

Rayna E. Momen

Curriculum Vitae

West Virginia University
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
307 Knapp Hall
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Morgantown, West Virginia 26506-6326

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EDUCATION – WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

Ph.D. Sociology: Emphasis in crime (Doctoral Candidate, ABD), 2016 –
Examination Topic: The criminalization of transgender people
Dissertation Title: Living on the edge: Trans* exclusion, survival, and resilience

M.A. Sociology, 2008
Thesis Title: *Empirical Study of Hate Crimes in the United States: A Systematic Test of Levin and McDevitt's Typology of Offenders*

B.A. Sociology, Cum Laude, 2001
Minors: Creative Writing, Women's Studies

FELLOWSHIPS

Dissertation Year Award, State Scholar, 2021 – 2022
Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)
Doctoral Scholars Program (DSP)

Summer Policy Fellow, 2019
West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy
Charleston, WV

W.E.B. Du Bois Fellow, 2016 – 2019
Office of Graduate Education and Life
West Virginia University

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS – WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

- Program Coordinator, Department of English, Higher Education in Prison Initiative, 2021 – 2022
- Coordinate the extension of higher education opportunities to people in prison in the region, with a focus on creating a pathway to an associate degree for adults incarcerated at a nearby prison.
- Center for Women's & Gender Studies, AGEP EAGER: Exploring Conditions for Systemic Equity Transformation that Advance Women and Minority STEM Faculty, 2019– 2021
- Conducted interviews (Zoom); cleaned, coded transcripts (Dedoose; manual); content analysis (manual); identified prospective respondents for strategic outreach; assisted with Institutional Review Board protocol and NSF reporting; prepared materials for and participated in Internal and External Advisory Board meetings; in-person conference participation to engage with other grantees and identify prospective respondents.

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GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS, CONT.

School of Social Work, 2005

- Performed data entry and analysis of the West Virginia University Division of Social Work Region IV Qualitative Survey

Interdisciplinary Research Task Force on Welfare Reform, 2004 – 2005

- Performed data entry, recoded variables, and conducted manual content analysis of secondary qualitative data and statistical analysis of the WV Works 2004 survey using SPSS; conducted literature reviews utilizing West Virginia University Libraries databases

Extension Service: Center for 4-H and Youth, Family, and Adult Development, 2002 – 2005

- Created SPSS spreadsheets, performed data entry, content and statistical analysis for a School Violence Questionnaire and other surveys

EMPLOYMENT

Adjunct Instructor/Lecturer, 2015 – 2016; 2008 – 2010

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

West Virginia University

Developmental Advising Specialist/Academic Success Advisor, 2014 – 2016

Center for Learning, Advising, and Student Success

West Virginia University

Project Director, 2011 – 2013

Quality Assured Companies

Morgantown, WV

Drug and Alcohol Therapist, 2009 – 2011

Valley Alliance Treatment Services

Morgantown, WV

Project Director, 2006 – 2007

Marion County Prevention Planning Network

Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant

Fairmont, WV

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TEACHING – WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

Teaching Assistant for Dr. Katy Ryan, Fall 2019

- English 275: Justice and Literature
Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program
State Correctional Institution, Fayette, PA

Teaching Assistant for Dr. Katy Ryan, Fall 2017

- English 275: Justice and Literature
Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program
Federal Correctional Institution, Hazelton, WV

Adjunct Instructor

- Sociology and Anthropology 235: Race and Ethnic Relations (online)
Summer 2016; Spring 2016; Fall 2015; Summer 2010; Summer 2009
- Sociology and Anthropology 221: Families and Society (online)
Summer 2010; Spring 2010; Summer 2009; Spring 2009

Adjunct Lecturer

- Sociology and Anthropology 235: Race Relations (lecture)
Spring 2008

TEACHING CERTIFICATIONS & WORKSHOPS

- International Instructor Training Institute of the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, 2018
https://www.credly.com/badges/29fa19a0-465a-4a61-a631-f7616ea44c6c/public_url
- Online Teaching Workshop with Dr. Lindsay Kahle, West Virginia University, 2019

TEACHING & RESEARCH INTERESTS

Queer and Rural Criminology; Intersectionality; Anti-racist and Abolitionist Pedagogy; Higher Education in Prison; Impacts of Structural Racism and Mass Incarceration; Transgender Criminalization and Victimization; Affrilachian & Queer Appalachian Resistance

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION – WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

- School of Nursing: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee Consultant, 2020 –
- Research and Graduate Education Subcommittee on Racial Justice, 2020

SKILLS

Quantitative and Qualitative social science research; Public policy; Stata; SPSS; Qualtrics; Dedoose; eCampus; Academic advising; Creative writing

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PUBLIC POLICY

Presented an overview of the co-authored report, “The Impact of Stigma and Discrimination Against LGBT West Virginians” (Mallory et al., 2021), to Mara Boggs, WV State Director, Office of the U.S. Senator Joe Manchin III, by invitation from Freedom for All Americans, in support of the Equality Act, 2021

Researched female incarceration in WV and developed a data-driven report and policy recommendations for decarceration (Momen, 2021), with support from the West Virginia Center on Budget & Policy via the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, 2019–2021

Provided feedback and data analysis for an American Civil Liberties Union-WV report, Overcrowded and deadly: West Virginia’s jails are in crisis, 2021

Worked with a WV Delegate, *Reuters* journalist, and data reporter to develop data-driven policy recommendations to reduce jail mortality in WV, 2020-2021

Pitched the “West Virginia Invests Again” initiative to then-WV Senate President Mitch Carmichael and stakeholders at the WV Capital, seeking to expand access to higher education to incarcerated West Virginians in state prisons via legislative amendment to SB1, 2019

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- WVU Higher Education in Prison Initiative, Program Coordinator, Advisory Council, 2021 –
- American Civil Liberties Union of West Virginia, Board of Directors, 2021 –
- Appalachian Prison Book Project, Board of Directors At-Large Member, 2021 –
- WVU Faculty Justice Network, Graduate Affiliate, 2021 –
- American Society of Criminology, 2020 –
- *Division on Queer Criminology, 2021 –
- International Society for the Study of Rural Crime Inc. (founding member), 2020 –
- Mid-South Sociological Association, 2020 – 2021
- West Virginia Criminal Law Reform Coalition, 2019 –
- Students Demand Action, WVU Student Organization Secretary, 2019 – 2020
- Sociologists for Women in Society, East Chapter, 2019
- Alpha Kappa Delta, The International Sociology Honor Society, 2018 –
- Appalachian Prison Book Project, WVU Student Organization President 2016–20, Member –
- Graduate Sociology Association, WVU Student Organization, 2016 – 2017
- WVU LGBTQ+ Commission, 2015 –
- Spectrum, LGBTQ and Allies, WVU Student Organization Staff Co-Advisor, 2015 – 2016
- WVU LGBT Alumni Group, Secretary, 2015 – 2016

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PANELS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Speaker, “Queer Criminology & The Transgender Community,” YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts, 2021
- Speaker, “Women’s Incarceration in WV,” West Virginia Innocence Project Law Clinic, 2021
- Panelist alongside Dr. Katy Ryan, “Books, Building Community, and the Appalachian Prison Book Project,” Session Five of the Furman Prison Education Partnership’s inaugural speaker series, Furman University, virtual event, 2021
- Panelist, “Young, Gifted, and Black in West Virginia Policy,” virtual event by Crystal Good and Dr. Shanequa Smith in partnership with the ACLU-WV, 2021
- Featured Poet, “Black Joy,” NAACP Morgantown/Kingwood #3241, virtual event, 2021
- Panelist, Appalachian Prison Book Project, “Freeing Minds, Building Community” Criminal Justice Reform Summit: Poverty and the Criminal Justice System, WV Criminal Law Reform Coalition virtual conference January 27-30, 2021
- Featured Poet, “A Reading by Emerging Appalachian Writers of Color,” Humanities Center Appalachian Writers of Color Mini-Series, WVU, 2020
- Panelist, “Women Beyond Bars,” founding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) event for the School of Nursing, WVU, 2020
- Panelist, “Criminal Injustice: Confronting Racial Disparities in the Criminal Legal System,” Beyond Bars Summit: A Dialogue on Mass Incarceration in West Virginia, Reed College of Media, WVU, 2020
- Panelist, “WV Working Families Party COVID-19 Conversation: COVID-19 in our Prisons & Jails,” Livestreamed, 2020
- Panelist, “We Can Get There from Here: Ending Mass Incarceration in WV,” Summer Policy Institute, West Virginia State University, 2019
- Panelist, “Black Queer Lives Matter,” LGBTQ+ Center, WVU, 2019
- Speaker on Mass Incarceration, Criminal Justice Reform, and Working with Incarcerated People, West Virginia Innocence Project Law Clinic, 2019
- Roundtable Participant, “Moving Beyond the Walls that Separate Us: A Panel Discussion on the Humanization of Incarcerated Individuals and the Current Criminal Justice System,” Social Action Clinic, WVU, 2019
- Podcast Speaker, *Contact Across the Divide*: Ep.1, WVU, 2017.

COMMUNITY BUILDING AND VOLUNTEER

- *Black By God: The West Virginian*, columns and editorial work for online and print editions; point person for distribution of first online print Juneteenth edition in north central WV, 2021
- Appalachian Community Think Tank, Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, State Correctional Institution, Fayette, PA, 2019 –
- HOPE Think Tank Seminar, Facilitated by Inside Think Tank Members, Federal Correctional Institution, Hazelton, WV, 2019
- Women of Wisdom Book Club, Appalachian Prison Book Project, Secure Female Facility, Hazelton, 2018 – 2019
- The Council Think Tank, Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, Federal Correctional Institution, Hazelton, WV, 2018 – 2019
- *Conversations Through the Fence*, Editorial Board, The Council Think Tank, 2017 – 2019
- Appalachian Prison Book Project nonprofit, Volunteer, 2014 –
- Badged Level II Volunteer, Federal Correctional Complex, Hazelton, WV, 2017 – 2019
- Inside-Out Interactive Workshop, Federal Correctional Institution, Hazelton, WV, 2017

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Engagement Scholarship Consortium, “Creating Connections and Expanding Possibilities,” virtual conference, 2021
- Interviewed by Marc Ramirez with *USA Today* and Paige Fry with the *Chicago Tribune* as an expert on fatal violence against transgender people: Ramirez, M. (2021, May 9), US hits record for transgender killings. Puerto Rico is the epicenter of the violence; Fry, P. (2021, January 15). Courtney Key was found dead on Christmas, shot in the head and dragged by a car. Her friends in LGBTQ community fear it was a hate crime.
- Summer Policy Institute, “Connecting WV’s Future Leaders to Policy Work & Network,” sponsored by the WV Center on Budget & Policy, American Friends Service Committee, & Young, WV, virtual, 2020; WV State University, 2019
- ARC Network’s “Equity in STEM Community Convening,” Cleveland, OH, 2019
- Internship, Appalachian Prison Book Project, 2019
- Trans/NonBinary Safe Zone Training, LGBTQ+ Center, WVU, 2018
- Co-Facilitator, Student Experience, Appalachian Prison Book Project Summit, WVU, 2018
- Write Winning Grant Proposals, Facilitated by Dr. John D. Robertson, Grant Writers’ Seminars and Workshops and WVU, 2018
- Getting Funded: The Science and Art of Grant Writing, 4-part Workshop Series, Facilitated by Dr. Walter S. DeKeseredy, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, WVU, 2017

GRANTS

WV Invests Again: Expanding higher education access to incarcerated West Virginians, Policy Pitch Mini-Grant Winner, Summer Policy Institute, West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy. Karissa Bjorkgren, Jennifer Kayrouz, Edith Martinez, **Rayna Momen** (\$500), to support expansion of SB1 to currently incarcerated West Virginians in state prisons through legislative amendment, 2019

Barrelhouse Amplifier Award. **Rayna Momen**, Katy Ryan, and Katie Vogelpohl (\$1,500), to support *These Walls Can Talk*, Appalachian Prison Book Project publishing wing, 2019

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- Alma and Claude Rowe Excellence Through Equity Award from the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies at West Virginia University (\$1,000), to support formerly incarcerated people pursuing higher education in West Virginia, 2021
- Honoree, Black Excellence Academic Celebration, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Pi Mu Chapter, WVU, 2021
- Campus Read Essay Contest Winner, for “Some Mountaineers Go Last,” a response to *The Girl Who Smiled Beads: A Story of War and What Comes After*, by Clementine Wamariya and Elizabeth Weil, sponsored by the Office of Graduate Education and Life, WVU, 2020
- Outstanding Women’s Studies Senior, Eberly College of Arts & Sciences, WVU, 2001
- Presidential Award for Excellence in Scholarship, WVU, 2001; 2000; 1999
- Center for Black Culture Scholarship, The Trust Committee of the Loyalty Permanent Endowment Fund of the WVU Alumni Association, 2000
- Hershel “Woody” Williams Scholarship, Department of West Virginia Marine Corps League and the Hershel “Woody” Williams Scholarship Foundation, 2000
- Storer Award, WVU Scholars Program, Full Academic Scholarship, 1996

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PUBLICATIONS *Peer-reviewed

Articles

***Momen, R. E.**, & Dilks, L. (2020). Predicting case outcomes in US transgender homicides: An exploratory examination of the intersectionality of victim characteristics. *Sociological Spectrum*.

Chapters

***Momen, R. E.**, & DeKeseredy, W. S. (2020). 'Why don't you just leave?' Transgender resilience and barriers to escaping abuse. In X. Guadalupe-Diaz & A. Messinger (Eds.), *Transgender intimate partner violence: A comprehensive introduction* (pp. 91-109). New York, NY: NYU Press.

*Nolan, J. J., Nicewarner, R. L., & **Momen, R. E.** (2020). Preventing rural hate crime. In A. Harkness & N. Smith (Eds.), *Rural crime prevention: Theory, tactics, and techniques*. London: Routledge.

Reports

Mallory, C., Vasquez, L., Brown, T. N. T., **Momen, R. E.**, & Sears, B. (2021). *The impact of stigma and Discrimination against LGBT People in West Virginia*. Los Angeles, CA: The Williams Institute.

Momen, R. E. (2020). Mountain state women aren't always free: The state of women's incarceration in West Virginia. West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy.

Book Reviews

Momen, R. E. (2021). A review of *Big house on the prairie: Rise of the rural ghetto and prison proliferation*, by J. M. Eason. *International Journal of Rural Criminology*, 6(1), 176-179.

Momen, R. E. (2017). Review of the book *LGBTQ intimate partner violence: Lessons for policy, practice, and research*, by A. M. Messinger. *The Division on Women and Crime*, 2017 Summer Edition.

Forthcoming Chapters

***Momen, R. E.** (forthcoming, 2022). Queerly navigating the system: Trans* experiences under state surveillance. In L. Kahle & C. Buist (Eds.), *Queering criminology in theory and praxis: Re-Imagining justice in the criminal legal system and beyond*. Bristol, UK: Bristol University Press.

*Ryan, K., Surrett, V., & **Momen, R.** (forthcoming). Reading and writing between the devil and the deep blue: The Appalachian Prison Book Project. In S. S. McKoy & P. E. Alexander (Eds.), *Teaching literature and writing in prisons*. New York, NY: Modern Language Association.

Chapters Under Review

***Momen, R. E.** (in progress). Violence against transgender people in the United States. In K. Bogle (Ed.) *Women, Men and Crime: Learning Through Experts and Cases*. Cognella.

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Unsubmitted Manuscripts

Momen, R. E., & Allen, D. (unsubmitted). Queerly disrupting injustice: How the Appalachian Prison Book Project supports incarcerated LGBTQ people.

PRESENTATIONS *Invited

***Momen, R. E., & Dilks, L.** Predicting case outcomes in US transgender homicides: An exploratory examination of the intersectionality of victim characteristics. Presented by Dr. Lisa Dilks at the Mid-South Sociological Association Virtual Conference. Oct 15, 2020.

Momen, R. E. The growth of female incarceration in WV: Causes, consequences, and solutions, presented at the West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy's Summer Policy Institute: Connecting WV's future leaders to policy work and networks. July 27, 2019, Erickson Alumni Center, West Virginia State University, Institute, WV.

Momen, R. E: Effect of protein-calorie malnutrition on cytochrome P450 and glutathione s-transferase expression. 1996. Health Sciences Center. West Virginia University.

REVIEWER FOR INTERNATIONAL & INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNALS *Invited

*Journal of Aggression, Conflict and Peace Research

*Violence Against Women

REFERENCES

Upon request