

Katherine Bright

September 2023

EDUCATION

Rutgers University-Newark, New Jersey, Ph.D.
Criminal Justice, School of Criminal Justice
2017—2023

Dissertation: *The Digital Footprint of Sexual Violence*

Committee: Dr. Sarah Lageson (chair); Dr. Bill McCarthy and Dr. Jody Miller

Boston College, Massachusetts, M.A.
Sociology, Graduate College of Arts and Sciences
2008-2011

Thesis: *"The Spectrum of Slavery": from Housing Instability among Youth to Sex Trafficking*

Chair: Dr. Lisa Dodson

San Diego State University, California, B.A.
Sociology, specialization in Crime and Control, College of Arts and Letters
2001-2006

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
University of Colorado—Colorado Springs
College of Public Service
2023-*Current*

Research Areas: Technology, Sexual and Gender-based victimization, Commercial Sexual Exploitation, Trauma-informed and Survivor/Equity-based research methods

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Bačák, V., Štulhofer, A., & **Bright, K.** (2023). The role of mental health and delinquent behaviors in the cycle of sexual violence among Croatian adolescents: a longitudinal exploration with replication. *Archives of sexual behavior*, 1-13.

Bačák, V., Wilson, L., & **Bright, K.** (2021). Gendered association between sexual self-identification and police encounters perceived as unfair. *Annals of Epidemiology*, 63, 41-45.

Rothman, E. F., Farrell, A., Paruk, J., **Bright, K.**, Bair-Merritt, M., & Preis, S. R. (2021). Evaluation of a multi-session group designed to prevent commercial sexual exploitation of minors: The “my life my choice” curriculum. *Journal of interpersonal violence*, 36 (19-20), 9143-9166.

Bačák, V., **Bright, K.**, & Wilson, L. (2020). “Gender-affirmative housing in jails and prisons.” *The Lancet Public Health*, 5(7), e373–e373.

Farrell, A., **Bright, K.**, de Vries, I., Pfeffer, R., & Dank, M. (2020). “Policing labor trafficking in the United States.” *Trends in Organized Crime*, 23(1), 36-56.

Rothman, E., Preis, S., **Bright, K.**, Paruk, J., Bair-Merritt, M., & Farrell, A. (2020). “A Longitudinal Evaluation of a Survivor-Mentor Program for Child Survivors of Sex Trafficking in the United States.” *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 100, 104083.

Rothman, E., Farrell, A., **Bright, K.**, & Paruk, J. (2018). “Ethical and Practical Considerations for Collecting Research-Related Data from Commercially Sexually Exploited Children.” *Human Trafficking and Health*, special issue of *Behavioral Medicine*, 44(3): 250-258.

Farrell, A., Pfeffer, R., & **Bright, K.** (2015). “Police perceptions of human trafficking.” *Journal of Crime and Justice*, 38(3): 315-333.

Public Writing and Technical Reports

Core study contributor. (2023). *In Harm’s Way: How Systems Fail Human Trafficking Survivors: Survey Results from the First National Survivor Study*. Polaris Project. [Link to report](#).

Bright, K. (2020). Love, Sex (dolls) and Robots in the Age of Coronavirus. *The Society Pages*.

Bright, K., Wilson, L., & Bacak, V. (2020). Open your eyes to how transgender people are policed. *NY Daily News*.

Wilson, L., **Bright, K.**, & Bacak, V. (2020). Wilson, L., Bright, K., & Bacak, V. (2020). *Perceptions of Public Safety Among Justice-Involved LGBTQ Persons*. Newark Public Safety Collaborative Report. Newark, New Jersey.

Owens, C., Dank, M., Breaux, J., Bañuelos, I., Farrell, A., Pfeffer, R., **Bright, K.**, Heitsmith, R & McDevitt, J. (2014). *Understanding the organization, operation, and victimization process of labor trafficking in the United States*. National Institute of Justice. NCJRS #NCJ248461.

Book Chapters

Goldblatt-Grace, L., **Bright, K.**, Corbett, A., & Morrissey, A. (2018). “Preventing the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: The My Life My Choice Model.” In A. Nichols, T. Edmond, & E. Heil, Eds. *Social Work Practice with Survivors of Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.

Farrell, A., & **Bright, K.** "Human Trafficking" (2016). *The Handbook of Measurement Issues in Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 111-130.

FUNDING AND AWARDS

Newark Dean's Dissertation Fellowship

Graduate School, Rutgers University-Newark

Amount: \$25,000

Fall 2022 –Spring 2023

The Association of Doctoral Programs in Criminology and Criminal Justice Dissertation Research Award

Amount: \$1000

Spring 2023

Research Award

Rutgers University, School of Criminal Justice

Amount: \$650

Spring 2023

Travel Award

Graduate School, Rutgers University-Newark

Amount: \$1,080

Spring 2023

Dean's Competitive Summer Support Grant

School of Criminal Justice, Rutgers University-Newark

Amount: \$4,000

Summer 2022

The Larry J. Siegel Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Gender and Crime

ASC Division of Victimology Award

Amount: \$5,000

Spring 2022

Research Award

Rutgers University, School of Criminal Justice

Amount: \$300

Spring 2022

Researcher Spotlight

Center for Justice & Reconciliation

Point Loma Nazarene University

Non-funded recognition

Spring 2022

Travel Grant

Rutgers University, School of Criminal Justice
Amount: \$600
Spring 2022

Covid Academic Advancement Program

Graduate School, Rutgers University-Newark
Amount: \$5,000
Summer 2021

Dean's Competitive Summer Support Grant

Rutgers University, School of Criminal Justice
Amount: \$4,000
Summer 2020

Newark Public Safety Collaborative Data-Informed Community Engagement Award

Project Title: LGBTQ Status and Police Experiences
Amount: \$2,500
Spring 2020

Presidential Fellowship

Rutgers University
Amount: \$75,000
Annual award, 2017- 2021

CONSULTANT EXPERTISE

Field Research Consultant, Qualitative and Trauma-Informed Research

Polaris Project
National Survivor Study (human trafficking)
Survivor informed, participatory-action research, mixed-methods research
Jan. 2021-April 2022

Research Consultant, Data Collection with Vulnerable Youth

Point of View Story
Filmmakers working to bring CSEC narratives into therapeutic services
Survivor and community-based research methods and curriculum development
Feb. 2021

Department of Children and Families, New Jersey
Office of Research, Evaluation and Reporting
Survivor and community-based research method
Oct. 2020

Expert Consultant on Human Trafficking

International Human Rights Clinic
Rutgers Law School-Newark
Pilot pre-arrest diversion program

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Rutgers University-Newark, School of Criminal Justice

Principal Investigator, *The Digital Footprint of Sexual Violence*

November 2021—current

Principal investigator on a three-part qualitative study, utilizing digital tools/methods. Responsibilities included the development of a novel database (that will serve as the foundation for a crowdsourced, publicly available dataset similar to Fatal Encounters, which tracks police-citizen killings), in-depth and written interviews, grant management, budget/payments, methodological development, digital-study design and tool development, coding/analysis, staff management and training (RA support) and distribution/presentation of data for academic, public and survivor audiences. Methodologically, this project offered extensive experience in developing trauma-informed and survivor/equity-based research methods that shaped research design and the project's internal policies, processes and practices.

Rutgers University-Newark, School of Criminal Justice

Graduate Research Associate

PI: Valerio Bacak, PhD.

August 2018- Current

Research associate for a mixed methods pilot study on the effect of incarceration on health and well-being of sexual and gender minorities. Responsibilities included field interviews, co-designing qualitative data collection processes and study tools, enrollment and study maintenance of 28 study participants, data storage management, collaborating with partner organizations/NGO staff, survey and interview instrument design, qualitative coding and analysis, conference presentations and contributing to manuscripts for academic publication as well as several public pieces. Additional responsibilities included organizing a day-long LGBTQ health and resiliency conference for over 200 attendees.

Polaris Project, Washington, DC.

Research Consultant

PI: Sara Woldehanna, PhD.

Jan. 2021 – April 2022

Paid consultant/researcher for a national, mixed methods study focused on aftercare needs and

experiences for victims/survivors of human trafficking. Responsibilities included designing and implementing trauma-informed study practices (including training of all research staff), co-developing qualitative study design, IRB and study protocol development, primary data collection of survivor-led, focus group interviews, key stakeholder in-depth interviews and cognitive interviews with survivors, enrollment and participant retention of roughly 60 participants, survey and interview instrument development.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Exploitation and Resiliency Project

Field Interviewer

PI: Meredith Dank, PhD.

March 2019- December 2019

Field survey collection for a mixed methods study on U.S. citizen experiences of labor exploitation and trafficking from vulnerable youth, ages 14-21.

Rutgers University-Newark, School of Criminal Justice

Graduate Research Associate

PI: Sarah Lageson, PhD.

May 2018- November 2018

Summer research associate for a mixed methods study on expungement and criminal record data. Responsibilities included primary recruitment and enrollment maintenance of over 100 study participants, scheduling and ongoing communication with all study participants, data storage management and early descriptive analysis.

Rutgers University-Newark, School of Criminal Justice

Graduate Research Associate

PI: Rod Brunson, PhD.

May 2018- September 2018

Summer research associate for an evaluation of an anti-violence initiative in Oakland, Ca. Responsibilities included transcription and data storage management and early qualitative analysis and contributed to final technical report.

Northeastern University, Institute on Race and Justice

Project Manager and Researcher

PI: Amy Farrell, PhD, Jack McDevitt, PhD.

October 2012--August 2017

Research associate and project manager for several federally funded NIJ grants on human trafficking, at the local, state and national level. Responsibilities included IRB protocol development, survey and interview instrument design, primary survey and qualitative interview data collection, field interviewer, enrollment maintenance of over 300 study participants, data storage and management of multiple databases, qualitative coding and analysis, and direct supervision and training for six-ten research assistants. Contributed heavily to evaluation reports, manuscripts for academic publication, technical reports, and conference presentations.

Boston College, Crittenton Women's Union
Graduate Research Associate
PI: Lisa Dodson, PhD.
March 2010-February 2011

Collected qualitative and observational data for the evaluation of a social-network intervention for single mothers living in public housing. Conducted field interviews, transcriptions, coding and data analysis. Contributed to evaluation reports.

INVITED SPEAKING EVENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Critical and Translational Science Institute, Boston University, Massachusetts
March 2021

Recruitment and Retention of Challenging Research Populations and Secondary Trauma Preparation for the Research Team.

The Health, Education, Advocacy, and Linkage Network (HEAL)

Aug. 2020

Conducting Longitudinal Research with Sexually Exploited and System-Involved Children.

Human Trafficking Research and Data Advisory Conference

Feb. 2019

Practical and Ethical Considerations for Collecting Research from Sexually Exploited Children.

International Conference on Human Trafficking Research

May 2019

Ethical and Practical Considerations for Collecting Research-Related Data from Sexually Exploited Children.

Department of Public Health, Massachusetts

Feb. 2015

Living on the Edge: The intersection of Teen Pregnancy, Homelessness and Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

*"The Digital Distribution of Sexual Violence." *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*. Atlanta, Georgia. Nov. 2022.

*"The Digital Footprint of Sexual Violence." *Law and Society Annual Meeting*, Lisbon, Portugal. July 2022.

*"The Digital Distribution of Sexual Violence." *Law and Society Annual Meeting*, Chicago, Illinois. May 2021.

“Ideas about Policing and Public Safety from Justice-Involved LGBTQ Persons.” *Public Safety Collaborative, Rutgers University-Newark*. Newark, New Jersey. With Lauren Wilson. Nov. 2020.

“Experiences and Perceptions of Public Safety among Justice-Involved LGBTQ Persons.” *Center for Gender, Sexuality, Law and Policy, Rutgers University-Newark*. Newark, New Jersey. With Valerio Bacak and Lauren Wilson. Nov. 2020.

*“Methodological Considerations and Secondary Trauma for Collecting Data from Marginalized Populations.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, Washington D.C. With Valerio Bacak and Lauren Wilson. (Cancelled, covid)

*“Exploring the Links Between Incarceration and Health among Sexual and Gender Minorities.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, Washington D.C. With Valerio Bacak and Lauren Wilson. Nov. 2019.

*“Outcomes of an evaluation of CSEC survivor mentorship services for Boston-area girls who have experienced sexual exploitation.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, Georgia. With Jennifer Paruk, Emily Rothman and Amy Farrell. Nov. 2018.

* “Evaluation Services for Domestic Victims of Human Trafficking.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. With Jennifer Paruk, Emily Rothman and Amy Farrell.

*“Evaluation Strategies for Programs that Identify and Serve Victims of Human Trafficking.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, Louisiana. With Jennifer Paruk, Emily Rothman and Amy Farrell. Nov. 2016.

“Public Health and Criminology: Integrating Approaches for Collaborative Success.” *American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, Louisiana. With Emily Rothman, Amy Farrell and Jennifer Paruk. Nov. 2016.

MEDIA RECOGNITION

The Lowell Sun, “Homelessness Seen Hitting Teen Parents Hard.” 03/27/2014

Huffington Post, The Blog, “Fighting Trafficking Through Film.” 03/07/2012

TEACHING

Courses

Introduction to Criminal Justice

In-person course with 40-45 undergraduate students

Fall 2023

Gender, Crime and Justice

Instructor, Asynchronous online course with 45-60 undergraduate students.

Fall 2020 / Spring 2021

Freedom Summer Collegiate (Accepted in 2020 → *Coronavirus cancelled*)

Program designed to train and support PhD students; teaching high school students in rural Mississippi and Alabama.

Course: Gender and Criminal Justice.

TA for Introductory course: Criminal Justice

Responsibilities included: recitation and full course lecture each week, designing and grading quizzes and tests, designing in-class assignments.

Spring 2018

TA for Introductory course: Criminal Justice

Responsibilities included: recitation and full course lecture each week, grading quizzes and tests, designing in-class assignments, evaluating and assisting students with final writing projects.

Fall 2017

Training

Teaching Criminal Justice

Graduate seminar designed to provide a theoretical overview of, and practical skill development for teaching in higher education settings. The course was focused on specific teaching strategies, pedagogical decisions, course design, management of classroom behavior, evaluation techniques, and general development as an instructor in college/ university courses.

Fall 2019

UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal reviewer

Criminology

Journal of Interpersonal Violence

Trauma, Violence, & Abuse

Child Maltreatment

Sexuality and Culture

Race and Justice

Journal of Sexual Aggression

Journal of Human Trafficking

International Criminal Justice Review

Affiliations

American Society of Criminology

Law and Society Association

Service

Honors Living-Learning Community's (HLLC)

Admissions Evaluator

Spring 2023, Spring 2021, Spring 2020

Women's History Month

Steering Committee

Co-chair: Community Outreach and Engagement; as member: Nominations

Oct. 2019 – March 2021

Student Government Association

Community Engagement Chair

July 2019 – July 2020

Rutgers Center for Gender, Sexuality, Law and Policy

Health Disparities and Health Promotion Working Group

Co-organizer, LGBTQ Health & Resilience Conference at Rutgers-Newark

August 2018-March 2020

YOUTH SERVICE POSITIONS

Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy

Young Parent Policy Fellows Engagement Specialist

October 2012- January 2015

As the Engagement Specialist I worked directly with teen parents ages 16-26. In this role, I assisted young parents in advocating for policy changes at both the state and local level and learning to speak publicly, to become their own press representative, co-facilitate workshops, engage in formal writing/advocacy campaigns, participate in local research, and engage in social media platforms that centered activism. I also worked as a liaison between staff and fellows, co-designed YPPF policies/ program structure with youth, including, budget and future visioning work, and implemented a large-scale public screening of young parent's digital stories, conferences and various panels to educate local policymakers, educators, providers, and college students on the realities and stigmas of parenting young.

Just A Start House (Teen Parent Residential Living Program)

Case Manager

September 2009- November 2011

Directly responsible for the clinical, emotional, and physical safety of clients and their children. This role required building strong relationships of trust with young people, who often struggled to connect with adults and outsiders. In addition, I supported youth in rebuilding their lives during an experience of homelessness, in ways that felt true to their identity and supported their unique

goals. Additional responsibilities included: Coordinating, organizing and monitoring clients participation in programming, exercising clinical skills, independent judgment, and discretion in sensitive client situations, conducting weekly meetings designed to support and facilitate relationships between clients and program staff and de-escalating and problem solving high-conflict relationships.

Mi Casa (Probation transition and foster care group home for boys, ages 12-17)

Case Manager

January--July 2008

Directly responsible for the daily living program of six teenage boys who suffered from systemic and often, caretaker-induced trauma. Worked as part of team responsible for daily structured life and recreational activities with youth. Additional responsibilities included: improving and monitoring clients participation in programming, exercising clinical skills to de-escalate and problem solving high-conflict situations.