

# Xiwen Huang

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## Research Interests

Inequality, Gender and Race, Work and Occupations, Social Networks, Quantitative Methods, Computational Social Science

## Education

**Washington University in St.Louis**, St.Louis, MO. Expected 2030  
*Ph.D. in Sociology*

**Columbia University**, New York, NY. February 2024  
*M.A. in Quantitative Methods in the Social Science (QMSS); GPA:4.06/4.0*  
Relevant Coursework: Natural Language Processing(A+); Machine Learning(A+);  
Advanced Analytic Techniques; Social Network Analysis

**Southeast University**, Nanjing, China. June 2022  
*B.A. in English; GPA:3.98/4.0 (WES: 3.94/4.0)*  
Relevant Coursework: Sociology & Chinese Society, Social Statistics, Modern  
Economics, Advanced Mathematics

**University of California, Berkeley**, Berkeley, CA. December 2019  
*Semester Exchange Student in the Department of Sociology; GPA:3.66/4.0*  
Relevant Coursework: Transnational Feminism, Virtual Communities /Social Media

## Working Papers

[1]“**Diversity in US Legal Professions - An Empirical Analysis with MCCA Survey Data**” with Yao Lu (to be submitted).

[2]“**Evaluation Synthesis of the Joint SDG Fund’s Decentralized Independent Evaluations on Integrated Social Protection piloting the use of Machine Learning and Large Language Models**”  
with Heewoong Kim (in progress).

## Publications and Presentations

[1]Huang, X. (2021). **The policy feasibility analysis of paid father-specific parental leave policy in China discussion from the perspective of policy comparison.** Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Management, Economy and Law (ICMEL 2021). <https://doi.org/10.2991/aebmr.k.210909.014>

[2]“**Will Negative Language Use Intensify Group Polarization on Social Media: A Case Study of US Abortion Debate on Twitter.**” Oral presentation presented at Eastern Sociological Society Conference 2023. Baltimore, MD. February 2023.

## **Research Experiences**

### **Diversity in US Legal Professions - An Empirical Analysis with MCCA Survey Data**

*Master's Thesis at Columbia University, November 2022 - Present*

Advisor: Prof. Yao Lu

- Analyzed the diversity dynamics and evaluated DEI initiatives in the U.S. legal professions and their broader societal implications with MCCA diversity survey data;
- Performed data cleaning and descriptive statistical analysis on MCCA longitudinal firm-level dataset for 16 years, visualized the diversity group proportions within the US legal industry over time trends; developed evaluations on the DEI impact activities implementation with regression analysis.

### **Will Negative Language Use Intensify Group Polarization on Social Media: A Case Study of US Abortion Debate on Twitter**

*Course Project, September 2022 - February 2023*

Advisor: Prof. Gregory M. Eirich

- Examined the impact of negative language expressions on intensifying political polarization on Twitter during the 2022 US abortion debate;
- Collected a dataset of 2968 Tweets by utilizing the Twitter API for data extraction; developed sentiment analysis and constructed information diffusion networks using replies, retweets, and mentions to evaluate the public attitudes and the propagation influence quantitatively; performed multinomial logistic regression models to analyze the relationship between users' political polarization of group identity and their utilization of negative language expressions.
- Paper accepted for oral presentation at the Eastern Sociological Society Conference 2023 (ESS 2023) in Baltimore, US.

### **Selected Menstrual Euphemisms Employed by Women in China from the Perspective of Feminism**

*Undergraduate Graduation Thesis at Southeast University, December 2021-June 2022*

Advisor: Prof. Xu Hou

- Analyzed the most frequently-used Chinese menstrual euphemisms employed by women in China with different social attributes (age, place of residence, highest education level, etc.) ;
- Conducted online and offline surveys with a total of 168 women to collect the corpus data of the most frequently used menstrual euphemisms in Chinese, classified and coded corpus data into different themes; performed regression analysis on SPSS based on the coded data, finding a growing trend of using less negative menstrual euphemisms among younger women in China with higher educational levels;
- Paper selected as “Excellence” Award for 2022 English Major Graduation Project at Southeast University **(3/58)**.

## **The Policy Feasibility Analysis of Paid Father-Specific Parental Leave Policy in China from the Perspective of Policy Comparison**

*Independent Researcher Project, April 2021 - September 2021*

Advisor: Prof. Williams Trochim

- Compared and evaluated the paid parental leave policy implementations in Sweden, the United States, Japan, and China;
- Reviewed multiple employment evaluation indicators from the World Bank and OECD policy databases; analyzed the pros and cons of parental leave policies in each country based on the demographic data, provided implications on the implementation of a father-specific parental leave policy in China;
- Paper accepted for publication at Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Management, Economy and Law (ICMEL 2021).

## **Professional Experiences**

### **United Nations - Joint SDG Fund, New York, NY (Hybrid)**

*Research Associate Internship, March 2023 - September 2023*

- In charge of computer-assisted content analysis of the 31 decentralized independent report evaluations conducted under the Fund's integrated social protection portfolio;
- Cleaned and preprocessed over 1000 pages of UN reports as text data, including stopwords removal, tokenization, and lemmatization; implemented sentiment analysis with Vader, Afinn, and NRC sentiment analyzers, producing sentiment scores and calculated sentiment keyword frequencies and proportions within the text.

### **China Alliance of Social Value Investment, Shenzhen, China (Remote)**

*Internship in Research Analyst, Institute of Sustainable Finance, September 2022 - January 2023*

- Updated ESG news database and conducted 2-3 in-depth ESG news reviews each month;
- Collated, analyzed, and visualized time-series data of the world's latest Carbon Market /ESG reports; published Sustainable Finance Monthly Report.

## **Teaching Experience**

### **Columbia University, QMSS, New York, NY**

*Teaching Assistant, July 2023 - December 2023*

- Worked as a teaching assistant for the course "*Natural Language Processing in the Social Science*" taught by Professor Patrick Houlihan;
- Graded students' assignments, held office hours weekly, helped with their coding assignments, and discussed their research designs on final projects.

## **Project Experiences**

## **Combat the Virus, Confront the Bias (CVCB)**

*Student-led project supported by the Student Engagement Awards at the University of Toronto, June 2021- October 2021*

- Collated and analyzed news reports on hate crimes against Asians in Canada, the United States, and Australia, and researched specific COVID-19 policies in these countries, designed semi-structured interview questions;
- Conducted in-depth interviews with four Asian students living in foreign countries about their experience with racism; analyzed interview scripts of over 20,000 words from the perspective of postcolonial and intersectionality theory;
- Launched a WeChat and Instagram account to publish research findings and raise public awareness about hate against the Asian community; received about 7000 views for articles posted on WeChat and achieved an audience of over 780 for a popular post on Instagram.

## **Analysis of the Polarization Effect of Social Media on Users**

*Student Research Training Projects at Southeast University, September 2020 - June 2022*

- Used the '227' incident (a dispute between fans of Xiaozhan, a Chinese celebrity, and opponents that went viral on Sina Weibo) as a case study to investigate the impact of the filtering algorithms of Sina Weibo on group polarization;
- Scraped over 500 Weibo posts of the '227' incident by chronological order both from filtered and unfiltered sources for the text mining, designed polarization coding list and encoded the Weibo posts; performed OLS regression analysis on SPSS to analyze the impact of sources of information obtainment on Sina Weibo on group polarization.
- Project selected as Key SRTP Projects, funded by Jiangsu Province.

## **Honors and Awards**

- Excellence Award for Undergraduate Thesis (3/58), Department of English, Southeast University, 2022
- U of T COVID-19 Student Engagement Awards, University of Toronto, 2021(\$3000, U of T)
- Student Research Training Program in Jiangsu Province, Southeast University (¥ 8000, SEU)
- Guangdong Alumni Association Scholarship, Southeast University, 2021 (¥ 5000, SEU)
- Curriculum Scholarship (Top 5%), Department of English, Southeast University, 2020 (¥ 2000, SEU)

## **Skills**

- **Languages:** English (Proficient); Mandarin (Native); French (Intermediate).
- **Programming:** Python (Advanced); R (Advanced); Stata (Advanced).
- **Software:** SPSS, Excel, Word, PowerPoint, EndNote, LaTeX