

# Rebecca A. Karam

*Curriculum Vitae*

August 2019

Ph.D. Candidate  
Department of Sociology  
City University of New York-Graduate Center

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## EDUCATION

- 2012-pres. Ph.D. in Sociology, CUNY Graduate Center  
Dissertation: *Making Muslim Americans: Parenting Practices, Parochial Schools, and the Transmission of Faith Across Generations in Metro-Detroit*  
Committee: Nancy Foner (chair), Van C. Tran, Richard Alba, Prema Kurien
- 2011 B.A. in Sociology, University of Michigan-Dearborn  
Summa Cum Laude
- 2009 A.A. in Liberal Arts, Oakland Community College  
Summa Cum Laude

## Additional Educational Experience

- 2013 “Immigration and the Transformation of American Society,” Mary C. Waters, Harvard University, Summer Semester.
- 2010 Summer Institute for Intensive Arabic Language and Culture. Lebanese American University (Beirut), Summer Semester.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Ethnic and Racial Studies; International Migration; Sociology of Religion; Islam in America; Middle Eastern Studies; Qualitative Methods; Arab American Studies

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Journals

Karam, Rebecca A. 2019. Becoming American by Becoming Muslim: Strategic Assimilation among Second-Generation Muslim American Parents.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.

**\*Winner of the 2019 Eastern Sociological Society’s Candace Rogers Award for Outstanding Student Paper**

Karam, Rebecca A. 2017. “Rust Belt Revitalization, Immigration, and Islam: Toward a Better Understanding of Mosques in Declining Urban Neighborhoods.” *City & Community* 16(3):257-262.

### Book Chapters and Other Contributions

- Karam, Rebecca A. Forthcoming. "Brown Picket Fences: Identity Construction and Arab Ethnicity in Suburban Detroit" in *Arab Detroit 2020: Rights, Respect, Responsibility*, edited by A. Shryock and S. Howell. Detroit: Wayne State University Press.
- Karam, Rebecca A. 2017. "Optional Ethnicity." Pp. 1-3 in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social Theory*, edited by B. S. Turner. Thousand Oaks, CA: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Karam, Rebecca A. 2017. "Muslims for American Progress: An Impact Report of Muslim Contributions to Michigan" Dearborn, MI: Institute for Social Policy and Understanding. (<https://www.ispu.org/an-impact-report-of-muslim-contributions-to-michigan/>)
- Karam, Rebecca A. 2013. "Anti-Muslim Xenophobia." Pp. 303-305 in *American Immigration: An Encyclopedia of Political, Social, and Cultural Change*, edited by J. Ciment and J. Radzilowski. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe.

### Manuscripts in Progress

- Karam, Rebecca A. "Leaving the Cultural Baggage Behind: Cultural Influences on Social Action." *International Migration Review*.
- Karam, Rebecca A. "Muslim Sacred Canopy: How Muslim American Parents Legitimate Nomos" *Sociology of Religion*.

### GRANTS & AWARDS

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|-----------|---|
| 2019      | Eastern Sociological Society Candace Rogers Student Paper Award                                   |
| 2019      | Eastern Sociological Society Travel Award   |
| 2018-2019 | Carell Dissertation Fellowship  |
| 2017      | Arab American Studies Association Travel Award  |
| 2017      | CUNY Graduate Center Dissertation Award   |
| 2016-2017 | Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Committee for the Study of Religion at the CUNY Graduate Center |
| 2015      | ARC Research Praxis Fellowship, Advanced Research Collaborative at the CUNY Graduate Center       |
| 2012-2017 | Enhanced Chancellor's Fellowship, CUNY Graduate Center.   |
| 2012      | Michigan Difference Maker Award, University of Michigan-Dearborn                                  |
| 2011      | Chancellor's Medallion, University of Michigan-Dearborn   |

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2016-2018 Co-Principal Investigator, Faith in the Second Generation, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2015-2017 Principal Investigator, Muslims for American Progress Project, Institute for Social Policy and Understanding
- 2014-2016 Co-Principal Investigator, The Second Generation Project, University of Michigan-Dearborn
- 2013 Lead Interviewer & Ethnographer, Doing Business in Hamtramck Study, University of Michigan-Dearborn
- 2012-2013 Graduate Research Assistant, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2012 Research Assistant, University of Michigan-Dearborn
- 2010 Research Assistant, University of Michigan-Dearborn

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019-2020 “Introduction to Arab American Studies,” University of Michigan-Dearborn.
- 2013-2016 “Introduction to Sociology,” Baruch College (Graduate Teaching Fellow)
- 2013-2016 “Introduction to Anthropology,” “Medical Sociology,” and “Sociological Research Methods” Baruch College (Graduate Teaching Assistant)

*Syllabi Developed for:* Introduction to Sociology; Race and Ethnicity; Sociology of Religion; International Migration; Qualitative Research Methods; Social Inequality; Immigrant Religion

### INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 “Becoming American by Becoming Muslim: Strategic Assimilation among Second-Generation Muslim American Parents,” presented in Ivy Forsyth-Brown’s Immigrant Cultures and Gender (SOC4555). February 5<sup>th</sup>. University of Michigan-Dearborn.
- 2018 “Becoming American by Becoming Muslim: Strategic Assimilation among Second-Generation Muslim American Parents,” presented in Karyn Lacy’s Race and Ethnic Relations (SOC303). November 26<sup>th</sup>. University of Michigan.
- 2018 “Becoming American by Becoming Muslim: Strategic Assimilation among Second-Generation Muslim American Parents,” presented in Sally Howell’s Introduction to Arab American Studies (AAST 3150). November 27<sup>th</sup>. University of Michigan-Dearborn.
- 2017 “Leaving the Cultural Baggage Behind: How Second-Generation Muslim Parents Negotiate the Role of Immigrant Culture in Promoting Success in the Next

Generation,” presented at the Immigration Working Group, CUNY Graduate Center.

- 2016-2017 “Muslims for American Progress: Understanding Muslim Contributions to Michigan,” presented at academic and community venues throughout the nation.
- 2016 “Making Muslim Americans: Parenting Practices, Parochial Schools, and the Transmission of Faith Across Generations in Metropolitan Detroit,” presented at the Committee for the Study of Religion seminar series, CUNY Graduate Center.
- 2016 “Anti-Immigrant Xenophobia in the United States,” Anthropology & Sociology Department, Baruch College.
- 2014 “The Making of Arab Americans,” Book Launch for *From Syrian Nationalism to U.S. Citizenship*, Middle Eastern and Middle Eastern American Center, CUNY Graduate Center.

### CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2019 “Leaving the Cultural Baggage Behind: How Second-Generation Muslim Parents Negotiate the Role of Immigrant Culture in Promoting Success in the Next Generation,” presented at the American Sociology of Religion 2019 Annual Meeting, New York City. Regular session.
- 2019 “Becoming American by Becoming Muslim: Strategic Assimilation among Second-Generation Muslim American Parents,” presented at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Boston. Regular session on “Immigration, Assimilation, and Transnationalism.”
- 2018 “Challenging Racism, Resisting Racialization: Raising Third-Generation Muslim Americans in the United States,” presented at the American Sociological Association 2018 Annual Meeting, Philadelphia. Thematic Session. American Fears: Islam’s Racialization and the Politics of Exclusion.
- 2018 “Leaving the Cultural Baggage Behind: How Second-Generation Muslim Parents Negotiate the Role of Immigrant Culture in Promoting Success in the Next Generation,” presented at the American Sociological Association 2018 Annual Meeting, Philadelphia. Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities Refereed Roundtable Session. Migrant Generations.
- 2016 “Redefining Islam: Adult Religiosity and Social Incorporation of Second-generation Muslim Americans,” presented at the American Sociological Association 2016 Annual Meeting, Seattle. Regular session.
- 2015 “The Impact of Childhood Mosque Participation on Adult Religiosity and Civic Participation,” presented at the Growing Up Muslim in Europe and the United States Conference, City University of New York.

- 2015 “Faith in the Second Generation: South Asian Second-Generation Muslim Americans in Metro-Detroit,” presented at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New York City. Roundtable Session.

### **UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- 2017-2020 Arab American Studies Association Board of Directors, Web Coordinator
- 2016-2017 Discussant, Immigration Working Group, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2016 Distinguished Fellowship Selection Committee, Advanced Research Collaborative, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2014-2015 Curriculum and Exams Committee, Sociology Students Association, CUNY Graduate Center

### **PROGRAMMING KNOWLEDGE**

Quantitative: R, STATA, SPSS, ArcGIS

Qualitative: NVIVO, Dedoose

### **MEDIA APPEARANCES (SELECTED)**

- 2018 Television interview on PBS, “No Passport Required: Detroit,” July 10, 2018.
- 2017 Interview in The Metro Times, “Everyone in Michigan should read this new report on the state's Muslims,” September 14, 2017 (Shared by The Huffington Post and Moveon.org).
- 2017 Radio discussant on 910 AM, “Redline with Bankole Thompson,” July 20, 2017.
- 2016 Radio interview on WCEV Chicagoland’s Ethnic Voice entitled “Radio Islam,” May 6, 2016