

Esther Sullivan

- esthersullivan.net -

University of Colorado Denver, Department of Sociology
Campus Box 105, PO Box 173364, Denver, CO 80217

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

urban sociology, inequality & poverty, law & governance, housing, health, residential relocation

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Colorado Denver, 2015 – present

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago	English	B.A. 2004
The University of Texas at Austin	Sociology	M.A. 2009
The University of Texas at Austin	Sociology	Ph.D. 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2018 Esther Sullivan. *Manufactured Insecurity: Mobile Home Parks and Americans' Tenuous Right to Place*. University of California Press.

- Winner of the 2019 Robert Park Book Award from the Community and Urban Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Forthcoming. Andrew Rumbach, Esther Sullivan and Carrie Makarewicz. "Mobile Home Parks and Disasters: Understanding Risk to the Third Housing Type in the U.S." *Natural Hazards Review*.

2019 Noah Durst and Esther Sullivan. "The Contribution of Manufactured Housing to Affordable Housing in the United States: Assessing Variation among Manufactured Housing Tenures and Community Types." *Housing Policy Debate*, Online First:
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10511482.2019.1605534>

2017 Esther Sullivan. "Moving Out: Mapping Mobile Home Park Closures to Analyze Spatial Patterns of Low-Income Residential Displacement" *City & Community* 16 (3): 304–329.

2017 Esther Sullivan. "Displaced in Place: Manufactured housing, mass eviction, and the paradox of state intervention." *American Sociological Review* 82 (2): 243-269.

2016 Esther Sullivan. "(Un)Intentional Community: Power and expert knowledge in a sustainable lifestyle community." *Sociological Inquiry* 86 (4): 540-562

- 2016 Esther Sullivan. "Individualizing Utopia: Individualist Pursuits in a Cohousing Community." *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* 45 (5): 602-627.
- 2015 Esther Sullivan and Carlos Olmedo. "Informality on the Urban Periphery: Housing Conditions and Self-help Strategies in Texas Informal Subdivisions." *Urban Studies* 52 (6): 1038-1053.
- 2014 Esther Sullivan. "Halfway Homeowners: Eviction and Forced Relocation among Homeowners in Manufactured Home Parks in Florida." *Law & Social Inquiry* 39 (2): 474-497. *Winner of American Bar Foundation *Law & Social Inquiry* Graduate Paper Prize.
- 2011 Esther Sullivan and Peter M. Ward. "Sustainable housing applications and policies for low-income self-build and housing rehab." *Habitat International* 36 (2): 312-323.

Book Reviews

- 2020 "The Sex Offender Housing Dilemma: Community Activism, Safety, and Social Justice." By Monica Williams. *American Journal of Sociology* 125 (1): 319-321.

Other Scholarly Publications

- 2018 Esther Sullivan. "Dignity Takings and "Trailer Trash:" The case of mobile home park mass evictions." *Chicago-Kent Law Review* 92 (3): 937-959.
- 2017 Esther Sullivan. "Manufactured homeowners live at risk of eviction – state policies can improve housing insecurity or make it worse." London School of Economics American Politics and Policy forum (USAPP): <http://bit.ly/2fWF16p>
- 2015 Esther Sullivan and Edna Ledesma. "Same Trailer, Different Park." *Contexts* Winter.
- 2014 Esther Sullivan and Carlos Olmedo. "Away from cities, informal developments provide affordable housing for those on low incomes, but conditions are often poor." London School of Economics American Politics and Policy forum (USAPP): <http://bit.ly/1qCKS7B>
- 2010 "Urban Sustainability and Renewable Energy Applications for Colonia-Type Housing in the Southern U.S." Latin America Housing Network Report.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

University of Colorado Denver Chancellor's Urban Engaged Scholar: 2019-2020.

Collaborative Research Supplemental Grant: Modeling the Vulnerability of Mobile Home Parks to Disaster: A Longitudinal Study of Affordable Housing Loss after Hurricane Harvey.
National Science Foundation. Co-Principal Investigator with Andrew Rumbach (PI, CU Denver), Carrie Makarewicz (Co-PI, CU Denver) and Shannon Van Zandt (PI, Texas A&M).
Awarded May 2019: \$73,226

Collaborative Research: Modeling the Vulnerability of Mobile Home Parks to Disaster: A Longitudinal Study of Affordable Housing Loss after Hurricane Harvey.
National Science Foundation (CMMI #1825341). Co-Principle Investigator with Andrew Rumbach (PI, CU Denver), Carrie Makarewicz (Co-PI, CU Denver) and Shannon Van Zandt (PI, Texas A&M). Awarded September 2018: \$595,096

Quick Response Grant - Hurricane Harvey, Mobile Homes and Flood Risk. The Natural Hazards Center. December 2017: \$1,995

“Hurricane Harvey, Mobile Homes and Flood Risk.” Office of Research Services, University of Colorado Denver, October 2017: \$21,427

CU Denver Collaborative Research Fellowship, June 2016, \$4000

CU Denver New Faculty Grant, March 2016: \$12,468

CU Denver High Impact Practices Writing Intensive Courses Learning Communities Grant, \$2000

CU Denver ORS National Science Foundation Grants Conference Travel Grant, 2015: \$1200

CU Denver CLAS Dissemination Grant, 2015: \$1000

American Fellowship, American Association of University Women, 2014: \$20,000.

American Association of University Women Texas Chapter Dissertation Fellowship, 2014: \$2500.

National Science Foundation and American Sociological Association travel grant for International Sociological Association XVIII World Congress, 2014: \$1500.

William C. Powers Fellowship, The University of Texas at Austin, 2012: \$36,000.

Harry E. and Bernice M. Moore Fellowship, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, 2012: \$20,000.

Dean's Prestigious External Fellowship supplement, The University of Texas, 2012: \$1,000.

Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies Grant, 2011: \$10,000.

INVITED TALKS

Georgetown University Sociology of Housing Symposium. 2019. “Private Poverty Housing: Mobile Home Parks and the Financialization of Affordable Housing” Washington D.C. October 4, 2019.

Rice University Sociology Lecture Series 2019. “Manufactured Insecurity: Mobile Home Parks and Americans’ Tenuous Right to Place.” Houston, TX. October 22, 2019.

Columbia University Lectures in Planning. “Manufactured Insecurity: Mobile Home Parks and Americans’ Tenuous Right to Place.” New York, NY. November 26, 2018.

University of Arizona, Department of Geography, Graduate Symposium. "Manufactured Insecurity: Mobile Home Parks and Americans' Tenuous Right to Place." October 11, 2018.

"The Socio-Spatial Dimensions of Disaster Risk in Mobile Home Parks: Learning From the 2013 Colorado Floods." Center for Science and Technology Policy Research (CSTPR) at the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES), a partnership of the University of Colorado Boulder and NOAA. November 2017.

Plenary Address: "Housing as a Social Determinant of Health." Public Health in the Rockies. Keystone, CO. October 4th, 2017.

Plenary Address: "Manufactured Insecurity." I'M Home Conference. Prosperity Now. Providence, RI. October 2-4, 2017.

Invited Presentation: Geospatial Mapping of Mobile Home Park Insecurity in Texas. I'M Home Conference. CFED. San Antonio, TX. November 14-16, 2016.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Mobile Home Parks and Disasters: The Vulnerability of America's Third Housing Type." Andrew Rumbach, Esther Sullivan, Carrie Makarewicz. American Sociological Association. New York, NY. August 10, 2019.

"Mobile Home Parks and Disasters: The Vulnerability of America's Third Housing Type." Andrew Rumbach, Esther Sullivan, Carrie Makarewicz. Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. Greenville, SC. October 25, 2019.

"Mobile Home Parks and Disasters: The Vulnerability of America's Third Housing Type." Andrew Rumbach, Esther Sullivan, Carrie Makarewicz. Natural Hazards Researchers Meeting. Broomfield, CO. July 17, 2019

"The Contribution of Manufactured Housing to Affordable Housing in the US: Assessing Variation among Manufactured Housing Tenures and Community Types" Noah Durst and Esther Sullivan. Urban Affairs Association. Los Angeles, CA. April 25, 2019

"Do Mobile Homes Affect Wealth?: Analysis of a Cohort Entering Adulthood During the Mobile Home Boom." Brian Levy and Esther Sullivan. American Sociological Association. Philadelphia, PA. August 12, 2018

"The Social Life of the Housing Crisis." American Anthropological Association, Washington DC. December 3rd, 2017.

"Halfway Homeowners, Halfway Citizens: Mobile Home Parks and Uneven Recovery after the 2013 Colorado Floods." Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. Denver, CO. October 27, 2017

“Daily life under the ‘specter of dislocation.’” American Sociological Association. Montreal, Canada. August 14th, 2017.

“Property takings and mobile home park evictions.” Law & Society Association. Mexico City, Mexico. June 23rd 2017.

“Dignity Takings and ‘Trailer Trash’” Chicago Kent Law School Symposium. Chicago, IL. November 4, 2016.

“Displaced in Place: Social Policy and Forced Relocation from Mobile Home Parks in Comparative Perspective,” Social Science History Association, Baltimore MD, November 12-15, 2015

“Mapping mass eviction: Geospatial analysis of closed mobile home parks in the greater metropolitan area of Houston TX,” American Sociological Association, Chicago IL, August 21-25, 2015

“State governance of mass eviction in low-income mobile home communities,” Law & Society Association, Seattle WA, May 28-30 2015.

“Managing mass eviction: Forced relocation in mobile home parks and the paradox of state intervention,” American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA, August 16-19, 2014.

“Assessing housing’s contribution to poor health: a mixed-method geospatial and case study approach in Texas informal periurban communities,” International Sociological Association World Congress, Yokohama, Japan, July 17-20, 2014.

“Halfway Homeowners: Eviction and Forced Relocation among Homeowners in Manufactured Home Parks in Florida,” American Sociological Association, New York, NY, August 10-13, 2013.

“Informal Development in Low-income Communities: Housing Conditions and Self-help Strategies in Informal Subdivisions in Texas,” International Sociological Association RC43 Conference: At home with the Housing Market, Centre for Urban Studies, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, July 10-12, 2013.

“Informal Development in Low-income Communities: Housing Conditions and Self-help Strategies in Informal Subdivisions in Texas,” American Sociological Association, Denver, CO, August 18th, 2012.

“Manufacturing Insecurity: Assessing Eviction and Displacement of Mobile Home Park Residents,” American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV, August 20th 2011.

“(Un)Intentional Community: Legitimizing Power in a Collectivist Organization,” American Sociological Association, Atlanta GA, August 17th 2010.

“Community when Convenient: Individualist Pursuits in a Communal Organization,” British Sociological Association, Glasgow, Scotland April 7th 2010.

“Sustainable Home Retrofitting Technologies for Low-Income Communities and *Colonias*,” Latin American Housing Network Policy Conference, Austin TX, May 2010.

“The Nature of the Innerburbs in Comparative Perspective,” Latin American Housing Network Policy Conference, Austin TX, April 2009.

PUBLIC DISSEMINATION OF SCHOLARSHIP

Public Talks

TEDxMileHigh Talk. Ellie Caulkins Opera House, Denver, July 7, 2017:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gV8Cy8rIock>

Policy

Urban Institute, *How Housing Matters*: <https://howhousingmatters.org/articles/different-state-policies-affect-evicted-manufactured-homeowners/>

Media

HBO *Last Week Tonight with John Oliver*, “Mobile Homes,” April 8, 2019.

Colorado Public Radio, “Colorado Matters.” On-air interview May 23rd, 2017:

<http://www.cpr.org/news/story/the-denver-metros-hunger-for-housing-is-squeezing-its-few-mobile-home-parks>

VOX Curbed. “Mobile-home parks represent changing face of affordable housing challenge”:

<https://www.curbed.com/2017/11/10/16633964/mobile-home-parks-represent-changing-face-of-affordable-housing-challenge>

Huffington Post: “Why Some Cities Are Buying Mobile Home Parks” :

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/why-some-cities-are-buying-trailer-parks_us_59ef4eebe4b08bce72fe03b2?section=us_huffpost-partners

The Denverite: <https://www.denverite.com/mobile-homes-35666/>

National Geographic, “National Geographic Explorer.” Season 10, Episode 8, “Mobile Home

Economics: <http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/explorer/videos/mobile-home-economics/>

Houston Press, “Houston's Trailer Parks Offer Cheap Housing in a Pricy City, But With a Catch”

May 23rd, 2017: <http://www.houstonpress.com/news/houstons-trailer-parks-offer-cheap-housing-but-leave-residents-vulnerable-9485409>

The Atlantic, CityLab, “The Other Affordable Housing Crisis”:

<http://www.citylab.com/housing/2015/09/the-other-affordable-housing-crisis/406405/>

Follow-up in *The Atlantic* CityLab, “One thing HUD Can Do To Help Save Trailer Parks”:

<http://www.citylab.com/housing/2015/09/one-thing-hud-can-do-to-save-trailer-parks/407395/>

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Subject matter consultant: Colorado Center on Law and Policy
- Subject matter consultant: 9 to 5 Colorado Anti-eviction Campaign
- Subject matter consultant: PlaceMatters
- Subject matter consultant: CO State Senator John Kefalas (CO District 14),
- Subject matter consultant: Resilient Together Colorado,
- Subject matter consultant: Aurora City Council

- Subject Matter Expert: Denver Channel 7 ABC News, *The Aurora Sentinel*, *The Denver Post*, *The Austin Chronicle*, *The Arizona Daily Sun*, PEW Charitable Trust Stateline, San Francisco Public Radio, Southern California Public Radio, Colorado Public Radio, *Bloomberg*, *Reuters*

PRODUCED PLAYS

“One Week in October” An original play exploring the life, death, and revolutionary writings of Frantz Fanon. Produced at The University Theatre, Chicago, May 2004.

*Winner of the Olga and Paul Menn Foundation Prize for dramatic literature.

“Benched” An original play debuted at The New Playwright’s Festival. Miami, 2000.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Steering Committee: Poverty and Marginality in the Americas: An Ethnography Workshop, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, UT-Austin, Spring 2011

Referee for three peer-reviewed journals: *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Qualitative Sociology*, *Sociological Insight*

Invited lecturer: Applied Sociology, UT-Austin, Fall 2010

Invited panel participant: Supervised Teaching, UT-Austin, Spring 2009

Graduate Mentor in Sociology, 2009-2014

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member: American Sociological Association (Sections on Community and Urban Sociology and Inequality, Poverty and Mobility), British Sociological Association, Urban Affairs Association