

# John N. Robinson III

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## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

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2017- Assistant Professor, Dept. of Sociology, Washington University in St Louis  
2016-2017 Postdoctoral Fellow, Dept. of Sociology, Washington University in St Louis

## **EDUCATION**

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PhD NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
Sociology, 2016  
  
MA GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY  
Sociology, 2010  
  
BA HAMPTON UNIVERSITY  
Sociology (Major), Political Science (Minor), 2006

## **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

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Economic Sociology, Social Policy, Urban Sociology, Law and Society, Race and Poverty, Public Finance, Housing, Neighborhoods

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### *Book Manuscript*

*LIQUID CITY: AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND THE COLOR OF TRANSFORMATION* (In Progress)

### *Journal Articles*

2020 John N. Robinson III. "[Making Markets at the Margins: The Racial Politics of Credit Expansion](#)," Forthcoming at the *American Journal of Sociology*

- 2020 John N. Robinson III (with Josh Pacewicz). [“Pocketbook Policing: How Race Shapes Reliance on Fines and Fees in Suburban Chicago.”](#) Forthcoming at *Socio-Economic Review*
- 2020 John N. Robinson III. [“Capitalizing on Community: Affordable Housing Markets in the Age of Participation.”](#) Forthcoming at *Politics & Society*
- 2019 John N. Robinson III. [“Fair Housing after ‘Big Government’: How Tax Credits are Reshaping the Legal Fight against Racial Segregation.”](#) in *Housing Policy Debate*. 29(5): 752-768
- 2017 John N. Robinson III. [“Negotiating the \(Legal\) Right to the City: Public Housing Demolition and Federal Courts in Two Postindustrial Cities.”](#) in the *Journal of Urban Affairs*. 39(2): 277-290
- 2016 John N. Robinson III. [“Race, Poverty and Markets: Urban Inequality after the Neoliberal Turn.”](#) in *Sociology Compass*.10(12):1090-1101
- 2016 John N. Robinson III. [“Welfare as Wrecking Ball: Constructing Public Responsibility in Legal Encounters Over Public Housing Reform.”](#) in *Law and Social Inquiry*. 41(3): 670-700
- 2009 John N. Robinson III. [“Coloring the Blind Spot: The Urban Black Community as an Object of Racial Discourse in the Age of Obama.”](#) in the *Western Journal of Black Studies*. 33(3): 212-223

### **Revise and Resubmit**

[“Paying One’s Own Way: Race, Renting and the Stratification of Affordable Capitalism.”](#) at *Social Problems*

[“Housing Poor Suburbia: The Financialization of Affordable Renting in Suburban Chicago.”](#) at *City & Community*

### **Book Chapters**

- 2016 John N. Robinson III (with Mary Pattillo). “Poor Neighborhoods in the Metropolis,” in *Oxford Handbook of the Social Science of Poverty*, edited by Linda Burton and David Brady. New York, NY: Oxford University Press
- 2016 John N. Robinson III. “‘There’s No Home for You Here’: Containment, Displacement and the Legacy of Public Housing in the Lives of Low-income Black Americans,” in *Public Space, Public Policy and Public Understanding of*

Race and Ethnicity in America: An Interdisciplinary Approach, edited by Teresa Booker. Akron, OH: University of Akron Press

- 2012 John N. Robinson III. (with Katie Kerstetter). "Preserving Affordable Housing and Building Wealth in an Economic Recovery: Limited-Equity Cooperatives as an Alternative to Tenant Displacement." Pp. 87-100 in Agenda for Social Justice: Solutions 2012, edited by Glenn W. Muschert, et al. Knoxville, TN: Justice 21 Committee of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)
- 2008 John N. Robinson III. "Home Court Advantage: Strategies of Symbolic Attainment in Pickup Basketball." Pp. 1-9 in Diversity at Mason: Student Research on Student Identity, edited by Karen E. Rosenblum, Naliyah K. Kaya and John N. Robinson III. Fairfax, VA: The Diversity Research Group, George Mason University

### ***Invited Book Reviews***

- 2019 John N. Robinson III. "Cycles of Segregation: Social Processes and Residential Segregation." by Maria Krysan and Kyle Crowder in *Contemporary Sociology*
- 2017 John N. Robinson III. "Exiled in America: Life on the Margins in a Residential Motel." by Christopher P. Dum in *American Journal of Sociology*
- 2012 John N. Robinson III. "The Wire: Urban Decay and American Television." by Tiffany Potter and C.W. Marshall, in *Media, Culture and Society*. 34(2):250-252
- 2011 John N. Robinson III. "American Multiculturalism after 9/11: Transatlantic Perspectives." by Derek Rubin and Jaap Verheul in *Qualitative Sociology Review*. 7(3):102-104
- 2010 John N. Robinson III. "Anti-Apartheid and the Emergence of Global Civil Society." by Hakan Thorn in *Qualitative Sociology Review*. 6(2): 185-187
- 2009 John N. Robinson III. Review of "More Than Just Race." by William Julius Wilson, in *Qualitative Sociology Review*. 5(2):116-118

### ***Drafted Papers/Articles***

*LIQUID CITY Chapter Two: One's Trash, Another's Treasure*

*LIQUID CITY Chapter Three: The Last Great Tax Shelter*

*LIQUID CITY Chapter Six: Transforming Outer Suburbia*

John N. Robinson III. "Opportunity or Disinvestment?: Race, Place and Affordable Housing in the Age of Finance"

### ***Works in Progress***

Robinson III, John N. “Beyond Discrimination: A Sociology of Economic Racism”

Robinson III, John N. “Filtering Out Cabrini: Affordable Housing and the Racial Politics of Place”

Robinson III, John N and Spencer Headworth. “Principal Interests: Fiscal Obscurity and Backstage Policymaking”

### **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2019 **Faculty Fellowship/Membership**, Institute for Advanced Study, School of Social Science in Princeton, NJ (*Declined*)
- 2019 **Junior Scholar Award**, Law and Society Association
- 2017 **Early Career Award**, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
- 2015 **Pathways Fellowship**, Office of Public Finance and Economic Development, US Department of Housing and Urban Development (Policy Research and Development division)
- 2015 **Dissertation Research Grant**, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy (\$7500)
- 2015 **Special Trustees Award for Most Outstanding Project**, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy (\$5000)
- 2015 **Economy and Society Travel Fellowship**, Paris Institute of Political Studies (\$1450)
- 2013 **Visiting Scholar Grant**, Paris Institute of Political Studies (\$4000)
- 2012 **Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship**, The Ford Foundation, National Academies
- 2012 **ASA Minority Fellowship**, American Sociological Association (alternate)

### **INVITED TALKS**

2019

- “Opportunity or Disinvestment? Race, Place and Affordable Housing in the Age of Finance”
  - “Suburban Schools, Urban Realities? A Conference on Suburban Diversity and Opportunity,” Washington University in St Louis, March 2020

- Sociology of Housing Conference, Georgetown University in Washington, DC, October 2019
- “Filtering Out Cabrini: Affordable Housing and the Politics of Racial Boundaries”
  - Department of Sociology colloquium, Purdue University, March 2019
  - Department of Sociology colloquium, University of Washington, January 2019
- “Pocketbook Policing: How Race Shapes Local Reliance on Fines and Fees in Suburban Chicago”
  - “Money and Punishment: Five Years after Ferguson,” Liman Colloquium at Yale Law School, April 2020
  - “Progressing Reform of Fees and Fines: Towards A Research and Policy Agenda,” at Harvard University Law School, September 2019
  - “American Dream, Corrupted” panel at the Annual Conference for the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, June 2019
  - St. Louis Metropolitan Research Exchange weekly colloquium, February 2019

2018

- “Filtering Out Cabrini: Affordable Housing and the Politics of Racial Boundaries”
  - Sociology Department colloquium at Brown University, Providence, RI, October 2018
  - Workshop on Public Space and Cities at the German Historical Institute, Washington, DC, March 2018
- “Affordable Housing and the Politics of Racial Equity”
  - “Diversity, Inequality and Place in the Divided City” panel at the City/Cite conference, Webster University, October 2018
- “Reimagining Suburbia: Housing the Poor in an Age of Decline”
  - Urban Inequality Workshop at Boston University’s Department of Sociology, Boston, MA, March 2018
- “Liquid City: Affordable Housing and the Color of Transformation”
  - “American Policy and American Finance” event at Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society at the University of Chicago, May 2018

- “Fair Housing after ‘Big Government’: How LIHTC is Reshaping the Legal Fight against Racial Segregation”
  - Research Symposium on Fair Housing at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA May 2018
- “Fighting for Value: Community Reinvestment and the Battleground of Racial Capitalism”
  - Social Science Research Council’s Race and Capitalism Retreat, Murlo, Italy, June 2018

2017

- “Investing in Redress: Tax Credit Housing and the Politics of Racial Inequity in the Age of Big Finance”
  - “Globalizing Racial Capitalism” panel, Racing the International series at the Center for Race, Politics and Culture, University of Chicago, April 2017

2015

- “Financing the Unaffordable City”
  - Department of Sociology, Boston College, October 2015
  - Department of Sociology, Washington University-St. Louis, November 2015
  - Department of Sociology, Drexel University, November 2015
  - Department of Sociology, Colby College, November 2015

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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2019

- “Pocketbook Policing: How Race Shapes Municipal Reliance on Punitive Fines and Fees in the Chicago Suburbs”
  - Annual meeting for the American Sociological Association

2017

- “Racializing the Invisible Safety Net: The Case of Tax Credit Housing”
  - Annual meeting for the American Sociological Association. Panel on “New Directions in Urban Sociology.” Montreal, Canada, August 2017
  - Annual meeting for the Law and Society Association. Panel on “Reimagining Access: Institutional Experiments in the Postindustrial City” (organizer and presenter). Mexico City, Mexico, June 2017

- Annual meeting for the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics. Panel on “Social Exclusion and Welfare States.” Lyon, France, June 2017

2016

- “Managing the Urban Crisis: Race and Finance in ‘Black Freedom’ Era Chicago, 1960-1975”
  - “Can Comparative Historical Sociology Save the World?” Mini-Conference of the Comparative Historical Section. Seattle, WA, August 2016
  - Annual meeting of the Social Science History Association. “The Technologies of Bureaucracy and their Politics” panel. Chicago, IL, November 2016
  - Economy and Society mini-conference at the Paris Institute for Political Studies Reims, FR, July 2015

2015

- “Financing the Unaffordable City”
  - Urban/Communities Workshop, Northwestern University, October 2015
- “Re-envisioning the City: The Limits and Possibilities of Property,”
  - Moderator at the annual meeting for the Law and Society Association. May 2015
- “Shady Markets: Moral Politics and the Business of Poverty in Housing”
  - Annual meeting for the Law and Society Association. May 2015
- “The City as Investment Portfolio: Social Finance and the Changing Racial Politics of Urban space,”
  - Law in Motion: Race and Property conference, Northwestern University Legal Studies Program. May 2015

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

- Organizational Affiliations
  - Board Member, Arch City Defenders (Holistic Legal Defense Agency)
- Media Writing/Commentary
  - “W.E.B. DuBois and the Racial Economics of Inclusive Capitalism,” Social Science research Council’s *Items* Series

- “The Promise and Challenge of Moving Money into Black-Owned Banks,” *The Atlantic* (by Gillian B. White)
- “Banking Black: Can Divesting from America’s Big Financial Institutions Help Fix Racial Inequality,” *The New Republic* (by Kia Gregory)
- Participation in Symposia
  - Expert Witness Training, The Thurgood Marshall Institute at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Duke University, May 2019
  - “Affordable Housing in the Age of Financialization,” episode of the *New Dawn* podcast with Prof. Michael Dawson, The Racial Capitalism Project
  - Guest Lecture in Catalina Freixas Mark Abbott’s Segregation by Design course
  - “Housing Insecurity in the US,” panel discussion organized by Wash U Habitat for Humanity and Theta X

## **TEACHING AND ADVISING**

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| 2020-present | <b>Instructor</b> , Sociology 4210: “Race, Money and the Politics of Equity,” Washington University in St. Louis  |
| 2017-present | <b>Instructor</b> , Sociology 3001: “Social Theory,” Washington University in St. Louis   |
| 2016-present | <b>Instructor</b> , Sociology 3550: “Poverty and the New American City,” Washington University in St. Louis   |
| 2016         | <b>Instructor</b> , Sociology 101: “Poverty and the New American City,” Northwestern University   |
| 2010-2012    | <b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Department of Sociology, Northwestern University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sociology 101</li> <li>● Law and Society (200-level)</li> <li>● Race and Society (300-level)</li> <li>● Social Movements (300-level)</li> </ul> |

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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| 2013- | Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics |
| 2011- | Law and Society Association                    |
| 2010- | Midwest Sociology Society                      |
| 2008- | Alpha Delta Kappa, Sociology Honors Society    |
| 2007- | Society for the Study of Social Problems       |
| 2007- | American Sociological Association              |



- Section memberships: Urban and Community, Race and Ethnic Minorities, Economic Sociology, Sociology of Law, Political Sociology, Comparative-Historical Sociology, Poverty, Inequality and Mobility

2007-

Association of Black Sociologists