

Anya Degenshein

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
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Education

- 2012-present Ph.D. Candidate (ABD), Sociology, Northwestern University; degree expected June 2019.
Dissertation: “Lawfully Entrapped: The Creation of Risk in the ‘War on Terror’”
Committee Members: John Hagan (Chair), Wendy Nelson Espeland, Bernard Harcourt (Columbia Law School), and Mary Pattillo
- 2015-2016 CERIL Lab, Sciences Po, Paris, France
Doctoral Exchange Student; Didier Bigo (Sciences Po and Kings College), *tuteur*
- 2014 M.A. Sociology, Northwestern University
Thesis: “What’s Lost in the ‘Fringe’: The Economic and Social Processes of an Urban Pawnshop”
Committee Members: Bruce Carruthers (Chair) and Mary Pattillo
- 2012 M.A. Social Sciences, University of Chicago
Thesis: “Shared Meaning, Shrouded Legitimacy, and Ruptured Alliances: The Creation of Prosecutorial Power in the Legislative Arena”
Thesis Advisor: Bernard Harcourt
- 2007 B.A. Sociology and Government, Cornell University
Phi Beta Kappa

Areas of Interest

- Law and Society, Criminal Justice, Punishment
- Surveillance, Risk, Theory
- Racial and Economic Inequality, Discourse and Narrative

Refereed Journal Articles

Degenshein, Anya. (2017) “Strategies of Valuation: Repertoires of Worth at the Financial Margins,” *Theory and Society* 46(5): 387-409

Journal Manuscripts Under Review and in Preparation

UNDER REVIEW

Degenshein, Anya. "The Object Economy: The Banking Alternative of a Chicago Pawnshop."
Under review at [Contexts](#)
- An earlier version can be found online in [The Chicago Dispatch](#). May 2016 Issue,
lead story. <http://www.thechidispach.com/object-economy-degenshein>

IN PREPARATION

Degenshein, Anya. "‘Digital Avatar’ or ‘Double Life’? Speculating Futures with Digital Evidence in a
Terrorism Entrapment Trial"

Degenshein, Anya. "Threat Assessments: The Retreat of Risk in Terrorism ‘Prevention’"

Degenshein, Anya. "Ruptured Alliances: Prosecutors, Victims, and the Legislative Fight for
Discretion."

Degenshein, Anya. "Heeding Desire: Social Meaning-Making and Researcher-Informant Relations in
the Field."

Other Professional Writing

Degenshein, Anya (2017). Interview with ASA Sociology of Law council member Ashley Rubin.
AMICI newsletter (official section newsletter for ASA Sociology of Law section). Summer.
<http://www.law.uci.edu/faculty/full-time/talesh/summer2017amici.pdf>

Public Sociology

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2018 Invited panelist for the Northwestern One Book project at Stateville Prison, Crest
Hill, Illinois, April 11, 2018.

2017 Invited panelist for a discussion on mass incarceration and institutional racism to
benefit Curt’s Café. Kellogg Global Hub, Northwestern University, May 24, 2017.

FEATURED IN

[Slate](#)^{FR} ([French Slate](#))
"Le FBI a pris le contrôle d’un site pédopornographique pour arrêter des criminels. Est-ce
éthique." First published January 26, 2016.

Honors and Awards

2017 Karpf Peace Prize, Northwestern University. (\$3,335)

Fellowships and Grants

2017-2019 Presidential Fellowship, Society of Fellows, Northwestern University.

2012-present Legal Studies Fellow, Center for Legal Studies, Northwestern University.

2016-2017 University Fellowship, The Graduate School, Northwestern University.

Summer 2016 The Sexualities Program at Northwestern (SPAN) Conference Travel Award Grant for working paper, "The Saliency of Sexuality: Social Meaning-Making and Researcher-Informant Relations in the Field." (\$400)

2015-2016 Doctoral Exchange Student Fellowship, Sciences Po, Paris

2015-2016 Paris Program in Critical Theory Fellow, Northwestern University. (\$3,000 travel and relocation grant)

Summer 2013 MacArthur Summer Research Grant, with John Hagan: "Shared Meaning, Shrouded Legitimacy, and Ruptured Alliances: The Creation of Prosecutorial Power in the Legislative Arena." (\$1,200)

2012-2013 University Fellowship, The Graduate School, Northwestern University.

Presentations at Professional Meetings and Selected Workshops

2018 "Constricting Constitutional Rights, Expanding Surveillance, and Inciting Terrorism in *US v Mohamud*"

- **Culture and Society Workshop**, Northwestern University (Evanston, IL February)
- **Law and Society Association** (*accepted*, Toronto, Canada, June)
- **American Sociological Association** (*accepted*, Philadelphia, PA, August)

2017 "Constricting Constitutional Rights, Expanding Surveillance, and Inciting Terrorism in *US v Mohamud*"

- Joint **law and society grad conference** among **École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, UC Berkeley, and Northwestern** (Paris, France, December)
- **European Association of Social Anthropologists LawNet "Anticipating Law" workshop** (Bern, Switzerland, September)
- **Crime, Law, and Society Workshop**, Northwestern University (Evanston, IL, May)

"Ruptured Alliances: Prosecutors, Victims, and the Legislative Fight for Discretion."
American Sociological Association (Montreal, Canada, August).

- 2016 “Analyzing Themes in Indictments of Domestic Terrorism Entrapment Cases, 2001-2011.”
Midwest Law and Society Retreat (Madison, WI, November).
“Beyond Risk: Entrapment, Surveillance, and the Creation of Criminal Biographies.”
Junior Theorists Symposium (Seattle, WA, August).
“The Salience of Sexuality: Social Meaning-Making and Researcher-Informant Relations in the Field.”
American Sociological Association (Seattle, WA, August).
- 2015 “Beyond Risk: Entrapment, Surveillance, and the Creation of Criminal Biographies.”
Law and Society Association (Seattle, WA, May).
- 2014 “What’s Lost in the ‘Fringe’: The Economic and Social Processes of an Urban Pawnshop.”
- **Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics** (Chicago, IL, July)
- **American Sociological Association** (San Francisco, CA, August).
- 2013 “Shared Meaning, Shrouded Legitimacy, and Ruptured Alliances: The Creation of Prosecutorial Power in the Legislative Arena.”
Law and Society Association (Boston, MA, May).

Teaching and Mentorship

- 2017-2018 Mentor for **undergraduate sociology majors**, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University.
- Fall 2015 Mentor for student capstone papers for the **Northwestern Undergraduate Program in Critical Theory at Sciences Po**, Paris.
- Winter 2015 Teaching Assistant for Sociology/Legal Studies **Sociology of Law**, for Robert Nelson. Department of Sociology, Northwestern University.
- Spring 2014 Teaching Assistant for Sociology/Legal Studies **Introduction to Law and Society**, for Laura Beth Nielsen. Department of Sociology, Northwestern University.
- Spring 2013 Teaching Assistant for Sociology **Introduction to Sociology**, for Anthony Chen. Department of Sociology, Northwestern University.
- Summer 2007 Teaching Assistant for **Introduction to Acting** at Auburn Correctional Facility, for Carolyn Goelzer, Department of Performing and Media Arts, Cornell University. The class was a pioneering course in the **Cornell Prison Education Program (CPEP)**.

Research

- 2012-2014 Research Assistant at the **American Bar Foundation** (ABF) for Laura Beth Nielsen (ABF and Northwestern), Jill Weinberg (Tufts), and Jeremy Freese (Stanford) for their project, “Contested Constructions of Discrimination.”

Fall 2013,
Winter 2014; Research Assistant for Anthony Chen, **Departments of Sociology and Political
Fall 2014, Science and the Institute for Policy Research**, Northwestern University.
Spring 2015

Professional Service

JOURNALS

Reviewer,
American Journal of Sociology; Law & Social Inquiry; Law and Society Review; and Theory and
Society

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIP

- 2018 Presider (*assigned*) for the Section on the Sociology of Law roundtable, "The Law,
Security, and Gun Rights." American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting
(Philadelphia, PA, August)
- 2017 Presider for the Section on the Sociology of Law regular session panel, "Law and
Society Perspective on Crime Control, Citizenship, and Persistence of Inequality."
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting (Montréal, Canada,
August)
- 2014 Panel organizer for the SASE mini-conference "Domesticizing Financial Economies:
Knitting Fibers of Transaction, Algorithm, and Exchange." Society for the
Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) annual meeting (Chicago, IL, July)

Member,

- American Sociological Association (ASA)
Section membership: Crime, Law and Deviance; Cultural Sociology; Economic Sociology;
Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility; Sociology of Law; Theory
- Law and Society Association (LSA)
- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE)

Department and University Service and Leadership

- 2018-present Founding member of the **Graduate Student Advisory Committee** for the
Northwestern Prison Education Program (NPEP).
- 2016-2017 Graduate student representative on the Northwestern **Sociology PhD Admissions
Committee**, 2017 cohort.
- 2014-2015 Student coordinator of the Northwestern **Urban and Communities Workshop**,
Department of Sociology.

2014-2015 Department of Sociology **Graduate Student Association (GSA) President**,
Northwestern University.

2014-2015 Graduate Student Representative on the **Graduate Affairs Committee**, Department
of Sociology.

Languages

English (native); French (advanced); Spanish (advanced)