

SANDRA R. LEVITSKY

Department of Sociology
University of Michigan
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EMPLOYMENT

- 2023 – Present Professor of Law (by courtesy)
- 2019 – Present Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and Associate Professor, Department of Sociology,
University of Michigan
- 2016 – 2019 Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- 2009 – 2016 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
- 2007 – 2009 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan.
- 2003 – 2006 Visiting Scholar and Lecturer, Department of Sociology, UCLA.

EDUCATION

- 2006 Ph.D. Department of Sociology. University of Wisconsin-Madison. *Dissertation Committee:* Professors Mark Suchman (Chair), Myra Marx Ferree, Pamela Oliver, Howard Erlanger, Catherine Albiston. *Dissertation Title:* “Private Dilemmas of Public Provision: The Formation of Political Demand for State Entitlements to Long-Term Care.” *Winner of the 2007 Law & Society Association Dissertation Award.*
- 2001 M.S. Department of Sociology. University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 1997 J.D. (*cum laude*). University of Minnesota Law School. Minneapolis, MN.
- 1993 B.A. (*magna cum laude*). Political Science and Women and Gender Studies. Amherst College. Amherst, MA.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Sociology of Law; Political Sociology; Social Movements; Qualitative Methods; Social Policy.

BOOKS

- 2014 *Caring for Our Own: Why There is No Political Demand for New American Social Welfare Rights.* New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2010 *Social Movements and the Transformation of American Health Care* (with Jane Banaszak-Holl and Mayer Zald, editors). New York: Oxford University Press.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2024 Levitsky, Sandra R., Jesse Yeh, Elizabeth A. Armstrong. "Litigation Politics: Social Movement Activity in Campus Sexual Assault Litigation." *Law & Society Review*. 58(3):505-534. doi:10.1017/lsr.2024.28
- 2024 Papp, Leanna J., Sandra R. Levitsky, Elizabeth A. Armstrong, & Kamaria B. Porter. "How Many Terms Does It Take to Define Sexual Assault? Inconsistencies in U.S. Higher Education Sexual Misconduct Policies." *Violence Against Women* (online first) <https://doi.org/10.1177/10778012231189477>.
- 2023 Celene Reynolds, Elizabeth A. Armstrong, and Sandra R. Levitsky. "Title IX, Campus Sexual Misconduct, and the Criminalization of a U.S. Civil Rights Law." *American Journal of Sociology*. Vol. 129(3): 992-1004. Symposium revisiting the 1973 special issue on Changing Women in a Changing Society.
- 2023 Eno, Jared, Elizabeth A. Armstrong, Sandra R. Levitsky, and Katelyn Kennon. "How is a Student to Know Who They Can Talk To?": University Website Communication about Sexual Assault in the Context of Compelled Disclosure" *Review of Higher Education*. 46(3): 373-406.
- 2022 Porter, Kamaria B., Sandra R. Levitsky, and Elizabeth A. Armstrong. "Gender Equity and Due Process in Campus Sexual Assault Adjudication Procedures" *The Journal of Higher Education*. DOI: 10.1080/00221546.2022.2082784.
- 2018 Levitsky, Sandra R., Rachel Best, and Jessica Garrick. "Legality with a Vengeance": Reclaiming Distribution for Socio-Legal Studies" *Law & Society Review*. Vol. 52(3) 709-739.
- 2018 Levitsky, Sandra R. "Law and the Building Blocks of the Familiar." *Law & Social Inquiry*. Vol. 43(1): 258-266.
- 2015 Levitsky, Sandra R. "Law and Social Movements: Old Debates and New Directions." Pp. 382-398 in *Wiley Handbook of Law and Society* (Sarat, A. and Ewick, P., eds). Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons.
- 2013 Levitsky, Sandra R. "Integrating Law and Health Policy." *Annual Review of Law & Social Science*. Vol. 9:33-50.

- 2010 Levitsky, Sandra R. "Caregiving and the Construction of Political Claims for Long-Term Care Reform." Pp. 208-230 in *The New Politics of Old Age Policy* (2nd edition), ed. Robert B. Hudson. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- 2010 Levitsky, Sandra R., and Jane Banaszak-Holl. "Social Movements and the Transformation of U.S. Health Institutions: Introduction." Pp. 3-18 in *Social Movements and the Transformation of American Health Care*, eds. Jane Banaszak-Holl, Sandra R. Levitsky and Mayer N. Zald. New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2008 Levitsky, Sandra R. "What Rights?: The Construction of Political Claims to American Health Care Entitlements." *Law & Society Review* 42(3): 551-589.
- 2007 Levitsky, Sandra R. "Niche Activism: Constructing a Unified Movement Identity in a Heterogeneous Organizational Field." *Mobilization* 12(3): 271-286.
- 2006 Levitsky, Sandra R. "To Lead with Law: Reassessing the Role of Legal Advocacy Organizations in Social Movements." Pp. 145-163 in *Cause Lawyers and Social Movements*. Edited by Austin Sarat and Stuart Scheingold. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- 2000 Levitsky, Sandra R. "Reasonably Accommodating Race: Lessons from the ADA for Race-Targeted Affirmative Action." *Law and Inequality Journal* 18(1): 85-129.
- 1996 Levitsky, Sandra R. "Footnote 55: Closing the 'Bisexual Defense' Loophole in Title VII Sexual Harassment Cases." *Minnesota Law Review*. 80: 1013-45. Reprinted in: LeMoncheck, Linda and James P. Sterba, eds. *Sexual Harassment: Issues and Answers*. Oxford University Press, 2001.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Levitsky, Sandra R., Elizabeth A. Armstrong, and Kamaria Porter. "Why the Cross-Examination Requirement in Campus Sexual Assault Cases Is Irresponsible." *The Washington Post*, Opinion, May 7, 2020.
- 2019 Armstrong, Elizabeth A., Sandra R. Levitsky, Kamaria Porter, Miriam Gleckman-Krut, Elizabeth Chase, and Jessica Garrick. "Defining Sexual Consent on Campus: What's in Media vs. What's in the Policies" in Council on Contemporary Families Defining Consent Online Symposium (edited by Stephanie Coontz, Paula England, and Virginia Rutter).

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

"Bringing in the Boys: Proximate Field Construction and Unlikely Allies in the Early Childhood Movement" (with Kelly Russell). *In preparation for submission*.

"Campus Sexual Assault, Criminalized Due Process, and the 'Frail Twin' of Equality." (with Elizabeth A. Armstrong). *In preparation for submission*.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2006 “Same-Sex Marriage: The Cultural Politics of Love and Law, by Kathleen L. Hull.” *Law & Society Review* 40(4): 969-971.
- 2006 “License to Harass: Law, Hierarchy, and Offensive Public Speech, by Laura Beth Nielsen.” *Contemporary Sociology* 35(1): 72-73.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024- Provost’s Office, University of Michigan. Sexual Citizenship Prevention Course/Pilot Study (with Michelle Munro-Kramer, Abigail Eiler, Lisa Fedina, and Richard Tolman) (\$8,505,000)
- 2021-2022 UM College of Literature, Science and Arts New Initiatives/New Instruction Grant (\$16,192)
- 2019-2021 UM College of Literature, Science and Arts Associate Professor Support Grant (\$29,118)
- 2017-2020 National Science Foundation (w/Elizabeth Armstrong) (\$466,790)
- 2016-2017 M-Cubed Grant, University of Michigan of Office of Research (\$60,000) (w/Elizabeth Armstrong, Jerry Davis)
- 2015-2016 Institute for Research on Women and Gender (\$10,000) (w/Elizabeth Armstrong)
- 2014-2016 University of Michigan Office of Research (\$15,000)
- 2014-2016 University of Michigan College of Literature, Science and the Arts (\$15,000)
- 2014-2015 Institute for Research on Women & Gender Faculty Seed Grant (\$6,200)
- 2014 Rackham Spring/Summer Research Grant (\$9000)
- 2004-2005 NSF Law and Social Sciences Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant
- 2004-2005 SSRC Philanthropy and the Nonprofit Sector Dissertation Fellowship
- 2002-2003 Graduate Fellow, Institute for Legal Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 1999-2002 NSF Graduate Fellowship

HONORS AND AWARDS

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| 2019 | Arthur F. Thurnau Professorship |
| 2018 | Golden Apple Award, University of Michigan |
| 2016 | Class of 1923 Memorial Teaching Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Instruction, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan |
| 2015 | Honorable Mention, Law and Society Association Herbert Jacob Book Prize |
| 2007 | Law and Society Association Dissertation Award |
| 2007 | National Academy of Social Insurance John A. Heinz Dissertation Award |
| 2007 | University of Wisconsin Kathryn DuPre Lumpkin Award for Best Dissertation in the Sociology Department, 2006-2007 |
| 2005 | Honorable Mention, ASA Sociology of Law Section Graduate Student Paper Competition (for “To Lead with Law: Reassessing the Influence of Legal Advocacy Organizations in Social Movements”) |
| 2001 | Honorable Mention, ASA Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements Outstanding Student Paper Competition (for “Narrow But Not Straight: Professionalized Rights Strategies in the Chicago GLBT Movement”) |
| 1997 | Equal Justice Award, Minnesota Women Lawyers (for “Footnote 55: Closing the 'Bisexual Defense' Loophole in Title VII Sexual Harassment Cases”) |
| 1996 | Clarence A. Roloff Award (Editor-in-Chief, <i>Minnesota Law Review</i>) |

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Litigation Politics: Countermovement Activity in Campus Sexual Assault Litigation.”

- University of California-Berkeley School of Law, October 2023
- University of Michigan Law School, September 2023

“Logics in Conflict: Campus Sexual Assault in a Time of Legal and Political Uncertainty.”

- University of Michigan Law School 2019, 2020.
- Interdisciplinary Committee on Organizational Studies (ICOS), University of Michigan November 2019.
- *Harvard Hears You: The 2019 Summit for Gender Equity*, Harvard University, April 2019.

“Inventing Universal Public Preschool: The Politics of Welfare State Expansion on Neoliberal Terrain.” Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, November 2018.

“On Water and Welfare: Why Socio-Legal Scholars Should Study State Distribution.”

- Comparative Law & Society Studies Center, University of Washington, May 2016
- Virginia Tech School of Public and International Affairs/Metropolitan Institute, April 2016
- Keynote Address, Law & Society Early Career/Graduate Student Workshop, May 2015

“Caring for Our Own: The Role of Support Groups in Caregiver Health and Politics.” Grand Rounds, St. Mary Livonia Hospital, May 2015.

“Caring for Our Own: Why There Is No Political Demand for New American Social Welfare Rights.” Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars Program, University of Michigan, April 2015.

“Social Policy and the Future of Socio-Legal Research.”

- School of Public & International Affairs/Metropolitan Institute, Virginia Tech, April 2016
- Plenary Talk, Law & Society Association Early Career Workshop, May 2015
- American Bar Foundation, April 2014.

“‘What Rights?’: The Construction of Political Claims to American Health Care Entitlements.”

- University of Colorado, Sociology Department, April 2014.
- University of Chicago, Sociology Department, May 2013
- Center for Interdisciplinary Law and Policy Studies, Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law, February 2010
- Brown Legal Studies Seminar, Brown University, November 2009
- Center for the Study of Law and Society, School of Law, University of California-Berkeley, April 2009.
- University of Minnesota, Department of Sociology, November 2008.
- University of Michigan, Department of Sociology, November 2008.
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars Program, University of Michigan, March 2008.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Campus Sexual Assault, Criminalized Due Process, and the ‘Frail Twin’ of Equality.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, 2024.

“Campus Sexual Assault, Criminalized Due Process, and the ‘Frail Twin’ of Equality.” Paper Presented at the Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Denver, 2024.

“Litigation Politics: Countermovement Activity in Campus Sexual Assault Litigation.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 2023.

“Inventing Universal Public Preschool: The Politics of Welfare State Expansion on Neoliberal Terrain.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, 2019.

“The Legalization of Campus Sexual Assault Adjudication.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Washington, D.C., 2019.

“Leaders and Laggards: Explaining Variation in University Responses to Sexual Violence in a Changing Legal Environment.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Mexico City, 2017.

“U.S. Health Care Policy and Reform.” Special Session at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Seattle, 2016.

"Pre-K for All": Understanding Transformations in Cultural Categories of Worth" (w/Kelly Russell). Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Seattle, 2016.

Author-Meets-Critics Panel on *Caring for Our Own: Why There is No Political Demand for New American Social Welfare Rights*.

- Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Seattle, 2015
- Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, 2015

“A Genealogy of the Law vs. Policy Distinction: Or Why Law & Society Stopped Studying Issues of State Economic Distribution.” Paper Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, 2015.

“Policy ‘Is All Over’ Too: Interrogating the Distinction Between Law & Policy.” Paper Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, 2014.

“Law & Health Care Reform: Theorizing a Connection.” Paper Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Boston, 2013.

“Law & Health Care Reform: Theorizing a Connection.” Section on Sociology of Law Invited Session, Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, 2013.

“Policy Cues for the Downwardly Mobile: The Effects of Social Welfare Policies on Political Voice.” Paper Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu, 2012.

“New Social Risks and Political Demandmaking in the Contemporary American Welfare State.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Atlanta. August 2010.

“Policy and the Political Imagination: A Look Back on ‘The Pull of the Policy Audience.’” Paper Presented in Thematic Session at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2010.

“Retracing the Path to Politicization: New Social Risks and Political Demandmaking in the Contemporary American Welfare State.” Paper Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2010.

“Where Are All the Advocates?: Long-Term Care Reform and Political Opportunity in the Age of Market Fundamentalism.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Boston. August, 2008.

“Privatization and Political Efficacy: Rethinking Perceptions of Political Opportunity for Health Care Reform.” Paper Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Montreal. May, 2008.

“Injustice Framing in the Absence of a Resonant Social Rights Frame.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York. August, 2007.

“Means Testing and the Middle Class: The Formation of Citizen Expectations for State Intervention in Long-Term Care.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal. August, 2006.

“What Rights?: The Limitations of Rights Talk as a Mobilization Tool for Social Welfare Entitlements.” Paper Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore. July, 2006.

“Means Testing and the Middle Class: The Formation of Citizen Expectations for State Intervention in Long-Term Care.” Paper Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore. July, 2006.

“Niche Activism: Negotiating Organizational Specialization in Contemporary American Social Movements.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia. August, 2005.

“Nonprofit Sector Influence on the Political Consciousness of Family Caregivers.” Paper Presented at the SSRC Philanthropy and the Nonprofit Sector Capstone Conference, Florence, Italy. March, 2005.

“To Lead with Law: Reassessing the Role of Legal Advocacy Organizations in Social Movements.” Paper Presented at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Las Vegas. June, 2005.

“To Lead with Law: Reassessing the Role of Legal Advocacy Organizations in Social Movements.” Paper Presented at Cause Lawyering and Social Movements Conference, UCLA. March, 2005.

“To Lead with Law: Reassessing the Role of Lawyers in Progressive Reform Movements.” Paper presented at Midwest Law and Society Retreat, Madison, WI. October, 2004.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Sociology, University of Michigan

Sociology 885: Culture, History, and Politics (graduate workshop)

Sociology 800: Social Movements and Political Protest (graduate workshop)

Sociology 653: Law & Society (graduate seminar)

Sociology 354: Law & Society (undergraduate lecture course)

Sociology 461: Social Movements (undergraduate lecture course)

Sociology 100: Introduction to Sociology (undergraduate lecture course)

Department of Sociology, UCLA

Sociology 169: Law and Society (undergraduate lecture course)

GRADUATE MENTORING

- Matthew Bakko (Co-Chair, Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Finn Bell (Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Ian Bratcher (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Patricia Chen (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Nicolas Espitia (Co-Chair, Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Jessica Garrick (Chair, Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Alice Gates (Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Miriam Gleckman-Krut (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Claire Herbert (Chair, Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Trevor Hoppe (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Alix Gould-Worth (Sociology /Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Alex Jakle (Political Science Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Lucie Kalousova (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Min Hee Kim (Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Zakiya Luna (Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Erin McAuliffe (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Erica Morrell (Co-Chair, Sociology/Public Policy Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Analidis Ochoa (Co-Chair, Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Angela Perone (Co-Chair, Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Kamaria Porter (Higher Ed. Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Leslie Rott (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Kelly Russell (Co-Chair, Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Atef Said (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Ethan Schoolman (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Jasmine Simington (Sociology/Public Policy Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- DeAnna Smith (Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Matthew Sullivan (Co-Chair, Sociology Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Valerie Taing (Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Jessica Wiederspan (Sociology/Social Work Ph.D. Thesis Committee)
- Jesse Yeh (Sociology/Public Policy Ph.D. Thesis Committee)

SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE

2023-present	Editorial Advisory Board, <i>Law & Society Review</i>
2019-2021	Editorial Board, <i>Law & Social Inquiry</i>
2017-2022	Member, Budget and Finance Committee, Law & Society Association
2017-2020	Trustee, Law & Society Association
2018-2019	Chair, ASA Sociology of Law Section
2016-2017	Distinguished Contribution to Political Sociology Article Award Committee, ASA Political Sociology Section
2015-2016	Chair, Distinguished Contribution to Political Sociology Article Award Committee, ASA Political Sociology Section
2014-2017	Council Member, ASA Political Sociology Section
2014-2015	Graduate Paper Award Committee, ASA Political Sociology Section
2014-2015	Distinguished Paper Award Committee, ASA Sociology of Law Section
2013-2014	Program Committee, Law & Society Association
2013-2015	Workshop Committee, ASA Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section
2012-2013	Chair, Nominations Committee, ASA Sociology of Law Section
2011-2013	Council Member, ASA Sociology of Law Section
2011-2012	Law & Society Association Dissertation Prize Committee
2009	ASA Sociology of Law Section Nominations Committee
2008	Law & Society Association Dissertation Prize Committee
2008	ASA Sociology of Law Section Book Prize Committee
2007	Co-Organizer, Social Movements and the Development of Health Institutions Conference, University of Michigan (w/Mayer Zald and Jane Banaszak-Holl)
2005-2006	ASA Sociology of Law Section Membership Committee
2002	ASA Collective Behavior/Social Movements Section Student Paper Awards Committee
2002	Co-Organizer, Midwest Law and Society Retreat, University of Wisconsin

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2024-2025	Center for Restorative Justice Presidential Task Force, University of Michigan
2024	Personnel Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2023-2024	Executive Committee, Department of Sociology
2022-present	Co-Lead, University of Michigan Coordinated Community Response Team
2022-2023	Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2020-2022	Executive Committee, Department of Sociology
2019-2020	Chair, Personnel Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2018-2019	Faculty Advisory Committee, Mellon Transfer Bridges Project, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan
2015-2019	Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2017-2019	Chair, Supervising Committee of the Joint Doctoral Program, School of Social Work, University of Michigan
2016-present	Lecturer Review Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2015-2016	Barger Leadership Institute Strategic Planning Supervisory Committee
2014-2017	Supervising Committee of the Joint Doctoral Program, School of Social Work, University of Michigan
2015-2016	Personnel Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2014-2015	Committee on the Administration of Graduate Affairs, Department of Sociology University of Michigan
2013-2014	Personnel Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2012-2013	Executive Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2011-2012	Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2010-2011	Executive Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2009-2010	Colloquium Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association, 1998–present.

Law and Society Association, 1999–present.