

**MICHAELA SIMMONS**  
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## **EDUCATION**

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Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology, University of California, Berkeley (expected May 2021)

Dissertation Title: *Racialized Pathways of Protection: Race, Childhood, and Public Accountability in New York City Foster Care, 1910-1960*

Committee: Raka Ray (Chair), Cybelle Fox, Chris Muller, Jill Berrick (outside)

Qualifying Exams (2016): Social Theory, Sociology of Poverty, Sociology of Gender

M.A., Sociology, University of California, Berkeley (2015)

B.A., Sociology and Studio Art (Magna Cum Laude), University of California, San Diego (2011)

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## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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Poverty, racial inequality, the U.S. welfare state, criminal justice, family and childhood

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

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Simmons, Michaela C. 2020. "Becoming Wards of the State: Race, Crime, and Childhood in the Struggle for Foster Care Integration, 1920s-1960s." *American Sociological Review* Vol. 85, No. 2

*\*Lead Article*

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## **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & HONORS**

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2018	Ford Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship—Dissertation
2018	Graduate Student Research Grant, Center for Race and Gender, UC Berkeley
2017	Outstanding GSI Award, Department of Sociology, UC Berkeley
2014	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
2014	Ford Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship—Pre-dissertation
2013	UC Berkeley, Sociology Small Research Grant
2012	UC Berkeley Chancellor's Fellowship

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## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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Nov. 2019	"Kindly People of His Own Rank: Racial Hierarchy and the Rise of Foster Family Care, 1910-1960." Social Science History Association, Child Welfare Section. Chicago, IL.
Aug. 2018	"Producing Delinquency: Racial Inclusion in Early Foster Care, 1920s-1960s." American Sociology Association, Social Control and Deviance Section. Philadelphia, PA.
Sept. 2014	"Race, Class, and Care-giving in the Era of Prison Expansion." Conference of Ford Fellows. Irvine, CA.

Aug. 2014      “Gender and the Neoliberal State: A New Ethics of Care in the Era of Penal Expansion.”  
The Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA.

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### *Teaching Assistant: Discussion Sections*

Spring 2017      Introduction to Sociology, Head GSI (for Professor Ann Swidler, UC Berkeley)  
Fall 2015        Introduction to Sociology (for Professor Ann Swidler, UC Berkeley)

### *Mentoring*

2017-2018      Undergraduate Honors Thesis Mentoring Program. UC Berkeley, Sociology Department  
2014-2015      Getting into Graduate School Program. UC Berkeley, The Graduate Diversity Program  
2013-2014      Undergraduate Honors Thesis Mentoring Program. UC Berkeley, Sociology Department

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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*Graduate Student Writing Consultant* UC Berkeley, January 2020 - Present.

Assist graduate students in understanding best writing practices, develop materials for workshops and program website, and organize panel presentations on writing and publishing.

*Research Assistant* for Raka Ray. UC Berkeley, Spring 2014.

Created annotated bibliography on most recent work published on the subject of intersectionality in preparation for the design of a course syllabus.

*Research Assistant* for Criminal Justice Division, San Diego Association of Governments, 2011—2012

Worked as part of a research team to improve crime policy and crime reduction strategies in the San Diego County.

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## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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Occasional Reviewer for American Sociological Review

American Sociological Association, Professional Membership  
Section on Comparative-Historical Sociology