

**Robin Bartram**

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**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

2018 – Assistant Professor of Sociology, Tulane University

**EDUCATION**

2018 PhD, Sociology, Northwestern University  
Presidential Fellow & Legal Studies Affiliate  
Committee: Mary Pattillo, Wendy Griswold, and Lincoln Quillian

2015 MA, Sociology, Northwestern University

2011 MA, Sociology, Loyola University, Chicago

2007 Certificate: Understanding Cities, Open University, U.K.

2006 BA Hons, Social Anthropology & Russian, Sussex University, U.K.

**RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS**

Urban sociology; legal studies, housing and the built environment; cultural sociology and knowledge; inequality; gender and sexualities.

**BOOK**

2022 (expected) *Stacked Decks: Stabs at Justice in the City*, under contract at The University of Chicago Press.

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

2021 “Cracks in broken windows: How objects shape professional evaluation”  
*American Journal of Sociology*. 126(4): 759–794.

2021 Robin Bartram\* Japonica Brown-Saracino\* and Holly Donovan. "Uncertain Sexualities and the Unusual Woman: Museum Depictions of Jane Addams and Emily Dickinson." *Social Problems*. 68 (1): 168–184. \* = equal authors

2020 “The Infidelity of Place: Medical Simulation Labs and Disjunctures in Pedagogical Places.” *Sociology of Health and Illness*. 42(2): 293-306

2019 “The cost of code violations: How building codes shape residential sales prices and rents.” *Housing Policy Debate*. 29(6): 931-946

2019 “Going Easy and Going After: Building Inspections and the Selective Allocation of Code Violations.” *City and Community* 18(2): 594-617.

- Winner, ASA Community and Urban Sociology Section Student Paper Award 2018

2018 “Emplacing Risks in the City: Class, Politics, Risk and the Built Environment of Women’s Residential Clubs, 1896-1917.” *The Journal of Urban History* 44(2): 219–238.

2017 “Housing Historic Role Models and the American Dream: Domestic Rhetoric and Institutional Decision-Making at the Tenement Museum.” *Qualitative Sociology* 40(1):1-22.

2016 “Housing and Social and Material Vulnerabilities.” *Housing, Theory and Society* 33(4): 469-483.

**BOOK CHAPTERS AND REVIEWS**

- 2015 "Infrastructures of Epistemic Moments: Buildings, Blackboxes, "Improvement," and Neighbourhood Change," in *Architecture, Materiality and Society: Connecting Sociology of Architecture with Science and Technology Studies*, Müller and Reichmann (eds.). Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2015 "Material Evidence and Evidentiary Reasoning," *Qualitative Sociology* 38(3):349-352. Review Essay of: Bartmanski, D and Woodward, I. 2015. *Vinyl: The Analogue Record in the Digital Age*; Chapman, D and Wylie, A. (eds.). 2015. *Material Evidence: Learning from Archaeological Practice*. Routledge; Lopez, S. 2015. *The Remittance Landscape: Spaces of Migration in Rural Mexico and Urban USA*.

**WORK UNDER REVIEW AND IN PROGRESS**

- "The Sociology of Housing Market Intermediaries," with Elizabeth Korver-Glenn and Max Besbris, *Sociology of Housing*, Eva Rosen and Brian McCabe, eds.
- "The penalty of leniency: Housing court, negatively credentialed property, and housing inequality." Under review.
- "Policing "troubled" property: code enforcement, displacement, and financial legal restrictions on property," with graduate student co-authors LaToya Tufts and AJ Golio.
- "Making Babies Pay Rent: Race Suicide and Domestic Architecture."
- "Repairing Housing Inequality: Government Grants for Home Repairs in New Orleans & Chicago."

**MEDIA, REPORTS, ETC.**

- 2021 Cited in "The Failures Before the Fires" *The Chicago Tribune*
- 2020 (with Japonica Brown-Saracino). "Emily Dickinson, "The Greatest Freak of Them All"?"" *Public Books*
- 2019 Research brief for Chicago Department of Buildings
- 2019 Interviewed by *LA Times* and *Better Government Association*, for stories on code enforcement
- 2018 Interviewed for Tulane School of Liberal Arts Newsletter
- 2018 Interviewed for American Sociological Association Community and Urban Sociology Section Newsletter
- 2018 "Grenfell's Problem Wasn't Just Lax Regulation." *CityLab; The Atlantic Monthly*.
- 2018 "How Urban Building Inspections Can Impede – or Encourage – the Expansion of Safe and Affordable Housing." *Scholars Strategy Network* policy brief.
- 2017 "How historic role models leave no room for structural inequality at the Tenement Museum," *Work in Progress: Sociology on the economy, work and inequality*.
- 2016 Review of "What Buildings Do" Gieryn, Thomas. 2002. *Theory and Society* 31(1): 35-74. Invited contribution to "A Field Guide to Materiality for Cultural Sociologists" *ASA Sociology of Culture Newsletter* 22 (2).
- 2013 with Mary Pattillo. "Dallas School Landscape and Neighborhoods and Housing Site Context Report," Research Report prepared for The MacArthur Foundation Research Network on How Housing Matters
- 2013 with Mary Pattillo. "Seattle School Landscape and Neighborhoods and Housing Site Context Report," Research Report prepared for The MacArthur Foundation Research Network on How Housing Matters

**GRANTS**

- 2021 Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars, Louisiana Board of Regents, \$27,000
- 2021 Classroom Enhancement Grant, Tulane University (to fund housing re-entry discussion at Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women)
- 2020 Newcomb College Institute Faculty Grant, Tulane University, “Mixed-methods Study of Female Homeownership in U.S. Cities,” \$2084
- 2020 COR Research Fellowship, Tulane University, “Repairing Housing Inequality,” \$7000
- 2019 Carol Lavin Bernick Faculty Grant, Tulane University, “Repairing Housing Inequality,” \$9800
- 2019 Monroe Fellows Research Grant, New Orleans Center for the Gulf South, \$5000
- 2019 Provost Faculty Manuscript Workshop Grant, Tulane University, \$4765
- 2018 Provost Faculty Networking Grant, Tulane University, \$3245
- 2018 Newcomb College Institute Faculty Grant, Tulane University, “Repairing Housing Inequality,” \$3534
- 2016 Graduate Research Grant, Northwestern University, “Picking Battles with Buildings: Building Inspections and the Social and Physical Characteristics of Code Violations,” \$3000
- 2016 Conference Travel Grant, The Graduate School, Northwestern University
- 2015 Conference Travel Grant, Sexualities Project at Northwestern, Northwestern University
- 2015 Summer Research Grant, Sexualities Project at Northwestern, Northwestern University, “Unusual Women and Uncertain Sexualities: Museum Depictions of Jane Addams and Emily Dickinson,” \$857
- 2015 Buffett Institute for Global Studies Dissertation Research Travel Grant, Northwestern University, “Housing Court, Building Inspections and the Social and Physical Characteristics of Building Code Violations,” \$5000
- 2014 MacArthur Summer Research Grant, with Al Hunter, Northwestern University, “Recovering Histories of Early Public Housing,” \$1150.
- 2013 Summer Research Grant, Sexualities Project at Northwestern, Northwestern University, “Flirtation Flats and Race Suicide Apartments: Encouraging (white) Reproduction through Architectural Design,” \$875.
- 2013 MacArthur Summer Research Grant with Wendy Griswold, Northwestern University, “Architectural and Material Representations of Urban Poverty,” \$1000.

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- 2021-2022 ABF/JPB Foundation Access to Justice Scholars Program, American Bar Foundation, Chicago IL
- 2020 Studio in the Woods Scholarly Retreat, The ByWater Institute, LA
- 2018 ASA Community and Urban Sociology Section Student Paper Award, winner
- 2018 – Newcomb College Institute Fellow, Tulane University
- 2016-2018 Society of Fellows Presidential Fellowship, Northwestern University
- 2017 Winch Award for the Best Paper Presented or Published by a Northwestern University Graduate Student, Honorable Mention
- 2016 Winch Award for the Best Paper Presented or Published by a Northwestern University Graduate Student, Honorable Mention

- 2014-2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Lecturer in Sociology, Northwestern University  
 2014-2015 Outstanding Teaching Assistant in Sociology, Northwestern University, Honorable Mention  
 2012 Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Distinguished Master's Thesis Award, nominee.  
 2011 Summer Research Fellowship, Women and Leadership Archives, Gannon Center, Loyola University Chicago  
 2011 Social Sciences Thesis/Dissertation of the Year, The Graduate School, Loyola University Chicago.

**INVITED TALKS**

- 2021 Guest speaker, Research Design Seminar, Department of Urban Planning and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago  
 2021 Panelist, TuSA Architecture Lecture: Human Inhabitation & Development, Tulane University School of Architecture.  
 2019 Presenter, “Damned if you do and damned if you don’t: building inspections and housing inequality.” Sociology of Housing Conference, Georgetown University  
 2019 Presenter, “Punishing the Privileged: Frontline work in the city beyond disorder.” Boston University Urban Inequalities Workshop  
 2017 Presenter, “Misfires and Backfires: How Attempts to Offset Inequality Fail.” Law and Society Association, Mexico City.  
 2016 Presenter, “Going Easy and Going After: Building Inspectors in Chicago.” University of Chicago Urban Workshop, Chicago.

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (PAST FIVE YEARS)**

- 2020 Paper presentation, “Leniency as punishment.” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting.  
 2018 Paper presentation, “Building Inspections and the Selective Allocation of Code Violations.” Law and Society Association, Toronto.  
 2018 Paper presentation, “Building Inspections and the Selective Allocation of Code Violations.” Power at the Margins: Mobilizing Across Housing Injustice, A Scholar-Activist Gathering, Minneapolis.  
 2017 Paper presentation, “The Cost of Compliance.” Law and Society Graduate Conference, Paris.  
 2017 Paper presentation, “Going Easy and Going After: How Building Inspections Backfire.” American Sociological Association, Montreal.  
 2017 Paper presentation, “Going Easy and Going After: How Building Inspections Backfire.” Urban Affairs Association, Minneapolis.  
 2016 Roundtable presentation, “Picking Battles with Buildings.” American Sociological Association, Seattle.  
 2016 Paper presentation, “All Buildings Have Violations: Building Inspections are About Picking Your Battles.” Eastern Sociological Society Meeting, Boston.  
 2015 Paper presentation, “Building Inspections and the Physical and Social Characteristics of Code Violations.” International Sociological Association RC43 Section on Housing and the Built Environment, Chicago.  
 2015 Roundtable presentation, “Unusual Women and Uncertain Sexualities: Museum Depictions of Jane Addams and Emily Dickinson.” Social Science History Association, Baltimore.

- 2014 Roundtable presentation, "Housing the American Dream: Domestic Rhetoric and Historical Role Models at the Tenement Museum." American Sociological Association, San Francisco.
- 2013 Paper presentation, "Infrastructures of Epistemic Moments of Neighborhood Change." Workshop of the Working Committee "Sociology of Architecture," Bielefeld University, Germany.
- 2013 Paper presentation, "Infrastructures of Segregation: Disrupting Discourses of Racism through the Built Environment in a Chicago subdivision, 1880-1920." The Politics of Materiality Conference, New School for Social Research, New York City.

## **TEACHING**

### **Training**

CELT/ILC Online Teaching Training, Tulane University  
Service Learning Faculty Seminar Training, Tulane University

### **Courses taught**

Cities and Society, Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women  
Housing and Health Amid COVID (Tenenbaum Program), Tulane University  
Cities and Society (graduate-level seminar, writing intensive option), Tulane University  
Introduction to Research Design, Tulane University  
Urban Sociology, Tulane University  
Cities and Society, Northwestern University  
Introduction to the Discipline, Northwestern University (Graduate Seminar)  
Facilitator, Academic Studies of Museums staff training, National Public Housing Museum, Chicago

## **CONSULTING AND OTHER EXPERIENCE**

2021 Greater Boston Code Consultants, Massachusetts  
2012-2013 National Public Housing Museum, Chicago

## **SERVICE**

### **Service to Tulane University**

2021 – Faculty Advisory Board Member, Social Policy and Practice  
2021 – Mentor, Pincus Violence Prevention Scholarship Program, School of Public Health, Tulane University/The Violence Prevention Institute  
2020 – Community-Engaged Research Grant Review Committee, Center for Public Service  
2020 – Postdoctoral fellow mentoring committee, Newcomb Institute  
2020 – Steering Committee Member, City, Culture & Community PhD program  
2020-2021 Honors thesis committee member, Political Science  
2020 Newcomb-Tulane College Reading Project Discussion Group Leader

### **Service to the department**

2018 – Culture Workshop organizing committee, Tulane University  
2018 – 2020 Colloquium committee, Sociology Department, Tulane University  
Graduate student advising:  
Advisor: LaToya Tufts  
Dissertation committee member: Chloe Tucker, Megan Faust

Qualifying exam committee member: Devin Wright (Chair), Natalie Blaustone-Dye, Emma Sager

**Service to the discipline**

- Occasional reviewer: *American Journal of Sociology*; *American Sociological Review*; *City and Community*; *European Planning Studies*; *Housing Studies*; *Housing, Theory and Society*; *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*; *Law and Social Inquiry*; *Social Forces*; *Sociology of Health and Illness*; *Oxford Bibliographies*; *Qualitative Sociology*, *Social Sciences*.
- 2020 – 2023 Member, Publications Committee, Community and Urban Section of the American Sociological Association
- 2020 Program Committee Member, Culture Section of the American Sociological Association
- 2020 Session co-organizer, “Theorizing Renters and Rental Housing in the United States,” American Sociological Association, San Francisco.
- 2020 Session chair, “Ways Forward in Socio-Legal Approaches to Property,” Law and Society Annual Meeting
- 2019 Chair, ASA Community and Urban Section Graduate Student Paper Award Committee
- 2015 – 2019 Presider, Community and Urban Section Roundtable, Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association
- 2016 – 2018 Urban Network Representative, Social Science History Association.
- 2018 Session co-organizer, “The Social and Cultural Construction of Places.” American Sociological Association, Philadelphia.
- 2016 Session organizer, “Housing People: Perceptions, Policies, and Place.” Social Science History Association, Chicago.
- 2016 – 2017 Organizing Committee, Chicago Ethnography Conference

**PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS**

American Sociological Association  
Law and Society Association  
Scholars Strategy Network  
Urban Affairs Association  
Sociologists for Women in Society