

Rebecca A. Karam

Curriculum Vitae

August 2020

Department of Sociology
Michigan State University

karamreb@msu.edu
www.rebeccakaram.com

EDUCATION

- 2020 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, Philip Kasinitz
- 2011 B.A. in Sociology, University of Michigan-Dearborn
Summa Cum Laude
- 2009 A.A. in Liberal Arts, Oakland Community College
Summa Cum Laude

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2020-2021 Dean's Research Associate, Michigan State University

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 Journal Articles

- 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.” To be submitted to *International Migration Review*.

Karam, Rebecca A. “Muslim Sacred Canopy: How Muslim American Parents Legitimate Nomos” To be submitted to *Sociology of Religion*.

GRANTS & AWARDS

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

2019 Participant, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Data Advocacy Collaborative, ACCESS-Dearborn

2016-2019 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 5th. 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 26th. 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 27th. 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. 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 Michigan Sociological Association 2019 Annual Meeting, Detroit. Thematic session: Immigrant Communities.
- 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
- 2019 Arab American National Research Initiative, ACCESS-Dearborn
- 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)

- 2019 Television interview on Al Araby, “Ain Almakam: Arab American Political Mobilization in Detroit” November 2019.
- 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