

# LAURA A. BRAY

## Curriculum Vitae

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University of Oklahoma  
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### EDUCATION

PhD in Sociology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 2021  
MS in Sociology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 2015  
BA in Sociology and Political Science, Austin College, Sherman, TX 2009

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS AND EXPERIENCE

#### University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

Research Scientist, Center for Applied Social Research 2022-present  
Faculty Affiliate, Department of Sociology 2022-present  
Faculty Affiliate, Health Promotion Research Center 2022-present  
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Center for Applied Social Research 2021

#### North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina

Project Manager, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management 2018-2021  
Instructor, Department of Sociology 2017-2021  
Research Assistant, Department of Sociology 2014-2017

### RESEARCH INTERESTS AND EXPERTISE

Environmental Sociology                      Environmental Justice  
Rural Sociology                                Health and wellbeing  
Social Movements                             Disasters and Hazards

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Peer-reviewed journal articles

- Forth. **Bray, LA**, O Porter, A Kim, and LL Jervis. "Collective Health Behaviors and Face Mask Utilization During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Oklahoma, USA." *Journal of Public Health*.
- Forth. **Bray, LA**, NJ Membrez-Weiler, and TE Shriver. "Agrochemical Exposure and Environmental Illness: Legal Repression of Latin American Banana Workers." *The Sociological Quarterly*.
- Forth. Shriver, TE, **LA Bray**, A Wilcox, and AM Szabo. "Human Rights and Dissent in Hybrid Environments: The Impact of Shifting Rights Regimes." *The Sociological Quarterly*.
- 2022 **Bray, LA**. "Water Justice Across the Rural-Urban Interface: The Making of Hydrosocial Territories in New Mexico's Rio Grande Valley." *Society & Natural Resources* 35(3): 320-337.

- 2021 **Bray, LA.** “Settler Colonialism and Rural Environmental Injustice: Water Inequality on the Navajo Nation.” *Rural Sociology* 86(3): 586-610, special issue on “Race, Ethnicity, and Rurality in the United States.”
- 2020 Adams, AE, TE Shriver, **LA Bray** and C Messer. “Petrochemical Pollution and the Suppression of Environmental Protest.” *Sociological Inquiry* 90(3):646-68.
- 2020 Shriver, TE., AM Szabo, and **LA Bray.** “Opportunity and Threat behind the Iron Curtain: The Failed Diffusion of Human Rights Activism in Romania.” *International Sociology* 35(6):739-57.
- 2020 Shriver, TE., A Wilcox, and **LA Bray.** “Elite Cultural Work and Discursive Obstruction of Human Rights Activism.” *Social Currents* 7(1):11-28.
- 2019 **Bray, LA,** TE. Shriver, and AE Adams. “Framing Authoritarian Legitimacy: Elite Cohesion in the Aftermath of Popular Rebellion.” *Social Movement Studies* 18(6):682-701.
- 2019 **Bray, LA,** TE Shriver, and AE Adams. “Mobilizing Grievances in an Authoritarian Setting: Threat and Emotion in the 1953 Plzeň Uprising.” *Sociological Perspectives* 62(1):77-95.
- 2019 Shriver, TE, AE Adams, and **LA Bray.** “Political Power and Manufacturing Consent: The Case of the 1953 Plzeň Protest.” *The Sociological Quarterly* 60(1):26-45.
- 2018 Shriver, TE, **LA Bray,** and AE Adams. “Legal Repression of Protesters: The Case of Worker Revolt in Czechoslovakia.” *Mobilization* 23(3):307-28. doi:
- 2017 **Bray, LA.** “Media and ‘Undone Science’ in West Virginia’s Elk River Chemical Spill.” *Environmental Sociology* 3(4):359-69.

### Manuscripts in review and revision

Jervis, LL, **LA Bray,** DW Cox II, G TallBull, BC Lowery, P Spicer. “Availability of Healthy Food, Alcohol, and Tobacco in a Rural Tribal Community” (under review, preprint available at [Research Square](#)).

Vilá, O, BB Cutts, **LA Bray,** and M Crites. “Recognition and Ethical Research Practices: The Role of Community Specialists” (under review).

Vilá, O, **LA Bray,** BB Cutts, G Hornsby, A Harris, H Goins, N McMenamin, T Harlee, A Allen, S McLean, M Crites. “Shifting Terrains: Soils and Environmental Health Perception Following Floods” (under review).

### Reports and other publications

- 2021 Cutts, BB, **LA Bray,** and O Vilá. Video: [Between a River and a Swamp: “All That Water’s Gotta Go Somewhere.”](#) Project BRIDGE, NC State University.
- 2020 **Bray, LA,** O Vilá, BB Cutts, D Lowry, M Crites, H Goins, S McLean, N McMenamin, M Legerton, and A Harris. “Promoting Environmental Justice through Participatory Disaster Research.” *Carolina Planning Journal* 45:48-57.

- 2019 Vilá, O, **L Bray**, B Cutts, A Harris, and G Hornsby. [\*Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context\*](#). Quick Response Report. Boulder, CO: Natural Hazards Center.

## RESEARCH AND GRANT SUPPORT

- 2022-2023 Building Adaptive Capacity through Tribal Engagement in Climate Science, South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center, Role: PI, 07/01/2022-06/31/2023, \$14,487.
- 2021-2022 CATCH-UP Vaccines: Community-engaged Approaches to Testing in Community and Healthcare Settings for Underserved Populations, NIH National Institute of General Medical Science (NIGMS 3U54GM104938-09S3), Role: Researcher (PI: Judith James), 07/01/2021-06/30/2022, \$72,486.
- 2021-2022 Oklahoma PREVENT: PRogram to Enhance Vaccine Equity in Nonmetropolitan and Tribal Areas, NIH National Institute of General Medical Science (NIGMS U54GM104938), Role: Researcher (PI: Judith James), 07/01/2021-06/30/2022, \$70,750.
- 2020-2021 Planning Nature-Based Flood Mitigation Strategies through Participatory Videos, NC Sea Grant (R/MG-2009), Role: Co-Investigator (PI: Bethany Cutts), 08/01/2020-07/31/2021, \$10,000.
- 2019 Robeson County – 100 Soil Tests Near Flooded Homes, Foundation for the Carolinas Hurricane Florence Grant Program, Role: Co-Investigator (PI: Bethany Cutts), 04/01/2019-12/31/2019, \$40,000.
- 2018-2020 Building Resilience by Innovating through Diverse Group Engagement (BRIDGE): Long-term Recovery from Hurricane Matthew, NC Sea Grant (R/18-RCE-3), Role: Project Manager (PI: Bethany Cutts), 02/01/2018-12/30/2020, \$119,970.00.
- 2018-2019 Dividing the San Juan: Water Inequality in the Southwest, Rural Sociological Society, Dissertation Research Award, 08/01/2018-07/31/2019, \$1,405.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2020 Graduate Student Mentor Award, Sociology Graduate Student Association, NC State University
- 2017 Lead Mentor, Lead Peer Mentoring Collaborative, NC State University. \$1,000.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Invited presentations

- 2022 “Resourcing Resilience: A Deliberative Documentary on Long-Term Disaster Recovery in Robeson County,” with BB Cutts, O Vilá, and T Beckham. UNCP Social Justice Symposium, UNC Pembroke, Pembroke, NC (Feb 9). Invited presenter.

- 2021 “Settler Colonialism and Rural Environmental Injustice: Water Inequality on the Navajo Nation.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Session on Race, Ethnicity, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Rural Sociological Imaginings (Jul 31). Invited presenter.
- 2021 “Exploring the Sociocultural Life of the Banana,” Fairtrade Fortnight 2021, panel organized by the Sustainable Development Society, University of St. Andrews, Scotland (Mar 5). Invited panelist.
- 2021 “Water Justice in the US,” Social Justice Ministry, Grace First Presbyterian Church, Weatherford, TX (Apr 13). Invited speaker.

### Select conference participation

- 2022 “Saving Southern Dogs: Recognition and Rural Justice in the Animal Welfare Movement,” with LL Jervis and K Jackson. To be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Westminster, CO (Aug 4-7).
- 2022 “Precarious Ties and Geographic Othering in Animal Transport Rescue Networks,” with LL Jervis and K Jackson. To be presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Society of Anthrozoology, Boise, ID (Jul 7-9).
- 2020 “Racial Projects and Rural Environmental Injustice: Water Inequality on the Navajo Nation.” Accepted for the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (Aug 6–9), Westminster, CO. [Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19]
- 2019 “Environmental Justice and Disaster Recovery: The Role of Citizen Science and Fecal Indicator Bacteria,” with G Hornsby, O Vilá, A Harris, and BB Cutts. Presented at UNC Water and Health Conference (Oct 7–11), Chapel Hill, NC. Poster.
- 2019 “Agrochemical Exposure and Environmental (In)justice: Legal Repression of Latin American Banana Workers,” with NJ Membrez-Weiler and TE Shriver. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (Aug 10–13), New York.
- 2019 “Environmental Risk and Recovery: Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context,” with O Vilá, BB Cutts, A Harris, and G Hornsby. Presented at the 44th Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop (Jul 14–17), Broomfield, CO.
- 2019 “Water Conflicts and Rural Environmental Justice.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (Apr 10–13), Atlanta, GA.
- 2019 “Elite Cultural Work and Discursive Obstruction of Human Rights Activism,” with TE Shriver and A Wilcox. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (Apr 10–13), Atlanta, GA.
- 2019 “Repression and Dissent behind the Iron Curtain: Human Rights Activism in Romania,” with TE Shriver and AM Szabo. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (Apr 10–13), Atlanta, GA.
- 2019 “Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context,” with O Vilá, BB Cutts, A Harris, and G Hornsby. Presented at the Citizen Science Association Conference (Mar 13–17), Raleigh, NC.

- 2019 “Environmental Recovery: Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context,” with O Vilá, BB Cutts, A Harris, and G Hornsby. Presented at the 6th Latin American Student Association Research Symposium, NC State University (Feb 15), Raleigh, NC. Poster.
- 2019 “Agrochemical Exposure and Environmental (In)justice: Legal Repression of Latin American Banana Workers,” with NJ Membrez-Weiler and TE Shriver. Presented at the Culture and Politics Workshop, University of North Carolina (Feb 15), Chapel Hill, NC.
- 2018 “Authoritarian Legitimacy and Elite Cohesion.” with TE Shriver and AE Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (Apr 4–7), New Orleans, LA.
- 2017 “Discursive Obstruction and the Vilification of Grassroots Environmental Activists,” with AE Adams and TE Shriver. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (Mar 29–Apr 1), Greenville, SC.
- 2017 “Mobilizing Grievances in an Authoritarian Setting: Threat and Emotional Liberation in the 1953 Plzeň Uprising,” with TE Shriver and AE Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (Mar 29–Apr 1), Greenville, SC.
- 2017 “Media, Lay Knowledge and ‘Undone Science’ in the Elk River Chemical Spill.” Presented at the North Carolina Sociological Association (Feb 17), High Point, NC.
- 2016 “Elite Framing and the Vilification of Dissent in Authoritarian Settings,” with TE Shriver and AE Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (Aug 20–23), Seattle, WA.
- 2016 “Agrochemical Exposure Abroad: The Cultural Dynamics of Transnational Tort Litigation.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (Apr 13–16), Atlanta, GA.
- 2016 “State Official Frames and the Vilification of Dissent,” with TE. Shriver and AE Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (Apr 13–16), Atlanta, GA.
- 2015 “Media Risk Framing in the Elk River Chemical Spill.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (Mar 25-28), New Orleans, LA.

## TEACHING

### Undergraduate courses

- 2018-2021 Technology in Society and Culture (online), Dept. of Sociology, NC State University
- 2017-2018 Current Social Problems, Dept. of Sociology, NC State University
- 2018 Sociology of Agriculture and Rural Society, Dept. of Sociology, NC State University
- 2017 Current Social Problems (online), Dept. of Sociology, NC State University

### Student committee work

- 2021-2022 Ph.D. committee, Olivia Vilá, Dept. of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management, NC State University

**Mentoring**

- 2021-present Mentor to graduate and undergraduate research assistants, Center for Applied Social Research, University of Oklahoma
- 2018-2021 Mentor to undergraduate research assistants, Dept. of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management, NC State University

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE****Community**

- 2022-present Member, Young Workers Listening Project Research Committee, Labor Network for Sustainability

**University and department**

- 2019-present Co-organizer, Environmental Justice and Health Working Group
- 2021 Volunteer, University Research Symposium Proposal Collaboration Networking, NC State University
- 2017-2018 Lead Mentor, Lead Peer Mentoring Collaborative, NC State University
- 2016-2017 Cohort Representative, Graduate Student Advisory Board, NC State University
- 2015-2016 Member, Climate Survey Committee, Sociology Graduate Student Association, NC State University
- 2015-2016 Treasurer, Sociology Graduate Student Association, NC State University
- 2014-2015 Cohort Representative, Graduate Student Advisory Board, NC State University
- 2014-2015 Finance Committee, Sociology Graduate Student Association, NC State University

**Conference**

- 2021 Session presider, "Environmental Change and Inequality," American Sociological Association
- 2019 Session presider, "Media, Mobilization, and Repression," Southern Sociological Society
- 2016 Session presider, "Domestic and International Economic Development," American Sociological Association

**Article reviewer (occasional)**

*American Sociological Review, Environmental Sociology, International Sociology, Social Movement Studies, Social Problems, Social Forces, Sociological Perspectives, Sociological Quarterly*

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Sociological Association  
 Environmental Sociology Section  
 Indigenous Peoples and Native Nations  
 Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section
- Rural Sociological Society  
 Southern Sociological Society