

LAURA A. BRAY
Curriculum Vitae

University of Oklahoma
Center for Applied Social Research
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EDUCATION

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

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2021-present Postdoctoral Research Associate, Center for Applied Social Research, University of Oklahoma
- 2018-2021 Project Manager, College of Natural Resources, NC State University
- 2017-2021 Instructor of Record, Department of Sociology, NC State University
- 2014-2017 Research Assistant, Department of Sociology, NC State University

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed publications

- 2021 **Bray, Laura A.** “Settler Colonialism and Rural Environmental Injustice: Water Inequality on the Navajo Nation.” Forthcoming in *Rural Sociology*, special issue on “Race, Ethnicity, and Rurality in the United States.” doi: [10.1111/ruso.12366](https://doi.org/10.1111/ruso.12366).
- 2021 **Bray, Laura A.**, Nicholas J. Membrez-Weiler, and Thomas E. Shriver. “Agrochemical Exposure and Environmental Illness: Legal Repression of Latin American Banana Workers.” Forthcoming in *The Sociological Quarterly*. doi: [10.1080/00380253.2020.1841585](https://doi.org/10.1080/00380253.2020.1841585).
- 2021 Shriver, Thomas E., **Laura A. Bray**, Annika Wilcox, and Adriana M. Szabo. “Human Rights and Dissent in Hybrid Environments: The Impact of Shifting Rights Regimes.” Forthcoming in *The Sociological Quarterly*. doi: [10.1080/00380253.2021.1909444](https://doi.org/10.1080/00380253.2021.1909444).

- 2020 Adams, Alison E., Thomas E. Shriver, **Laura A. Bray** and Chris Messer. "Petrochemical Pollution and the Suppression of Environmental Protest." *Sociological Inquiry* 90(3):646-68. doi: [10.1111/soin.12321](https://doi.org/10.1111/soin.12321).
- 2020 Shriver, Thomas E., Adriana Szabo, and **Laura A. Bray**. "Opportunity and Threat behind the Iron Curtain: The Failed Diffusion of Human Rights Activism in Romania." *International Sociology* 35(6):739-57. doi: [10.1177/0268580920928925](https://doi.org/10.1177/0268580920928925).
- 2020 Shriver, Thomas E., Annika Wilcox, and **Laura A. Bray**. "Elite Cultural Work and Discursive Obstruction of Human Rights Activism." *Social Currents* 7(1):11-28. doi: [10.1177/2329496519870554](https://doi.org/10.1177/2329496519870554).
- 2019 **Bray, Laura A.**, Thomas E. Shriver, and Alison E. Adams. "Framing Authoritarian Legitimacy: Elite Cohesion in the Aftermath of Popular Rebellion." *Social Movement Studies* 18(6):682-701. doi: [10.1080/14742837.2019.1597698](https://doi.org/10.1080/14742837.2019.1597698).
- 2019 **Bray, Laura A.**, Thomas E. Shriver, and Alison E. Adams. "Mobilizing Grievances in an Authoritarian Setting: Threat and Emotion in the 1953 Plzeň Uprising." *Sociological Perspectives* 62(1):77-95. doi: [10.1177/0731121418791771](https://doi.org/10.1177/0731121418791771).
- 2019 Shriver, Thomas E., Alison E. Adams, and **Laura A. Bray**. "Political Power and Manufacturing Consent: The Case of the 1953 Plzeň Protest." *The Sociological Quarterly* 60(1):26-45. doi: [10.1080/00380253.2018.1526046](https://doi.org/10.1080/00380253.2018.1526046).
- 2018 Shriver, Thomas E., **Laura A. Bray**, and Alison E. Adams. "Legal Repression of Protesters: The Case of Worker Revolt in Czechoslovakia." *Mobilization* 23(3):307-28. doi: [10.17813/1086-671X-23-3-307](https://doi.org/10.17813/1086-671X-23-3-307).
- 2017 **Bray, Laura A.** "Media and 'Undone Science' in West Virginia's Elk River Chemical Spill." *Environmental Sociology* 3(4):359-69. doi: [10.1080/23251042.2017.1324241](https://doi.org/10.1080/23251042.2017.1324241).

Reports and other publications

- 2020 **Bray, Laura A.**, Olivia Vilá, Bethany B. Cutts, David Lowry, Margaret Crites, Hannah Goins, Sallie McLean, Nathan McMenam, Mac Legerton, and Angela Harris. "Promoting Environmental Justice through Participatory Disaster Research: Hurricane Recovery in Robeson County, North Carolina." *Carolina Planning Journal* 45:48-57.
- 2020 Project BRIDGE. "Between a River and a Swamp: 'All That Water's Gotta Go Somewhere.'" Part 1 of *Bridging Recovery and Resiliency in Robeson County*. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State University. [research documentary]
- 2020 Project BRIDGE. *Disaster Recovery Soil Testing: Robeson County Community Report*. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State University.
- 2019 Vilá, Olivia, **Laura Bray**, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, and Gracie Hornsby. *Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context*. Quick Response Report. Boulder, CO: Natural

Hazards Center (<https://hazards.colorado.edu/quick-response-report/environmental-risk-and-recovery>)

Manuscripts in review and preparation

Bray, Laura A. “Water Justice and the Symbolic Mobilization of Rurality in Natural Resource Conflicts.” (under review)

Vilá, Olivia, **Laura A. Bray**, Bethany B. Cutts, Gracie Hornsby, Angela Harris, Hannah Goins, Nathan McMenammin, Taleek Harlee, Angela Allen, Sallie McLean, Margaret Crites. “Shifting Terrains: Soils and Environmental Health Risk Perception Following Floods.” (under review)

Bray, Laura A. “Organizing Environmental Inequality: Indigenous Marginalization in Western Water Politics.” (in preparation)

Bray, Laura A. “A Critical Environmental Justice Approach to the Indigenous Water Crisis.” (in preparation)

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2020 North Carolina Sea Grant, Mini Grant (\$10,000). “Planning nature-based flood mitigation strategies through participatory videos.” PI: Bethany Cutts.
- 2019 Foundation for the Carolinas, Hurricane Florence Response Grant Program (\$40,000). “Robeson County – 100 soils tests near flooded homes.” Bethany Cutts (PI), Olivia Vilá, **Laura Bray**, David Lowry, and Angela Harris.
- 2018 Rural Sociological Society, Dissertation Research Award Grant (\$1,405). “Dividing the San Juan: Water Inequality in the Southwest.”
- 2017 NCSU Sociology Graduate Student Association, Dissertation Mini Grant (\$100). “Dividing the San Juan: Settler Colonialism, American Indians, and Water Rights in the Southwest.”

AWARDS AND HONORS

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

PRESENTATIONS

Invited presentations

- 2021 “Settler Colonialism and Rural Environmental Injustice: Water Inequality on the Navajo Nation,” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Session on Race, Ethnicity, and 21st Century Rural Sociological Imaginings (July 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 (March 5). Invited panelist.
- 2021 “Water Justice in the US,” Social Justice Ministry, Grace First Presbyterian Church, Weatherford, TX (April 13). Invited speaker.

Conference participation

- 2020 “Racial Projects and Rural Environmental Injustice: Water Inequality on the Navajo Nation.” Laura Bray. Accepted for the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (August 6–9), Westminster, CO. [Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19]
- 2020 “Pesticide Exposure and Transnational Legal Mobilization of Farmworkers.” Laura Bray, Nicholas Membrez-Weiler, and Thomas Shriver. Accepted for the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (August 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.” Gracie Hornsby, Olivia Vilá, Laura Bray, Angela Harris, and Bethany Cutts. Presented at UNC Water and Health Conference (October 7–11), Chapel Hill, NC. Poster.
- 2019 “Agrochemical Exposure and Environmental (In)justice: Legal Repression of Latin American Banana Workers.” Laura Bray, Nicholas J. Membrez-Weiler, and Thomas E. Shriver. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (August 10–13), New York.
- 2019 “Environmental Risk and Recovery: Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context.” Olivia Vilá, Laura Bray, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, and Gracie Hornsby. Presented at the 44th Annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop (July 14–17), Broomfield, CO.
- 2019 “Water Conflicts and Rural Environmental Justice.” Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 10–13), Atlanta, GA.
- 2019 “Elite Cultural Work and Discursive Obstruction of Human Rights Activism.” Thomas E. Shriver, Annika Wilcox, and Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 10–13), Atlanta, GA.
- 2019 “Repression and Dissent behind the Iron Curtain: Human Rights Activism in Romania.” Thomas E. Shriver, Adriana M. Szabo, and Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 10–13), Atlanta, GA.
- 2019 “Water Conflicts and Rural Environmental Justice.” Laura Bray. Presented at the Food and Environment Brownbag Series, NC State University (April 4), Raleigh, NC.

- 2019 “Post-Disaster Environmental Risk: Insight Gained from Citizen Science Participation.” Olivia Vilá, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, Laura Bray, and Gracie Hornsby. Presented at the RISING NC Exhibit (March 28), Raleigh, NC. Poster.
- 2019 “Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context.” Olivia Vilá, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, Laura Bray, and Gracie Hornsby. Presented at the Citizen Science Association Conference (March 13–17), Raleigh, NC.
- 2019 “Environmental Recovery: Citizen Science in the Post-Disaster Context.” Olivia Vilá, Bethany Cutts, Angela Harris, Laura Bray, and Gracie Hornsby. Presented at the 6th Latin American Student Association Research Symposium, NC State University (February 15), Raleigh, NC. Poster.
- 2019 “Agrochemical Exposure and Environmental (In)justice: Legal Repression of Latin American Banana Workers.” Laura Bray, Nicholas J. Membrez-Weiler, and Thomas E. Shriver. Presented at the Culture and Politics Workshop, University of North Carolina (February 15), Chapel Hill, NC.
- 2018 “Authoritarian Legitimacy and Elite Cohesion.” Laura Bray, Thomas E. Shriver, and Alison E. Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 4–7), New Orleans, LA.
- 2017 “Discursive Obstruction and the Vilification of Grassroots Environmental Activists.” Alison E. Adams, Thomas E. Shriver, and Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (March 29–April 1), Greenville, SC.
- 2017 “Mobilizing Grievances in an Authoritarian Setting: Threat and Emotional Liberation in the 1953 Plzeň Uprising.” Laura Bray, Thomas E. Shriver, and Alison E. Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (March 29–April 1), Greenville, SC.
- 2017 “Media, Lay Knowledge and ‘Undone Science’ in the Elk River Chemical Spill.” Laura Bray. Presented at the North Carolina Sociological Association (February 17), High Point, NC.
- 2016 “Elite Framing and the Vilification of Dissent in Authoritarian Settings.” Thomas E. Shriver, Laura Bray, and Alison E. Adams. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (August 20–23), Seattle, WA.
- 2016 “Agrochemical Exposure Abroad: The Cultural Dynamics of Transnational Tort Litigation.” Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 13–16), Atlanta, GA.
- 2016 “State Official Frames and the Vilification of Dissent.” Thomas E. Shriver, Alison E. Adams, and Laura Bray. “Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 13–16), Atlanta, GA.

2015 “Media Risk Framing in the Elk River Chemical Spill.” Laura Bray. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (March 25-28), New Orleans, LA.

Session presider

2019 “Environmental Change and Inequality,” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (August 10–13), New York.

2019 “Media, Mobilization, and Repression,” Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (April 10–13), Atlanta, GA.

2016 “Domestic and International Economic Development,” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (August 20–23), Seattle, WA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of record, North Carolina State University, Department of Sociology

Technology in Society and Culture, online, 2018-2021
Current Social Problems, 2017-2018
Sociology of Agriculture and Rural Society, 2018
Current Social Problems, online, 2017

Teaching assistant, North Carolina State University, Department of Sociology

Theories of Social Structure, 2014

Mentoring activities

Jaeleen Mendoza, undergraduate student researcher (NCSU, graduated 2020)
Taleek Harlee, undergraduate student researcher (NCSU)
Jenna Minser, undergraduate student researcher (University of Alabama, graduated 2020)
Hannah Goins, undergraduate student researcher (UNC Pembroke, graduated 2019)
Nathan McMenamin, graduate student researcher (UNC Greensboro, graduated 2021)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND WORKSHOPS

Certificate, Accessibility in the Classroom, IT Accessibility Office, NCSU, 2020
Participant, Creating Anti-Racist Learning Environments Online, Distance Education and Learning Technology Applications (DELTA), NCSU, 2020
Facilitator, Introduction to Qualitative Analysis with NVivo, Environmental Justice and Health Working Group, NCSU, 2019
Participant, Creating Interactive Content on Moodle Workshop, DELTA, NCSU, 2018
Participant, Data Visualizations, Dept. of Sociology, NCSU, 2016
Participant, Qualitative Comparative Analysis, Dept. of Sociology, NCSU, 2015
Participant, Data Transformation Strategies in STATA, Dept. of Sociology, NCSU, 2015
Participant, Introduction to R, Dept. of Sociology, NCSU, 2014
Participant, Teaching Sociology (SOC 710), Dept. of Sociology, NCSU, 2014

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University and department

Co-organizer, Environmental Justice and Health Working Group, 2019–present
Volunteer, University Research Symposium Proposal Collaboration Networking, 2021
Co-organizer, University Workers COVID-19 Townhall, 2020
Hiring Committee, Hurricane Recovery Interview Specialists, 2018–2019
Lead Mentor, Lead Peer Mentoring Collaborative, 2017–2018
Cohort Representative, Graduate Student Advisory Board, 2016–2017
Climate Survey Committee, Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2015–2016
Treasurer, Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2015–2016
Cohort Representative, Graduate Student Advisory Board, 2014–2015
Finance Committee, Sociology Graduate Student Association, 2014–2015

Journal article reviewer

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

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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