

Lucius John Couloute Jr.
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Areas of Interest: Racism, criminalization, prisoner reentry, organizations, mass incarceration, economic insecurity, teaching, public sociology, qualitative methods, public policy.

Employment

July 2024 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Trinity College
2019-2024 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Suffolk University

Education

2019 PhD, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts Amherst
2018 Master's in Sociology, University of Massachusetts Amherst
2012 B.A. Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, With Honors

Publications

- Couloute, Lucius and Dijonée Talley. 2024. ““That Sh*t Ain’t Helping Nobody”: Narratives of Exclusion and Individualism Among Criminalized Men.” *Victims & Offenders*.
- Couloute, Lucius. 2024. ““They Need To Go In There”: Carceral Condemnation Among Formerly Incarcerated Black Men.” *Socius*.
- Couloute, Lucius and Kacie Snyder. 2023. “Housing Insecurity Among People with Criminal Records.” *Kansas Journal of Law and Public Policy*.
- Branch, Enobong Hannah, Christina Jackson, and Lucius Couloute. 2020. “Is Justice Blind? Race and the Rise of Mass Incarceration.” Book chapter in *Black in America: What it Means to be the Problem*. Enobong Hannah Branch & Christina Jackson.
- Couloute, Lucius. 2019. “Organizing Reentry: How Race Structures the Post-Imprisonment Terrain.” *Research in the Sociology of Organizations*. Volume 58.
- Wooten, Melissa and Lucius Couloute. 2017. “The Production of Inequality Within and Among Organizations.” *Sociology Compass*.

In Preparation

Couloute, Lucius. "Reflections on Using an Afrofuturistic Film in the Classroom." (R&R)

Couloute, Lucius. "Race and Organizations." (R&R)

Branch, Enobong Hannah and Lucius Couloute. "Gaming the Racialized Social System: How Black People Talk about Navigating Inequality."

Couloute, Lucius, Yolanda Wiggins, and Kelly Giles. "Black Women as the Invisibilized Backbone of Reentry."

Couloute, Lucius. "Guaranteed: A Qualitative Exploration of Unconditional Direct Cash Transfers among People with Felony Records"

Couloute, Lucius. "Negotiating Status: Ex-prisoners and the Social Hierarchy."

Policy Reports, Articles, and Op-Eds

Couloute, Lucius. 2021. [The Case for Temporary Guaranteed Income for Formerly Incarcerated People](#). The Appeal.

Clayton-Johnson, Gina, Rena Karefa-Johnson, and Titilayo Rasaki. 2020. [Lives on the Line: Women with Incarcerated Loved Ones and the Impact of COVID-19 Behind Bars](#). ESSIE Justice Group.

- Served as lead data analyst for report.

Couloute, Lucius. 2020. [It's Time to Unlock the Vote for Those on Parole](#). CT Mirror.

- [Featured](#) in Common Cause's advocacy resources.

Couloute, Lucius. 2020. [Prisons as a Public Health Threat During COVID-19](#). Contexts.

Couloute, Lucius. 2019. [A Sociologist Goes to Science Camp](#). The Massachusetts Daily Collegian.

Couloute, Lucius and Dan Kopf. 2018. Out of Prison & Out of Work: Unemployment Among Formerly Incarcerated People. Prison Policy Initiative.

- Media coverage: [Colorlines](#), [Washington Post](#), [NBC](#), [CNBC](#), [The Wall Street Journal](#), [The Griot](#), [The Marshall Project](#), [The Crime Report](#), [Mic](#).

Couloute, Lucius. 2018. Nowhere to Go: Homelessness Among Formerly Incarcerated People. Prison Policy Initiative.

- Media coverage: [New York Times](#), [CityLab](#), [Forbes](#), [The Times-Picayune](#), [The Crime Report](#), [Witness LA](#), [Smart Cities Dive](#).

Couloute, Lucius. 2018. Barring the Great Equalizer: Formerly Incarcerated People and Educational Inequality. Prison Policy Initiative.

- Media coverage: [Colorlines](#)

Clayton-Johnson, Gina, Endria Richardson, Lily Mandlin, and Brittany Farr. 2018. [Because She's Powerful: The Political Isolation and Resistance of Women with Incarcerated Loved Ones](#). ESSIE Justice Group.

- Served as lead quantitative data analyst for report.

Couloute, Lucius. Prison Policy Initiative articles. 2017-present.

<https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/author/lucius/>

Book Reviews

Couloute, Lucius. 2020. Review of *Dangerous Masculinity: Fatherhood, Race, and Security Inside America's Prisons (2019)* by Anna Curtis. Rutgers University Press. Sociological Forum.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

2024 Laura and John Arnold Foundation Grant. Prison Identification Project, Principal Investigator (with Co-PI: Kayla Preto-Hodge). (\$93,000)

2023 Committee for Teaching and Scholarly Development Summer Research Award. Suffolk University. (\$6,000)

2022 Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) Visiting Poverty Scholar, University of Wisconsin

2021 Co-Pi, Just Income GNV Guaranteed Income Pilot, Mayors for a Guaranteed Income. (\$30,000)

2021 Russell Sage Foundation Proposal Development Summer Institute Early Career Scholar

2020 Co-Pi, ASA & NSF Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline Grant for "*Black Women and Secondary Criminalization: Understanding the Diffuse Impacts of Mass Incarceration.*" (\$8,000)

2020 Diversity Scholars Network (National Center for Institutional Diversity, University of Michigan)

2019 AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering Workshop (CASE) Sponsorship

2018 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship – Honorable Mention

2018 Summer Research Fellowship: Department of Sociology, UMass Amherst. (\$4,000.00)

2017 Public Sociology Graduate Student of the Year Award, UMass Amherst

2017 Best Comprehensive Exam Paper: UMass Department of Sociology

2017 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Doctoral Summit Scholarship

2017 Fieldwork Grant: Graduate School, UMass Amherst. (\$2,034.00)

2017 Pre-Dissertation Summer Fellowship: Graduate School, UMass Amherst. (\$4,000.00)

2017 Eastern Sociological Society: Travel Grant to present "Organizing Reentry: How Race Structures the Post Imprisonment Terrain" (\$200)

2016 Labor Research & Action Network: New Scholars Research Grant for "*Examining Former Prisoners' Precarious Work Experiences*" (\$4,830.00)

2016 Best Teaching Assistant Award: UMass Department of Sociology (for 2014-15 academic yr)

Public Sociology

- 2022** Written testimony before the Gainesville, FL City Commission in support of the Fair Chance Hiring Ordinance (Ban the Box).
- 2021** Written & oral testimony before the Connecticut Government Administration and Elections Committee in support of HB 6578 (An Act Concerning Participation In The Electoral Process).
- 2021** Written testimony before the Connecticut Housing Committee in support of HB 6431 (An act concerning housing opportunities for Justice-Impacted Persons).
- 2020** Invited speaker on the *Unlock the Vote* Voting Wrongs Barbershop Tour. Hartford, CT.
- 2019** Guest on WMBR (MIT radio, Cambridge) segment “Prisons and Homelessness”
- 2019** Written & oral testimony before the Connecticut Housing Committee in support of HB 5713 and HB 5712 (Acts concerning the use and expungement of criminal records).
- 2017** Written & oral testimony before the Massachusetts Public Safety Committee in support of S.1278 (an act protecting in-person visitation for inmates).
- 2016-** Quoted in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Housing Matters/Urban Institute*, *The Denver Post*, *Bill of Rights Defense Committee and Defending Dissent Foundation*, *Wired Magazine*, *Ars Technica*, *Forbes*, *Truthout (A)*, *Truthout (B)*, *the Florida Times-Union*, *The Crime Report*, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *CNBC*, *Wisconsin Watch*, *Boston Globe*, *Yes! Magazine*, *Prism*.

Research & Teaching Experience

- 2019-** Race, Crime, and Justice; Social Justice; Corrections & Punishment; Deviance and Social Control; Seminar in Corrections; Pathways Through the Criminal Justice System; Crime & Communities; Criminal Justice Policy; (Suffolk University)
- 2018** Globalization and Inequality (Sociology; UMass Amherst)
- 2016** Teaching Assistant, Contemporary Am. Society (Sociology; UMass Amherst)
- 2016** Teaching Assistant, Intro to Sociology (Sociology; UMass Amherst)
- 2015** Research Assistant (Spring, Summer, Fall), NSF Funded Project on Employment Insecurity. Principle Investigator: Enobong Hannah Branch. Department of Sociology; UMass Amherst

University & Departmental Service

- 2022-** Co-organizer: *Teaching & Research in Progress (TRIP) Brownbag Series*
- 2021-** Departmental Honors Coordinator
- 2021** Departmental UCC Representative
- 2020-** Co-organizer: *Now What? Roadblocks to Reentry: A Series*
- 2020-** McNair Scholars Program Mentor (Mardochee Sylvestre 2020; Jennifer Alvarez-Mendoza 2021)

Professional Service

- 2023-** Associate Editor, Journal of Organizational Sociology
- 2021-24** ASA Crime, Law, and Deviance Nominations Committee

- 2021-23 ASA Annual Meeting Travel Fund Selection Committee
- 2020- Reviewer, *American Journal of Sociology*
- 2020- Reviewer, *Law & Society Review*
- 2020- Reviewer, *Journal of Men's Studies*
- 2019- Reviewer, *Social Problems*
- 2019 Eastern Sociological Society mini-conference co-organizer: Race & Organizations

Selected Presentations

- 2024 “Nobody Really Sees It”: Black Women as the Invisibilized Backbone of Reentry. Eastern Sociological Society. Washington, D.C.
- 2021 “They Need To Go In There”: Carceral Condemnation Among Formerly Incarcerated Black Men. American Sociological Association. Virtual.
- 2020 “Grief, Haunting, and the Afterlife of Prison: Understanding Reentry as Social Death.” Accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)
- 2019 “Understanding the Impact of Mass Incarceration.” Summit on Fatherhood and the Health and Wellness of Boys and Men. National Healthy Start Association. Tulsa, OK.
- 2018 “Creating a Crime Problem: Mass Criminalization from Emancipation to the Present.” University of Connecticut. Storrs, CT.
- 2018 “Mass Criminalization in the Age of Colorblind Racism.” Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance. Holland, MI.
- 2018 “Organizing Reentry: How Racial Colorblindness Structures the Post Imprisonment Terrain.” Eastern Sociological Society. Baltimore, MD.
- 2018 “Making your – Social Justice – Mark in College & Beyond.” Male Youth Summit. Waterbury, CT.
- 2017 ““Fighting Just to Stay Right”: Work and Individualism in the Age of Mass Criminalization.” American Society of Criminology. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2017 “Organizing Reentry: How Race Structures the Post Imprisonment Terrain.” Eastern Sociological Society. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2016 “The Social Construction of Reentry: How Criminal Justice Practitioners Talk About the Post Imprisonment Terrain.” American Society of Criminology. New Orleans, LA.
- 2016 “Hope Among the Hopeless: Examining the Reentry Work of Ex-Prisoners.” UMass Amherst.
- 2016 “Why We Need the Black Lives Matter Movement.” Forum on Racial Reconciliation. Hartford, CT.
- 2016 “Working on the Margins: An Examination of Former Prisoners’ Precarious Work Experiences.” Labor Research & Action Network Annual Conference. Chicago, IL

Invited Speaker/Panelist

- 2024 Promises and Pitfalls: Conceptualizing Reentry Supports from the Perspective of Formerly Incarcerated People. American Bar Foundation. Chicago, IL.
- 2023 Zero Returns to Homelessness: National Reentry Housing Symposium. Bureau of Justice Assistance & U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Washington, DC.
- 2023 [Black And Blue: Policing Reform In The 21st Century](#) (Suffolk University)

- 2023 [What's Cash Got To Do With It? Guaranteed Income & the Health of People Returning from Incarceration.](#) SEICHE Center for Health & Justice Yale University.
- 2023 A Compromised State: The History and Purpose of Felony Disenfranchisement. Full Citizens Coalition. Legislative Office Building, Hartford, CT.
- 2023 Understanding the Role of Higher Education in Addressing the Collateral Consequences of Mass Criminalization. John Jay College Institute for Justice and Opportunity.
- 2023 Mechanisms of Housing Insecurity Among People with Criminal Records: A Focus on Landlords. Kansas University School of Law.
- 2022 Guaranteeing Futures: Understanding the Policy Needs of Criminalized People. Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP)
- 2022 "Mass incarceration and Racial Inequality." A Year of Black History at Waltham Public Library.
- 2021 Understanding the Impact of Mass Incarceration. University of Southern Maine.
- 2021 Is This America? A Conversation About Race and the Criminal Justice System. Housatonic Community College.
- 2020 Understanding The School to Prison Pipeline. Capitol Region Education Council.
- 2020 The Connection between Criminalization and Homelessness. National Town Hall on Ending Homelessness. National Alliance to End Homelessness.
- 2020 Keynote Speaker: Annual College Readiness Conference at Trinity College. Hartford, CT. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)
- 2019 A Discussion about the Criminal (In)justice System. Harvard University.
- 2019 Local (Criminal Justice) Politics Matter: Sheriffs and the Fight to Preserve In-person Visits. Center for Justice, Law, and Societies. UMass Amherst.
- 2019 "Homelessness and the Criminal Justice System." National Alliance to End Homelessness. Washington, DC.
- 2019 "Institutional Racism: The Sociology of Race and Organizations." Brown University, Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America." Providence, RI.
- 2019 "Criminal Justice and Homelessness." National Alliance to End Homelessness. San Diego, CA.
- 2018 "Advancing equity in the criminal justice system." Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance. Holland, MI.
- 2017 "People of color in Academia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Resources." UMass Amherst.
- 2017 "Effective Teaching: Advice from Outstanding TAs." UMass Amherst.

Related Employment

- 2020 Research consultation for ESSIE Justice Group & Color of Change
- 2017-18 Policy Analyst (Prison Policy Initiative)
- 2017 Research consultation for the ESSIE Justice Group
- 2017 Research consultation for Face to Face Knox

Other Service

- 2023-2020-21 Board of Directors, President (Prison Policy Initiative)
- 2020-21 Advisory Committee for Hartford Greater Together Community Fund (*Hartford Foundation for Public Giving*)

2019 Advisory Board (*Prison Policy Initiative*)

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association
American Society of Criminology
Eastern Sociological Society

References

Enobong Branch (eb726@odi.rutgers.edu)
Reuben Miller (reuben@uchicago.edu)
Wenona Rymond-Richmond (wenona@soc.umass.edu)
Melissa Wooten (melissa.wooten.phd@gmail.com)
Joya Misra (misra@umass.edu)
Don Tomaskovic-Devey (tomaskovic-devey@soc.umass.edu)
Katie Young (young@umass.edu)
Susan Sered (ssered@suffolk.edu)
Additional references available upon request