences Social Inequality

Body and Embodiment Feminist, Queer & Transgender Theory Cultural Deviance

Postmodern Culture/Theory Queer and LGBTQ+ Studies Social Movements

Critical Performance/Drag Philosophy of Aesthetics Intersectionality

Critical Race Theory Gender and Forensic Sociology “Black Feminism”

Archival studies Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Critical Disability Studies

Critical Drag Transgender Identities and the Body LGBTQ+ Studies

Sociology of War/Conflict/War Crimes Queer archives

# Qualitative Methods Special Topics (Critical Methods)

Community Based Learning, Applied Sociology & Activism

**Teaching Experience**

**Facilitator, Diversity, Equity, and Inequality** 2021 to present

southern california university of health sciences

*Provided multiple sets of tailored specific DEI discussions associated with LGBTQ+ identities using an intersectional health equity lens for faculty, staff, chiropractors, doctors, physician assistants, and additional health sciences clinical employees*

**Director, Social and Behavioral Sciences Concentration** 2019- Present

Soka University of America

**Associate Professor,** Soka University of America Fall 2008 to Present

*Department:* Social and Behavioral Sciences, Sociology Concentration

*Courses:* Social Theory (Classical, Contemporary and Postmodern), Feminist Theory, Queer Theory, Modes of Inquiry, Introduction to Sociology, Environmental Justice, Social Movements and Social Change, Social Problems, Introduction to Women’s Studies, Transgender Identity and the Body, The Culturally Deviant Body, Body and Embodiment, The Philosophy of Art and Aesthetics, Postmodern Theory and the Body, Fashion and Social Movements, General Ed Liberal Arts Classes (Modes of Inquiry, Core 1&2), Critical Drag, Sociology of Disabilities, Pleasure Activism, Archival Research, LGBTQ studies, Power and Sexuality

**Instructor,** Houston Community College Summer 2006 to 2009

*Departments:*  English and Philosophy

*Courses:* Introduction to Philosophy (7 sections), Ethics (34 sections), Philosophy of Feminism (1 section), Distance Learning (DL) Classes (*distance education certificate obtained*)

**Instructor,** San Jacinto Community College Fall 2006 to 2009

*Departments:* Sociology and Philosophy

*Courses:* Introduction to Sociology (5 sections), Introduction to Philosophy (12 sections),

DL Classes (*distance education certificate obtained*)

**Graduate Instructor,** Texas A&M University Spring 2006 to 2007

*Department:* Sociology

*Courses:* Introduction to Sociology (3 sections)

**Graduate Instructor,** Texas A&M UniversitySpring 2006

*Department:* Women’s Studies

*Courses:* Introduction to Women’s Studies: Gender in a Transnational World,

Qualitative Research Methods, Senior Honor’s Independent Study

**Graduate Instructor,** Texas A&M University Spring 2004 to 2005

*Department:* Women's Studies Program

*Courses:* Introduction toWomen's Studies: Gender in a Transnational World (4 sections)

**Graduate Instructor,** Texas A&M UniversitySummer 2004

*Department:* Sociology

*Course:* Social Problems

**Teaching Assistant,** Texas A&M University Fall 2003

*Department:* Sociology

*Course:* Contemporary Theory, Introduction to Sociology

**Graduate Instructor/Teaching Assistant,** Texas Tech University1999 to 2002

*Department:* Philosophy

*Courses:* Beginning Philosophy, Introduction to Ethics, Logic

**Publications**

Ryan Ashley Caldwell and Chloe Simson, “Dead Labor in Marx,” The Routledge Handbook of Political

Science (*looking for a journal to publish*).

Ryan Ashley Caldwell, “The Keys for Locks: Border Queers/Queer Borders *or* Community and

Possibility for Identity,” Imagined Bodies, Lived Ambiguities, Ed. B. Garrick Harden, Rowman & Littlefield/Lexington Publishing, 2019.

Ryan Ashley Caldwell and Kristi Wilson. “Trans-Identity: Theory, Politics and Identity Across the Pacific

Basin,” The Pacific Basin: An Introduction, Eds. Barter and Weiner, Routledge, 2017.

Ryan Ashley Caldwell, Introduction, The Gorgeous Project. 2016.

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/11/04/the-gorgeous-project_n_4171464.html>

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley and Keith Kerr. “Smokescreens and Shadows: Depicting the Enemy Within,”

International Journal of Jean Baudrillard Studies, 2013.

<https://baudrillardstudies.ubishops.ca/smokescreens-and-shadows-depicting-the-enemy-within/>

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley. “Gender Matters! Socio-legal Studies, Courts-Martials and The U.S. Military,”

The Handbook of Forensic Sociology and Psychology, Eds. Stephen J. Morewitz and Mark L. Goldstein,

Springer, 2013*.*

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley. *Fallgirls*! : Gender and The *Framing* of Torture at Abu Ghraib, London: Ashgate

International Publishing, 2012.

<https://library.oapen.org/bitstream/id/032f0f4d-4758-4ade-b624-112f81584245/1004306.pdf>

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley and Stjepan Mestrovic. “The War on Terror in the Early 21 Century:

Applying Lessons from Sociological Classics and Sites of Abuse,” The Routledge Handbook of War

and Society, Eds., Morton Ender and Steve Carlton-Fords, Taylor and Francis, 2011.

Mestrovic, Stjepan and Ryan Ashley Caldwell. “Durkheim’s Concept of De´re`glement Retranslated,

Parsons’ Reading of Durkheim Re-parsed: An Examination of Post-emotional Displacement,

Scapegoating and Responsibility at Abu Ghraib,” in Durkheim and Violence, Ed. S. Romi Mukherjee,

Wiley-Blackwell and UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Social

and Human Sciences Sector), 2010. (Part of the International Social Science Journal Monograph Series)

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley. “The Unicorn is Dead: Postmodernism, Consumption, and the Production of the

Self.” Co-opting Culture: Questions of Culture and Power in Sociology and Cultural Studies. Ed. B. Garrick

Harden and Robert Carley. Rowman & Littlefield/Lexington Publishing, 2009.

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley. “Gender Queer Productions and the Bridge of Cultural Legitimacy: “*Realness*” and “*Identity*” in *Paris is Burning.”* Co-opting Culture: Questions of Culture and Power in Sociology and Cultural Studies. Ed. B. Garrick Harden and Robert Carley. Rowman & Littlefield/Lexington Publishing, 2009.

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley and Stjepan G. Mestrovic. “Torture, What is it Good For? Absolutely Nothing! An Analysis of the Response to Abuse at Abu Ghraib.” *Theory in Action,* Transformative Studies Institute, 2008.

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley and Stjepan G. Mestrovic. “The Role of Gender in ‘Expressive’ Abuse at Abu Ghraib,” *Cultural Sociology*, Sage, 2008.

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley. “Empiricism,” International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences, 2007.

- “Leisure Class”

- “Natural Rights”

- “Suicide”

- “Thorstein Veblen”

- “Talcott Parsons”

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley. “A Parent’s Guide to the Prevention of Drugs, Tobacco and Alcohol in Adolescents and Children.” Clear Creek Independent School District, Fall 2005.

Caldwell, Ryan Ashley. “How to Give a Public Forum.” ACLU Press, 1991.

**Works in Progress**

Disability and Education Reader

Archival Project, The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (cleaning, organizing, documenting, and indexing)

Transgender Equity Study at Lamar University (IRB APPLICATION *submitted*)

Intersectional Transformative Justice Approaches in Medical Equity: a workbook (with Liz Sanchez, MA)

The University of YOU: An Academic Workbook for Critically Queering Everything

“Drag Professors Guide to Gender: A WERKbook”

Drag Me with You: Interviews on Gender and Identity

**Professional Development/Conferences and Performances**

**Invited Plenary Speaker,** Queer Communities Conference, Lamar Universityrescheduled/TBA

**Student/Faculty Roundtable Co-Organizer and Presenter,** “Collaborative, Intersectional 2023

Disability Studies and Knowledge Making From the Ground Up: A Student and Faculty

Roundtable,” in Community, Civic, and Public Contexts of Writing, *Doing Hope in Desperate*

*Times*, Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)/National Council of

Teachers of English (NCTE), Chicago, IL.

**Roundtable Presenter,** “Trigger Warnings: Lighting the Way Forward and/or 2022

Fracturing Classroom Communities,” at *Sueños! Perusing the Light*, National Council of Teachers

of English (NCTE), Anaheim, CA.

**Student/Faculty Roundtable Co-Organizer and Presenter,** “Changing the 2022

Reflections of Power: Academic Praxis, Participatory Change-Making, and Responding

to Marginalized Student Voices,” Rhetoric Society of America, annual meeting, Baltimore, MD.

**Accepted Paper,** “Drag-Activism (Dragtivism!!) and Community Building,” virtual summer 2021

seminar, The National Social Science Association, San Diego.

**Presider and Discussant,** Section on the Sociology of Sex and Gender, Roundtable on 2020

Theorizing Gender, Sex, and Sexuality, American Sociological Association, Annual meeting

**Paper Presenter,** “The Keys for Locks: Border Queers/Queer Borders or Community 2019

And Possibility for Identity, “ American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Section on

Body and Embodiment Session : The Body and Activism, New York.

**Co-Organizer and Presider,** Section on Marxist Sociology, American Sociological Association 2018

Annual meeting, Philadelphia

**Professional development/Conferences and Performances, Continued**

**Performance/Discussion Leader,** “An Object of Study,” with Ivan Lupi as part of 2016

TRANSFORMATIONS, Curated by Hector Canonge of LiVEART.US, Queens Museum, Brooklyn, NY

**Paper Presenter,** “TITS OUT: Border Queers, Communities, and Possibilities for Queer Identities ” 2016

Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference, Rhetoric and Literacy on the Border**,**

Session on Queer Borders/Border Queers, San Diego, CA

**Organizer and Presider,** Section on Queer Theory, Southwestern Sociological Association 2016

Annual meeting, Las Vegas

**Organizer,** Section on Marxist Sociology Roundtables, American Sociological Association. 2014

Annual meeting, San Francisco

**Attendee,** Alternative Sexualities Conference: Cultural Competencies, Clinical Issues, Research 2013

And Education, The Center for Research and Education on Gender and Sexuality, San Francisco

State University

**Presenter,** LINKS:Rhetorics, Feminisms and Global Communities, Session on Sex Panics: Queer 2013

Interventions, “Sex Panic and Surveillance: Teaching Pleasure and Danger,” Stanford University

**Attendee,** Psychodynamics and the Social, 2013- 2014

Psychoanalysis and Culture Pre-ASA Conference sponsored by CUNY, New York

**Paper Presenter,** Homonationalism and Pinkwashing Conference 2013

“Forced Feminization, Heteronormativity and Gender Abuse: Torture at Abu Ghraib, the

Zimbardo Prison Study and Beyond”

The Center for Gay and Lesbian Studies, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TsBlL48YJdc&list=PLjVC7odFrjQDiR4OCnHsDWlxJ5Eu7SDUe&index=1>

**Section Organizer and Presider,** American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York 2013

Session on Marxist Sociology, “Marxist Analysis of Intersectionalities, Margins and Challenges to

the Status Quo: Class, Gender, Identity, Race and Sexualities”

**Presider**, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York 2013

Section on Peace, War and Social Conflict, “Institutions and Violence”

**Working Group Member**, The Inaugural Southern California Rhetoric and Composition 2012

Research Symposium, “Queer Theory,” University of California, Irvine

**Paper Presenter,** American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO 2012

Session on Visual Sociology, “Visual Representations of Abu Ghraib: Fashionable Torture,

Gender and Images of Homoerotic Power”

**Paper Presenter,** American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO 2012

Session on Sociology of Culture, “Erik Erikson’s Staged Development of Self: Sociological Analysis

Of the Implied Oedipus Complex”

**Section Organizer and Presider,** American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO 2012

Section on Marxist Sociology, “Marxism, Culture and Art”

**Professional development/Conferences and Performances, Continued**

**Paper Presenter,** Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA 2012

Section on Cultural Processes Across Time and Place, **“**Killing for Sport: A Forensic Sociological

Account of US War Crimes and American Cultural Contradictions of Violence”

**Special Topics Section Presider,** American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV 2011

Sociologists Without Borders, “The Sociological Implications of Wikileaks”

**Section Presider,** American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV 2011

Section on Marxist Sociology, “Discussion of Critical Social Media Use.”

**Proposed Session**, Special Topics Session on War Crimes 2011

American Sociological Association

**Committee Member,** Graduate Student Paper Competition (The Albert Szymanski-T.R. 2010 to 2013

Young/Critical Sociology Student Paper Award), Section on Marxist Sociology

American Sociological Association

**Paper Presenter,** Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA 2010

Section on Contemporary Culture and Identity

“Smokescreens and Shadows: The Enemy Within.”

By Ryan Ashley Caldwell and Keith Kerr

**Paper Presenter,** American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA 2010 Section on Peace, War, and Social Conflict

“Anomie and the War on Terror: The Durkheimian Tradition Used to Interrogate Sites of Abuse.”

By Ryan Ashley Caldwell and Stjepan Mestrovic

**Section Presider,** American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA 2010

Section on Marxist Sociology, “Organizing for a Better World: Challenges, Crisis, and Contradictions.”

**Paper Presenter,** VII Annual Social Theory Forum 2010

Critical Social Theory: Freud and Lacan for the 21st Century, Boston, MA

“Freud, Erikson, and the Sadistic Parent: Bi-Aggression and the Reverse Oedipus Complex.”

By Keith Kerr and Ryan Ashley Caldwell

**Paper Presenter,** National Social Science Association Annual Meeting, Reno, NV 2010

Section on Culture and Personality, “Queer and the Culture of Kinship in *Paris is Burning.*”

**Paper Presenter,** Southwestern Social Science Association, Annual Meeting, Denver, CO 2009

Section on Social Theory, “Bi-Aggression and the Reverse Oedipus Complex.”

By Keith Kerr and Ryan Ashley Caldwell

**Section Organizer/Presider,** American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA 2009

Section on Marxist Sociology, “Giving Marxism Legs: Theory and Methods in Marxism.”

**Paper Presenter,** Pacific Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA 2009

Section of Gender in Peace and War, “‘Reality’ & Simulacra at Abu Ghraib.”

**Professional development/Conferences and Performances, Continued**

**Paper Presenter,** American Philosophical Association, Regional Meeting of the 2009

New Mexico, West Texas Philosophical Society, Houston, TX

“Power and the Rationalization of Rationality or The Cultural Logic of Abu Ghraib.”

**Invited Speaker,** American Philosophical Association, Regional Meeting of the 2009

New Mexico, West Texas Philosophical Society, Houston, TX

Special session on “The Future of Philosophy.”

**Paper Presenter,** American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA 2008

Section of Crime, Law, and Deviance

“It was NOT the Lucifer Effect: Zimbardo, Women, and Abu Ghraib.”

By Ryan Ashley Caldwell and Stjepan G. Mestrovic.

**Section Presider,** American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA 2008

Section on Crime, Law and Deviance, “Anomie and Strain.”

**Section Presider,** American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA 2008

Section on Marxist Sociology, “Marx and Marxism in the Classroom.”

**Attendee,** Human Rights in America and Boston Conference 2008

Sponsored by Sociologists Without Borders

**Paper Presenter,** American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, New York 2007

Section of Peace, War and Social Conflict

“Reality and Gender Simulacra at Abu Ghraib and Associated Courts-Martial.”

By Ryan Ashley Caldwell and Stjepan G. Mestrovic.

**Co-Organizer/Paper Presenter,** American Sociological Association, New York 2007

Special Session: War Crimes and the Trials of Abu Ghraib, “The Women of Abu Ghraib.”

**Distinguished Lecture Series Presenter,** Gender Studies Program 2007

Hoxie Thompson Auditorium, Austin College, Sherman, TX, “The Women of Abu Ghraib.”

**Paper Presenter,** National Women’s Studies Association, Annual Meeting, Oakland, CA 2006

“Sugar and Spice, Everything Nice?”

**Paper Presenter,** American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Montreal 2006

Section of Peace, War, and Social Conflict

“Torture, What is it Good For? Absolutely Nothing! An Analysis of the Response to Abuse at Abu Ghraib.”

By Ryan Ashley Caldwell and Stjepan G. Mestrovic.

**Paper Presenter,** American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Montreal 2006

Section of Peace, War and Social Conflict

“Analyzing the Role of Gender in an Abu Ghraib Courts-Martial.”

By Stjepan G. Mestrovic and Ryan Ashley Caldwell.

**Paper Presenter,** American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA 2005

Section on Postmodern Theory, “Identity in a Postmodern Culture: What Happens When the Unicorn Dies?”

**Professional development/Conferences and Performances, Continued**

**Paper Presenter,** World Conference of the International Institute of Sociology, Stockholm, Sweden 2005

“The Unicorn is Dead: Postmodernism, Consumption, and the Production of the *Self.*”

**Paper Presenter,** Southwestern Social Science Association, New Orleans, LA 2005

“A Theoretical Consciousness: Cultural Theory, Feminism, and the Philosophy of William James.”

**Paper Presenter,** Southwestern Women’s and Gender Studies Association, New Orleans, LA 2005

“Performance and Identity: The *Real* in Butler’s Gender Theory.”

**Panel Discussant/Mediator,** Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting 2005

New Orleans, LA – “Sexuality and Identity.”

**Paper Presenter,** The Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC 2005

“Moving Beyond William James: Feminism, Dorothy Smith, and Cultural Knowledge.”

**Distinguished Lecture Series Presenter,** L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness 2005

Memorial Student Center, “Female Genital Mutilation: A Cultural Perspective.”

**Paper Presenter,** Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting, Corpus Christi, TX 2004

“Bauman's Garden: Informing Feminist Theories of Desire.”

**Paper Presenter,** The Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA 2004

“The Subversion and Appropriation of ‘Realness’ and ‘Identity’ in *Paris is Burning*.”

**Paper Presenter,** National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference 2003 New Orleans – "Exposing the Domination of Language: Luce Irigaray’s Project in

"Exposing the Domination of Language: Luce Irigaray’s Project in ‘Women on the Market.’”

**Attendee,** American Sociological Association Conference, Atlanta, GA 2003

**Attendee,** Southwestern Sociological Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA 2003

**Paper Presenter,** Texas Tech Philosophy Department Colloquia Presentation, Lubbock, TX 2002

“Irigaray’s Project in ‘Women on the Market.’”

**Books/journal review**

**Reviewer,** Journal of Contemporary Ethnography, “Constructing Selves in Pandemic Time 2023

and Space: Greek Women’s Narratives Concerning the COVID-19 Lockdowns in Athens, Greece

**Reviewer,** Rhetoric Society of America 2022 annual conference 2022

* “Real” Men Wear Heels?: Finding Queer and Trans Masculinities in Axe’s “Find Your Magic” Campaign
* The Historic Buildings at Steele Indian School Park: Style as History
* Hermeneutics, Jurisprudence, & (Re)Interpretations of Antimiscegenation Laws
* Charging Beyond Equity: Bodily Rhetoric and Cultural Relevance in Women’s Sports
* "The Charges of Rhetorical Education"
* Postfeminist Rhetoric: Analyzing Country Music’s Contemporary “Vengeful Woman”
* *Panel submission review*: Searching for Change in Rhetorics of Intimate Partner Violence

**Reviewer,** International Feminist Journal of Politics 2021

"Just “locker room banter”? How Trump’s remarks about grabbing women by the p\*\*\*\*

reveal gendered and sexualized experience of American decline in the world."

**Reviewer,** Journal of Contemporary Ethnography 2021

“Digital encounters of surrogacy: Nodes of a fictional ethnography”

**Reviewer,** “Digital Migrating and Storyworlding with Women We Love: A Feminist Ethnography,” 2020

Journal of Contemporary Ethnography

**Reviewer**, New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society and Southwest Philosophical Studies, 2020

Annual Meeting, Waco, TX

* “Whiteness: A Paradox Born of Exclusion”
* “The Exemplarity as a Method of Analysis for the Gender Perspective in Medical Practices”
* ““Here I am” : Trans Beginnings in Absurd Dialogue”

**Reviewer**, New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society and Southwest Philosophical Studies, 2019

Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas.

* “On Saying the Unsayable”
* “The Nocebo Effect and Informed Consent”
* “The Phenomenon of Photography in Existential Consideration”
* “Love and Irreplaceability”
* “Beyond "Apocalypse Now": Just War Theory and Existentialism”

**Reviewer, CARAS,** Community-Academic Consortium for Research on Alternative 2013- present

Sexualities (CARAS), UC Berkeley (<https://carasresearch.org/>)

*\*review IRB-style applications prior to university submission in sexuality and kink studies (ongoing)*

**Reviewer,** “Gender, Sexuality, Ethnicity and Race in the Global War on Terror,” International. 2015

Feminist Journal of Politics

**Reviewer,** “Fat Acceptance TV?” Popular Communication 2014

**Reviewer,** “Voluntary Simplifiers, Spirituality, and Happiness,” Humanity and Society 2014

**Reviewer**, “Old Wine in New Bottles? A Sociological Examination of Northern Humanitarian 2013

Narratives,” Societies Without Borders: Human Rights and the Social Sciences, Sociologists Without

Borders

**Reviewer**, “Puritan Culture and the Global War on Terror: Military Justice, American War Crimes, 2013

and Public Reception,” Ashgate International Publishing

**Reviewer**, New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society and Southwest Philosophical Studies, 2013

“Existentialism in Film”

**Reviewer**, New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society and Southwest Philosophical Studies, 2013

“The Role of Prostitution in Grand Theft Auto III: A Question of Ethics in Video Games”

**Reviewer**, New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society and Southwest Philosophical Studies, 2012

“Toppling Progress: Hegel’s Logic of Form and History”

**Reviewer**, New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society and Southwest Philosophical Studies, 2012

“Levinas and Dussel: An Ethical Analysis of Social Activists in Juarez, Mexico”

**Reviewer**, International Journal of Peace and Development Studies, “Reservoir Characterization 2011

and Evaluation of Depositional Trend of the Gombe Sandstone, Southern Chad Basin Nigeria.”

**Reviewer**, International Journal of Peace and Development Studies, “Effectiveness of Community 2011

Base Intervention Program Including Counseling and Vocational Training on Coping and Mental

Health of Women Victims of Domestic Violence in the Gaza Strip.”

**Reviewer**, International Journal of Peace and Development Studies, “Work Organizations in the 2011

21st Century: Ethical Dilemmas.”

**Reviewer**, International Journal of Peace and Development Studies, “Genuine Leadership: An 2010

Antidote to Crises.”

**Research**

**Grant Volunteer Internship and Training,** Wombat Mental Health Services, A Social Work 2023

Collaborative, Los Angeles, CA.

**Programming Consultant and Trainer**, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (LGBTQ 2021- present

Intersectional Health Equity), Southern California Health Sciences University

**Archive Coordinator**, The Los Angeles Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Mistress of 2017- present

Archives, Los Angeles, CA

**Organizer and Participant**, Ru Paul’s DragCon, The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, 2016-present

Los Angeles, CA

**Non-Profit Board Member**, The Los Angeles Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence 2015- present

**Organizer and Speaker**, Ru Pauls DragCon, Panel on Intersectionality with The Sisters of 2019

Perpetual Indulgence, Los Angeles Convention Center, CA

**Grant Training Workshop,** The Foundation Center West, San Francisco, Ca. 2018

<http://foundationcenter.org/connect-with-us/san-francisco>

**Non-Profit Board Member**, Los Angeles LGBTQ Center, LifeWorks Youth Development 2017- 2022

and Mentoring Community Coalition Program (LifeWorks CAN), Los Angeles, CA

**Gratitude Ambassador**, Gratitude Space Project Leader, a non-profit association 2015- 2019

focused on gratitude and culture [www.gratitudespace.com](http://www.gratitudespace.com)

**Interviewed**, Mr. Becks Talks Sex, episode 11 with Sister of Perpetual Indulgence and Drag 2017

Professor Ryan Ashley Caldwell, New York

<https://soundcloud.com/amesbeckerman>

**Interviewed**, “Tease Talk,” Sexuality Podcast by Dean Sage Media 2016

**Interviewed,** “Drag Queens Defend Themselves Against Facebook’s Real Name Policy,” Die 2014

Welt, Germany

<http://www.faz.net/aktuell/wirtschaft/fruehaufsteher/klarnamen-zwang-bei-facebook-dragqueens-in-amerika-wehren-sich-13162107.html>

**Archivist Coordinator**, The Private Papers of Joseph Ransdell at The Pierce Project, located at 2012

The Institute for American Thought, Indiana University/Purdue University, Indianapolis, IN

**Interviewed,** “Connect with Mark Kelley,” CBC Television, Toronto, Canada 2012

**Co-consultant**, Military court-martial for Jeremy Morlock at Ft. Lewis, Seattle, WA 2010 - 2011

**Co-consultant,** Military court-martial for Michael Leahy at Rose Barracks Base, Germany 2008 - 2009

**Researcher**, Notre Dame Closed/Private Archives Research on Croatian Artist, Ivan Mestrovic 2007

**Co-consultant,** Military court-martial for Sabrina Harman at Ft. Hood, TX 2005

**Co-consultant,** Military court-martial for Lynndie England at Ft. Hood, TX 2005

**Additional Professional & Service Activities**

**Training, “**Community Centered Approaches to Accessible Pedagogy: teachers and Learners Come 2023

Together to Design an Inclusive Classroom,”*Doing Hope in Desperate Times*, Conference

on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)/National Council of

Teachers of English (NCTE), Chicago, IL.

**Chair**, Social and Behavioral Sciences accreditation self-study (SSG) 2022-2023

Soka University of America

**Reading Group Member,** Community/Academic Research for Alternate Sexualities 2022- present

(CARAS), “History and Theory of Kink and BDSM”

**Faculty Advisor,** Inner Child Healing2020- present

Soka University of America

**Member,** Benefits Standing Committee 2020- present

Committee of the Faculty Forum

Soka University of America

**Director,** Social and Behavioral Sciences 2019- present

Soka University of America

**Member**, Curriculum Assessment and Enhancement Committee 2019- present

Soka University of America

**Advisor,** Claremont Graduate University Graduate Program in Education (dual credit)2019-present

Soka University of America

**Faculty Advisor**, The LGBTeam 2018- present

Soka University of America

**Faculty Advisor,** SWDCC (Students with Disabilities and Chronic Conditions)2017- present

Soka University of America

**Invited Research Member/Reviewer and Applied Ethicist**, Community-Academic 2013- present

Consortium for Research on Alternative Sexualities (CARAS), UC Berkeley (<https://carasresearch.org/>)

\*review IRB-style applications prior to university submission in sexuality and kink studies (*ongoing*)

**Chair,** Curriculum Committee 2021

Soka University of America

**Member/ Co-Chair,** Independent and Special Study Research Group (SSG) for IRAT 2021

Soka University of America

**Member,** Faculty/Employee Review Panel (FERP) 2021

Soka University of America

**Member**, Search Committee for SBS Economics Position (2 positions) 2021

Soka University of America

**Member**, Strategic Planning Curriculum Assessment and Enhancement (CAE) WASC Review 2021

Soka University of America

**Organizer,** Digital Drag Event for Coming out Month 2021

Scarlateen (<https://www.scarleteen.com/>)

**Diversity Trainer,** “Gender Pronouns, the Workplace and Title IX,” Department of Institutional 2020

Technology, Soka University of America

**Diversity Trainer,** “Pride Month and LGBTQ+ History,” Ultimate Software, Irvine, CA 2019

**Diversity Trainer,** “Gender Pronouns, Laws, and the Workplace,” Ultimate Software, Irvine, CA 2019

**Additional Professional & Service Activities, Continued**

**Member**, Strategic Planning Steering Committee 2018- 2021

Faculty Executive Committee Representative

Soka University of America

**Member**, Strategic Planning SEC Committee 2018- 2021

Soka University of America

**Interviewed**, “International College Students, COVID-19, and Learning Online,” 2020

Los Angeles Talk Radio, The Hypno-Fairy Godmother Show”

**Public Engagement/Media Liaison,** American Sociological Association, Sexualities Section 2017-2019

**Interviewed**, Soka Radio, Episode 1: On Sex 2019

Soka University of America

**Member/Co-Chair**, Executive Committee of The Faculty Senate (FEC) 2011 to 2013, 2018-2020

Soka University of America

**Faculty Advisor,** Sex Positive SUA2018- 2022

Soka University of America

**Faculty Advisor**, Queeriosity 2012-2018

Performed *The Vagina Monologues* and *The Body Monologues*

Hosts *Dragball and Coming Out Week/Lounge*

Soka University of America

**Member**, Search Committee for SBS Sociology Position 2016-2018

Soka University of America

**Invited Faculty Participant/Commentator**, ITVS/PBS 2010 to 2019

Soka University of America

**Academic Advisor/Grant writer,** “The Making of a Drag King: A Documentary,” 2016- 2018

\*academic leadership at all parts of film production regarding gender/sexuality theory and identity

\* Fork Films Grant Writing and Submission, International Documentary Association Fiscal Grant

Sponsorship, and California Institute of Contemporary Arts Grant

\*post production and interview/ film organization feedback

\*research documentary editors

\*helped with successful Indiegogo post-production funding campaign

\*edited and wrote media articles/interviews (Huffington Post, Refinery 29, The Advocate, Curve

Magazine, LB Post, Gagmagazine, Buzzfeed, Culture Pop)

**Book Editor,** Crumby, by Alex Crumbsnatcher, Create Space Independent Publishing 2015

**Book Editor,** My Heart’s on the Other Side, by Shelly Ott Ledbetter and Misty Cohen, DiggyPod, 2015

**Invited Speaker**, “The History of Stonewall: Trans-Amnesia and POCs,” Coming Out Week 2016

Soka University of America

**Additional Professional & Service Activities, Continued**

**Invited Speaker**, “Homonationalism and Pinkwashing,” Coming Out Week 2016

Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker**, Women’s Circle: Celebrating Women’s Lives, An Intimate Dialogue With 2016

Women, Student Affairs

Soka University of America

**Faculty Organizer,** Invited and Organized Drag King Documentarian Nicole 2015 and 2016

Miyahara’s visit, Performance, and the showing of The Making of a Drag King

Soka University of America

**Faculty Organizer,** Invited and organized Alison Jaggar’s campus visit 2015

Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker**, “Structural Issues of After-Storm Trauma: Homeless LGBTQ Youth 2015

and Inequality,” Alternative Spring Break

Soka University of America

**Faculty Member,** Institutional Review Board (IRB), Ethics in Research Committee 2009-2011

Soka University of America 2014-2015

**Faculty Organizer,** Invited DARKMATTER to campus for presentation and workshop 2014

Soka University of America

**Workshop Organizer/Presenter**, “Banned Books and the Social Construction of Knowledge,” 2014

Soka Education Student Research Conference (SESRP)

Soka University of America

**Faculty Member**, Assessment Committee 2013-2014, 2015-2017

Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker**, Lions Roar 2021, 2013, 2011

Soka University of America

**Faculty Member**, Creativity Forum Planning 2013-2014

Soka University of America

**Organizer** (with Ian Reed), ACT-UP Speakers and “How to Survive a Plague” viewing 2013

Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker**, “Politics, Law Enforcement, and Legal Representation,” Alternative Spring Break, 2013

Soka University of America

**Faculty Advisor**, Gender-Free Housing Proposal 2013

Soka University of America

**Committee Member,** Graduate Student Paper Competition, Section on Sexual Behavior, 2013

Politics and Communities (SBPC)

Society for the Study of Social Problems

**Additional Professional & Service Activities, Continued**

**Committee Member,** Graduate Student Paper Competition, Section on Peace, War and 2013

Social Conflict, American Sociological Association

**Panel Presenter**, “Critical Pedagogy” Panel, Soka Education Student Research 2013

Conference (SESRP)

Soka University of America

**Faculty Judge**, Student Film Festival 2012

Soka University of America

**Faculty Advisor**, Pre-Law Society 2011-2012

Soka University of America

**Faculty Mentor** (for Soka students), Southeastern Undergraduate Sociology Symposium 2012

Sponsored by Emory University

**Member**, Search Committee for SBS Political Science Position 2011 to 2013, 2014-2015

Soka University of America

**Member,** Human Rights Section Membership Committee 2012 to 2013

American Sociological Association

**Invited Presenter**, Writing Center Pedagogy Discussion, Social Behavioral Science Assignments 2011

Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker,** Women’s History Month 2011

“Cultural Images: What do They Tell Us?”

Sponsored by Student Affairs, Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker/Presenter**, Experience Soka 2011, 2014

Soka University of America

**Member**, Faculty Enhancement Committee 2008 to 2012

Soka University of America

**Speaker Organizer**, PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) 2010 to 2012

Soka University of America

**Invited Faculty Advisor,** Soka Education Student Research Conference (SESRP) 2009 to 2012, 2014

Aided students in conference preparation, helped identify top conference papers,

and/or gave closing speech

Soka University of America

**Organizer,** Capstone Symposium, Senior Dinner2009 to 2013

Soka University of America

**Faculty Advisor,** Changes in Action (CIA), Women’s and Feminist Collective Student Group 2008 to 2013

Performed *The Vagina Monologues*

Soka University of America

**Additional Professional & Service Activities, Continued**

**Invited Speaker,** Coming Out Lounge 2008 to 2013

Sponsored by Activist Collective, Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker**, “What is Queer?” (Coming Out Week Lecture Event) 2009 to 2013

Soka University of America

**Committee Chair,** Institutional Review Board (IRB), Ethics in Research Committee 2009 to 2011

Soka University of America

**Faculty Trainer,** “The Basics of the Internal Review Board (IRB): We Are Your Friends” 2009 to 2011,

Soka University of America 2012-2014

**Committee Member,** International Festival Co-chair, Special Guest Committee 2008 to 2013

Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker,** “Abu Ghraib, Photography and Sontag” 2009 to 2010

Dr. Thomas Crowder-Taraborrelli’s Documenting Genocide Class

Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker,** “How I Write? How I Create?” Faculty in Residence Program 2009 to 2010

Sponsored by Student Affairs, Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker,** “The Family, Diversity, and Sexuality: We’re *Not* All the Same, *You Know*?*”* 2009 to 2010

Sponsored by Student Affairs, Soka University of America

**Co-Organizer/Presenter,** “Queer Poetry: We’re Here, We’re Queer, We’re Fabulous” 2009 to 2010

Soka University of America

**Invited Discussant,** “Diversity and Memoirs of a Geisha: A Film Discussion With Ryan” 2009 to 2010

Sponsored by Student Affairs, Soka University of America

**Committee Member,** Institutional Review Board (IRB), Ethics in Research Committee 2008 to 2011

Soka University of America

**Committee Member,** Admissions and Faculty Enhancement 2008 to 2010

Soka University of America

**Co-organizer and Presider,** Social and Behavioral Science Education Symposium 2008 to 2009

Soka University of America

**Member,** Faculty Anti-Colonialism Writing Group 2008 to 2009, 2013-2016

Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker,** Women’s History Month 2008 to 2009

“Feminism and Female Oppression: College Women and Body Image”

Sponsored by Student Affairs, Soka University of America

**Invited Speaker,** Women’s History Month “Her-Story” 2008 to 2009

Sponsored by Student Affairs, Soka University of America

**Additional Professional & Service Activities, Continued**

**Invited Speaker**, “From Hate to Peace” (Coming Out Week Lecture Event) 2008 to 2009

Soka University of America

**Consultant,** Advanced Placement Testing, Gifted and Talented, and Student Services Division 2005

Clear Creek Independent School District, League City, TX

**Committee Nominations Board,** Glasscock Humanities Center Graduate Colloquium 2005

Texas A&M University

**Consultant,** Safe and Drug-Free Schools, CLEAR Program 2005

Published “A Parent’s Guide to the Prevention of Drugs, Tobacco, and Alcohol in Adolescents and Children.”

Clear Creek Independent School District, League City, TX

**Disciplinary Appeals Panel,** Committee on the Graduate Student Council 2005

Texas A&M University

**Graduate Student Rep,** Graduate Student Council, Rainbow Graduate Student Association 2005

Texas A&M University

**Social Chair,** Graduate Student Council, Rainbow Graduate Student Association 2005

Texas A&M University

**Consultant,** National Conference, Houston Galleria, Houston, TX 2005

Presented “Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice: Adolescent Girls and Bullying”

Girl Scouts of Texas

**Legal Liaison,** American Civil Liberties Union, Brazos Valley Chapter 2004

**Vice President,** Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender – Professional Network (GLBT-PN) 2003

Texas A&M University

**Representative,** Sociology Department to the Graduate Student Council 2002 to 2006

Texas A&M University

**President,** Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophy Academic Honors Society) 2000 to 2002

Texas Tech University

**President,** American Civil Liberties Union, Lubbock Chapter 2000 to 2002

**State Board of Directors,** Board Member, American Civil Liberties Union of Texas 1999 to 2002

**Founder,** American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Student Chapter 1999

Texas Tech University

**Secretary,** American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Lubbock Chapter 1999

#### Academic Advising

**Graduate Student Mentor Program,** American Sociological Association, Sexualities Section 2017-2018

**Senior Capstone** **Mentor** (Assist students in year-long senior research project)2008 to Present

Soka University of America

**TAMU Mentor** (Assist students in collegiate transition and academic career path development) 2005

Texas A&M University

**Aggie Women in Leadership Mentor** (AWIL) (Women’s Center mentorship program) 2003 to 2006

Texas A&M University

**Aggie Allies Mentor Certification** (Completed Aggie Allies Training- GLBT sensitivity) 2002

Texas A&M University

**McNair Scholarship Mentor** (Mentorship program for first time family college students) 2002

Texas Tech University

**Fellowships, Grants & Awards**

**Invited Graduation Speaker,** Chapman University, Lavender Gender and Sexuality 2017

Studies Program

**Grant Recipient and Organizer**, SAGE/AARP, LGBTQ Dinner Organization in Los Angeles 2017

focused on bringing individuals together across age and sexuality divides for conversation

**Awarded,** Nieves Travel Grant for Learning Cluster Travel, to teach Philosophy of Aesthetics 2016

(wrote a $25,000 competitive grant)

Soka University of America

**Nominated/Finalist,** American Sociological Association, Section on Peace, War and Social Conflict, 2013

Best Book Manuscript of 2013 for *Fallgirls*

**Nominated,** Society for the Study of Social Problems, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities 2012

Division, Chair

**Nominated,** American Sociological Association, Section on Sex and Gender, Feminist Scholar 2012

Activist Award

**Nominated** American Sociological Association, Section on Marxist Sociology, 2012, 2013 and 2014

Board of Directors (various positions)

**Awarded** Outstanding Book of the Year Award (Chapter Contributor) 2011

American Sociological Association, Peace War and Social Conflict Section

The Routledge Handbook of War and Society

**Nominated (**by faculty**)** to Executive Committee for Faculty Forum (Faculty Senate) 2009, 2010, 2016

Soka University of America

**Nominated** forSAGE Prize for Innovation and Excellence for 2009

“The Role of Gender in ‘Expressive’ Abuse at Abu Ghraib” in *Cultural Sociology*

**Awarded** Co-Chair Pin International Festival 2009- 2012

Soka University of America

**Awarded** Course Relief for Research 2008

Soka University of America

**Awarded** Certificate of Excellence for Outstanding Student Evaluations 2007

Houston Community College

**Awarded** Women’s Studies Graduate Research Dissertation Fellowship 2006

Texas A&M University

**Research Highlighted,** “Tip of an Iceberg: The Military Faces Accountability Issues in 2005

Dealing with Prisoner Abuse” in *Advance: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Advancement at*

*Texas A&M University* by the Vice President for Research, 2006 ed.

**Nominated** for Dissertation Fellowship

Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section of the American Sociological Association 2005

Texas A&M University

**Nominated** for Progressive Woman’s Award 2005

Texas A&M University

**Awarded** as ACLU Texas recipient of the Joan Glantz Fellowship/Internship; 1999

Created the Prison and Jail Accountability Project for Texas ACLU

Helped organize Driving while Black or Brown (identifying police racial profiling) for ACLU TX

**Funding**

**Awarded Research Grant,** Association of Former Students (for Research on Abu Ghraib Trials) 2005

Texas A&M University

**Awarded Conference Funding**, Department of Sociology (various conferences) 2002-2007

Texas A&M University

**Awarded Conference Funding**, Women’s Studies (various conferences) 2002-2007

Texas A&M University

**Press and Research highlighted (Reviews)**

**Professor Interview**, Soka University *The Pearl*, “Talking to Women of Soka” 2016

**Professor Highlight,** *SUA Founders*, Publication of the Development Office 2012

Soka University of America

**Book Review of Fallgirls**, CHOICE Review of Books, “Highly Recommended” 2012

Vol.50, No.2, October 12

**Book Review of Fallgirls,** Societies Without Borders, A Publication of Sociologists Without 2012

Borders,7:2 (2012) 254-157 <http://societieswithoutborders.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/brfallgirls.pdf>

**Book Review of Fallgirls**, “Soldiers of Misfortune?” The Times Higher Education 2012

<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=420512>

**Book Review of Fallgirls**, Women’s Justice Center 2012

<http://justicewomen.com/news/book-review-fallgirls>

**Research Highlighted**, “The Sociology of Ghosts,” University of Texas Department of Sociology 2012

Graduate Student Blog About the American Sociological Association 2012 Meetings

<http://sites.la.utexas.edu/utaustinsoc/2012/08/18/sociology-of-ghosts/>

# Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association The Southern Sociological Society

Southwestern Women’s & Gender Studies Association National Women’s Studies Association American Association of University Professors Sociologists for Women in Society

Phi Sigma Tau –Philosophy Honors Society Sociologists Without Borders

CARAS TASHRA

**References**

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