

**Meghna Mukherjee**  
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## EDUCATION

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- Ph.D**  
Sociology  
**University of California**, Berkeley, CA (expected 2023)  
*Fields:* Gender, Health and Medicine, Reproduction, Emerging Medical Technologies  
*Qualifying Exams Committee:* Raka Ray, Neil Fligstein, Armando Lara-Millan, Osagie Obasogie
- M.A.**  
Sociology  
**University of California**, Berkeley, CA (2019)  
*Thesis:* “How Do You Want Your Eggs? Kin Making in the Clinic and Social Reproduction in the Bay Area and Kolkata”
- B.A.**  
Sociology,  
Human Rights  
**Columbia University** in the City of New York, Columbia College (2015)  
*Magna Cum Laude, Departmental Honors*  
*Senior Thesis:* “Commercial Surrogacy in India: Understanding and Protecting Non-Traditional Maternity in the Traditional Society”

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Mukherjee, Meghna (2018) More Than a Womb: Recognizing and Protecting ‘Gestational Motherhood’ in India’s Commercial Surrogacy Industry. *Journal of Research on Women and Gender*. Vol. 8, pp. 64-79.
- Mukherjee, Meghna (2018). Ed. Susan M. Shaw et al. “Kingdom of Saudi Arabia” in *Women’s Lives Around the World: A Global Encyclopedia*. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO. Vol. 4, pp 163-174.
- “The Costs of Unequal Patient Status in Fertility Medicine: Donors’ and Intended Parents’ Experiences of Participatory and Imposed Enrollment” (*revised and resubmitted to Social Science and Medicine, August 2019*)
- “How Do You Want Your Eggs? Kin-making in the Clinic and Social Reproduction in Kolkata and the Bay Area” (*in progress*)
- “The False Promises of Somatic Germ Line Gene Editing: Technological Redundancy and Entrenched Social Inequality” (*health policy brief co-sponsored by UC Berkeley Haas Institute and Center for Genetics and Society; in progress*)
- “Compelled to be Bioavailable: Do Women Own the Choice to Donate Their Eggs in Kolkata?” (*in progress*)

## AWARDS & GRANTS

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*ReproSoc Visiting Scholar* position awarded by the University of Cambridge, Department of Sociology (May 2020)

*Albireo Group Fellowship* awarded by the Albireo Group (2019-2020)

- Directly support the founding partner of this social impact organization with projects, client relations, and product management
- Professional development to translate academic research and writing skills into industry applications

*Social Science Matrix Research Team* funding awarded by UC Berkeley (2018-2019, 2019-2020)

- Grant to support an interdisciplinary study of consumer genetic testing and its impact on reframed health diagnoses, management of risk, and tensions between lay and expert medical knowledge

*Bhattacharya Research Fellowship* awarded by UC Berkeley's Institute for South Asia Studies to support Master's Thesis research (2018)

- Research grant awarded to 3 graduate students to support projects centered on contemporary India
- Supported MA research studying medicalized practices surrounding egg donation and donor-parent matching within fertility clinics in California, USA and Kolkata, India

*Regents Fellowship* winner at UC Berkeley (2017)

- Competitive scholarship awarded to select graduate students pursuing a PhD at Berkeley

*Best New Employee* for role as a Grants Officer at The Door/University Settlement (2016)

- Recognition given to 3 new employees who have demonstrated commitment to their roles and made a significant impact on the organization

*Departmental Honors* for senior thesis, "Commercial Surrogacy in India: Understanding and Protecting Non-Traditional Maternity in a Traditional Society" (2014-2015)

- Distinguishes less than 10% of undergraduates in Columbia University's Department of Sociology

*Human Rights Essay of the Year* for "A Bridge of A Difference: The Underlying Factors Characterizing The Kingdom of Bahrain's and Saudi Arabia's Respective Approaches to Women's Public Participation" (2014)

- Two undergraduate students are awarded and invited to present research at a university-wide colloquium

*King's Crown Leadership Excellence for Civic Responsibility* for involvement in Columbia Child Rights Group (2013)

- Award recognizes outstanding community leaders, who carry out service with exemplary commitment
- President of Columbia Child Rights Group (2012-2015), Chairperson of Communications (2011-2012)

## TEACHING

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*Co-Instructor*, "Qualitative Research Methods." Directed by the Center for Ethnographic Research (Summer 2019)

*Graduate Student Instructor*, "Introduction to Sociology." Instructor: Dr. Robert Braun. (Spring 2019)

*Guest Instructor*

- "Medical Case Studies" undergraduate DeCal course. (October 2018, April 2019)
- "Sociology of Health & Medicine" undergraduate course. Instructor: Armando Lara-Millan. (March 2019)
- "NICU' infants and women's health" undergraduate DeCal course. (March 2019)
- "Sociology of Medicine" undergraduate course. Instructor: Alex Barnard. (August 2018)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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National Science Foundation "Science and Innovation Policy Grantee Conference" Panel for Early Career Scholars (October 2019)

- Invited to discuss perspectives on future direction of research within science and innovation studies

RINGS "Genders and Feminisms in a Polarised World: Sustainability, Futures and Utopias" (October 2019)

- Master's thesis: "How Do You Want Your Eggs? Kin-making in the Clinic and Social Reproduction in Kolkata and the Bay Area"

AFIN "Towards Reproductive (In)Justice: Mobilities, Technologies, Labourings & Decisions" (September 2019)

- Master's thesis

American Sociological Association (August 2019)

- Master's thesis

Albany Medical College Reproductive Ethics Conference (April 2019)

- Master's thesis

Pacific Sociological Association (March 2019)

- "The Costs of Unequal Patient Status in Fertility Medicine: Nurturing Embryos while Obscuring the Women behind the Egg"

American Anthropological Association (November 2018)

- "The Idealization of Embryos as Patients in Fertility Care: The Role of Fertility Technology in Nurturing Embryos While Obscuring the Women Behind the Egg"

"Capitalism: Culture and the Individual" Conference at San Diego State University (April 2018)

- "Renegotiating the Medical Wall: Locating and Empowering the Surrogate Mother Within the Capitalistic Clinical Structure"

"The Care and Politics of Boundaries" Conference at Rutgers University (April 2016)

- Senior thesis

## **ACADEMIC RESEARCH**

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UC Berkeley Department of Public Health

California, USA (August 2018 - *present*)

*Graduate Student Researcher for Dr. Ann Keller and Dr. Ken Taymor (NSF Grant #1735661)*

- Studying the federal-level uptake of emerging technologies CRISPR/Cas-9 and Automated Vehicles
- Contributing to research, publication writing, preparing literature reviews, and project management
- Qualitative research: interviews, transcript analysis, building protocols, targeted recruitment

UC Berkeley Social Science Matrix

California, USA (May 2018 - *present*)

*Co-Researcher: DNA of Media Accounts on Genetic Ancestry Testing*

- Studying how genetic test results reconfigure understandings of diagnoses and health risk management
- Digital text analysis of health forum discussions pertaining to consumer genetic technology

UC Berkeley Department of Sociology

California, USA and Siliguri, India (January – December 2018)

*Master's Thesis (advisors: Raka Ray, Armando Lara-Millan)*

- Studying culturally variant kin-making logics and medicalized reframing of donor eggs' heritable traits
- Mixed qualitative research: participant observation at fertility clinics in the Bay Area and Kolkata, focusing on doctor-patient consultations, and 40 interviews with egg donors and clinicians

UC San Francisco, School of Nursing

California, USA (January – July 2018)

*Graduate Student Researcher for Diane Tober*

- Analyzed 100-150 egg donor experience surveys (Qualtrics, STATA) to understand correlations between medical risks, types of hormonal injections, frequency of donation, and the number of eggs donated

UC Berkeley Department of Sociology

California, USA and Siliguri, India (April – July 2018)

*Graduate Student Researcher for Raka Ray*

- Studied economic aspirations, gendered assumptions of labor and employment, and upward mobility
- Mixed qualitative research: 30 interviews and participant observation at two vocational training institutes

Columbia University Department of Sociology

New York, USA and Kolkata, India (Oct 2014 – May 2015)

*Senior Honors Thesis (advisor: Thomas DiPrete); awarded Departmental Honors*

- Interviewed 20 surrogate mothers, recruiters, and clinicians
- Proposed policy framework, incorporating recommendations that respond to research findings

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

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### The Berkeley Center for Genetics and Society

California, USA (January 2019 – *present*)

#### *Research Consultant*

- Co-authoring a health policy brief (and supporting expert panel discussion) regarding social inequities and risks arising from somatic germ line editing

### The Albireo Group

New York, USA (October 2016 - *present*)

#### *Research and Strategy Consultant, Fellow*

- Coordinate with research and social development organizations to create strategic toolkits, funding plans, and communications materials for non-profit organizations based on their specific needs
- Projects: (i) two-generation early childhood development toolkit, (ii) Black teacher-driven K-12 pedagogy model, (iii) data governance toolkit

### The Door – A Center of Alternatives, Inc.

New York, USA (June 2015 – September 2016)

#### *Grants Officer*

- Managed a portfolio of 7 programs across two organizations, including writing all proposals and reports for public and private funders, and managing administrative duties
- Coordinated data reporting and analysis, relevant policy research, and budget preparation
- Supervised and designed an internship program for the Development Department, which successfully established a pool of candidates who were hired into the department

### Human Rights Watch

New York, USA (September 2014 – May 2015)

#### *Foundations & Development Intern*

- Coordinated donor relations by conducting prospect donor research, writing customized acknowledgement letters, and regularly updating Raiser's Edge database
- Managed administrative tasks: filing, monthly budget preparation, and payment installment scheduling

### King Hussein Foundation

Amman, Jordan (June – August 2014)

#### *Communications & Fundraising Intern*

- Conducted research on Jordan's social and economic development areas for program design
- Led the renovation of the organization's website alongside the Executive Director, and applied for an USAID grant to support the process
- Developed fundraising schemes, event management materials, and media publications

### National Economic and Social Rights Initiative

New York, USA (September – December 2013)

#### *Research & Policy Intern*

- Assembled comprehensive research reports on housing legislation across all states in America
- Designed and produced informative materials and graphics for partner grassroots organizations

### Apne Aap Women's Collective

Mumbai, India (June – August 2013)

#### *Research & Strategic Communications Intern*

- Conducted fieldwork to better understand the cultural boundaries oppressing the women and children in the red-light district, the target area of this non-profit organization
- Strengthened the organization's capacity by redeveloping AAWC's annual report and website
- Developed and launched a spoken English curriculum for school- and college-aged girls

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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### **Service**

- UC Berkeley Sociology Undergraduate Honors Thesis Mentoring Program: *Program Coordinator* (2019-2020); *Graduate Student Mentor* (Fall 2017; Fall-Spring 2019)
- Pacific Sociological Association: *Presider* on 'Inequality, Gender, and Health' panel

**Memberships**

- American Sociological Association
- Pacific Sociological Association
- American Anthropological Association

**Affiliations**

- Institute for the Study of Societal Issues
- Berkeley Center for Social Medicine
- Center for Ethnographic Research

**SKILLS**

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**Technology:**

Proficient with STATA, R, ATLAS.ti, Qualtrics, Microsoft Office, iMovie, Garageband, Adobe Creative Photosuite, Internet applications (i.e. Google Docs, WordPress, Prezi), social media platforms, Raiser's Edge Database

**Languages:**

English (fluent), Bengali (fluent), and Spanish (intermediate)