

CARLY R KNIGHT

Department of Sociology, New York University
295 Lafayette Street, 4102, New York, NY 10012
carly.knight@nyu.edu

APPOINTMENTS

New York University
2020- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology
2018-2020 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Sociology, Harvard University, 2018
M.A., Sociology, Harvard University, 2013
B.A., Economics, and B.A., Political Science, Duke University, 2007

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economic Sociology, Organizations, Cultural sociology, Corporations, Law, Sociology of Finance, Computational Sociology, Social Theory

PUBLICATIONS

*denotes equal authorship

2026 *Knight, Carly R, and Adam Goldstein. “[Ambiguous Actorhood: Twenty-first Century Firms and the Evasion of Responsibility.](#)” *Sociological Science*.

2026 *Kiviat, Barbara and Carly Knight. “[Seeing Like a Company or a Customer: Selective Empathy in Pricing.](#)” *American Sociological Review*

2024 Knight, Carly. “The Progressive Era’s Public Firm.” In [Democratizing the Corporation: The Bicameral Firm and Beyond](#). Isabelle Ferreras, Tom Malleson and Joel Rogers (eds). Verso.

2023 *Goldstein, Adam and Carly Knight “[Boom, Bust, Repeat: Market Repertoires and Cycles of Speculation.](#)” *American Journal of Sociology* 128(5): 1430–1471.

- Media Coverage: “The Investors Who Still Think Crypto Can Make Them Rich.” [Wall Street Journal](#).

2023 Knight, Carly R. “[Classifying the Corporation: The Role of Naturalizing Analogies in American Corporate Development, 1870- 1930](#)” *Socio-Economic Review* 21(3): 1629–1655

- Honorable Mention for Socio-Economic Review’s Best Article Prize

2022 Knight, Carly R. “[When Corporations are People: Agent Talk and the Development of Organizational Actorhood.](#)” *Sociological Methods and Research* 51(4): 1634-1680.

2022 Knight, Carly R, Frank Dobbin, and Alexandra Kalev. "[Under the Radar: Visibility and the Effects of Discrimination Lawsuits in Small and Large Firms](#)." *American Sociological Review* 87(2): 1-27.

2020 Carsten Schwemmer, Carly Knight, Jeffrey W. Lockhart, Emily Bello-Pardo, Stan Oklobdzija and Martijn Schoonvelde. "[Diagnosing Gender Bias in Image Recognition Systems](#)." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* 6.

- Media coverage: "When AI Sees a Man, It Thinks 'Official.' A Woman? 'Smile!'" [Wired Magazine](#).

2019 Knight, Carly R., and Isaac Ariail Reed. "[Meaning and Modularity: The Multivalence of 'Mechanism' in Sociological Explanation](#)." *Sociological Theory* 37(3): 234-256.

- Featured in ASA Theory Section's Newsletter, *Perspectives*.

2017 Knight, Carly R, and Mary C Brinton. "[One Egalitarianism or Several? Two Decades of Gender-Role Attitude Change in Europe](#)." *American Journal of Sociology* 122(5): 1485-1532.

2016 Knight, Carly R, András Tilcsik, and Michel Anteby. "[The Geography of Stigma Management: The Relationship between Sexual Orientation, City Size, and Self-Monitoring](#)." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*, 2: 1-10.

2015 Tilcsik, András, Michel Anteby, and Carly R Knight. "[Concealable Stigma and Occupational Segregation: Toward a Theory of Gay and Lesbian Occupations](#)." *Administrative Science Quarterly* 60(3): 446-81.

2014 Knight, Carly R. "[Mechanism-Based Causal Analysis](#)." In *The International Encyclopedia of Social and Behavioral Sciences*, edited by James D Wright, 2nd ed. Oxford, UK: Elsevier.

2013 Sampson, Robert, Christopher Winship, and Carly R Knight. "[Translating Causal Claims: Principles for a Policy-Relevant Criminology](#)." *Criminology & Public Policy* 12 (4): 587-616.

2013 Knight, Carly R and Christopher Winship. 2013. "The Causal Implications of Mechanistic Thinking: Identification Using Directed Acyclic Graphs (DAGs)." Pp. 275-300 in *Handbook on Causal Analysis for Social Research*, edited by Stephen L. Morgan, Springer.

UNDER REVIEW

*denotes equal authorship

*Kiviat, Barbara and Carly Knight. "Seeing like a company or a customer: Moralized market perspectives on what's fair in pricing." (Revise & Resubmit)

Knight, Carly. "The Legitimation of Big Business: Using Diachronic Word Embeddings to Examine Discursive Reclassification in Media, 1860-1930" (Revise & Resubmit)

Knight, Carly and Jeff Guhin. "Agent talk in everyday life: The role of imagined interactions in the construction of social institutions." (Revise & Resubmit)

WORKING PAPERS

Knight, Carly and Nathan Wilmers. “The Dynamics of Managerial Ideologies: Ideological Reorientation in the Transformation of Work, 1935-2005.”

Knight, Carly and Adam Goldstein. “Ambiguous Actorhood: 21st Century Firms and the Evasion of Responsibility”

BOOK REVIEWS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2024 Knight, Carly R. [Review of Emily Erikson's *Trade and Nation*. British Journal of Sociology.](#)

2022 Knight, Carly R. “[How the Corporation Lost its Image as a ‘Creature of the State’](#)” *Law and Political Economy Project*.

2022 Knight, Carly R. “[External Authorities and Group Beliefs: Review of *Agents of God*?](#) *Syndicate*.

2019 Knight, Carly R. “[Beyond Moral Motivations, Review of Stefan Bargheer Moral Entanglements: Conserving Birds in Britain and Germany](#)” *European Journal of Sociology* 60(3): 425-28.

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

NYU Golden Dozen Teaching Award

Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (with Frank Dobbin), 2016

US- Israel Binational Science Foundation (With Frank Dobbin and Alexandra Kaley), 2014 (\$144,000)

Harvard Center for American Political Studies Term Time Research Fellowship, 2014

SSRC Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship in Fiscal Sociology, 2013

Tobin Project in Democracy and Markets Graduate Student Fellowship 2013

Political Sociology Graduate Student Paper Prize, 2012

Reinhard Bendix Prize for Best Graduate Paper in Historical and Comparative Sociology, 2012

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2010

INVITED PRESENTATIONS: COLLOQUIA AND PANELS

2024 “Seeing like a company or a customer: Moralized market perspectives on what’s fair in pricing.” Northwestern Sociology Colloquium, February 2025.

“How to Manage the Market: The Construction of the Economic Actor in Business Self-Help Books, 1970-2020” MIT Sloan, May 2024.

“Classifying the Corporation: The Role of Naturalizing Analogies in American Corporate Development, 1870- 1930” *Socio-Economic Review* (SER) Café, March 2024.

2023 “Building a Bubble: Repertoires of Financial Risk Taking” UCSD Sociology Colloquium.

“How should an employee be?: The Literature of Business Self-Help and the Construction of Financialized Subjects.” Institute for Analytical Sociology, Sweden.

“How should an employee be?: The Literature of Business Self-Help and the Construction of Financialized Subjects.” Yale, Center for Cultural Sociology.

2021 “Agent Talk: The Discourse of Institutional and Organizational Agency.” Social Science History Association. November 2021.

“Good Work: Ideological Reorientation in the Transformation of Work.” American Sociological Association. August 2020.

2020 “The Personification of the American Business Corporation.” UPenn Sociology Colloquium.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024 “Ambiguous Actorhood: 21st Century Firms and the Evasion of Responsibility” ASA 2024

“Agent Talk in Everyday Life: The role of imagined interactions in the construction of social institutions” American Sociological Association. August 2024

“How to Manage the Market.” SASE July 2024.

2023 “Seeing like a Company or a Customer: Moralized Perspectives on Pricing Institutions and the Role of Selective Empathy”, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, August 2023

“How to Manage the Market.” American Sociological Association. August 2023.

2022 “Seeing like a company or a customer: Moralized market perspectives on pricing fairness.” SASE.

2020 “How to Build a Bubble.” American Sociological Association. August 2020.

“Corporate Futures: Rhetorics of Managerial Expectations in Corporate Capitalism.” SASE 2020.

2019 Author Meets Critics Session for *American Bonds*, Sarah Quinn, SSHA 2019

2018 Author Meets Critic Session for *Moral Entanglements*, Stefan Bargheer, SSHA 2018

2016 “Corporation as Moral Agent.” American Sociological Association, Seattle, August 2016.

“The Personification of the Corporation in American Law.” SASE, Berkeley, July 2016.

2015 “Stigma and Occupational Segregation.” ASA, Chicago, August 2015.

2014 “The Progressive Origins of Corporate Personification.” SSHA Toronto, November 2014.

“When Modularity Fails: Causal Arguments for Cultural Explanations” SSHA, Toronto, 2014.

2013 “The Long Road to Gender Equality.” ASA, New York, August 2013.

“A Voice but Not a Vote: The Case of Surrogate Representation and Social Welfare for Legal

TEACHING & ADVISING

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Introduction to Sociology (Undergrad: Fall 2020)

Sociological Theory (Undergrad: Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Fall 2024)

The Sociology of Wall Street (Undergrad: Fall 2020)
Just Markets: Morals, Markets, and Modern Capitalism (Undergrad: Fall 2021)
Sociology of Morality (Graduate: Spring 2021)
Research & Writing (Graduate: Fall 2021)
Methods of Sociological Research (Graduate: Spring 2023)
Culture and Markets (Graduate: Fall 2024)

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Philosophy and Methods of Social Science (Undergraduate, Certification of Distinction for Teaching)
Intermediate Quantitative Research Methods (Graduate, Certification of Distinction for Teaching)
Introductory Quantitative Research Methods (Graduate, Certification of Distinction for Teaching)

GRADUATE DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

New York University (committee member): Claire Seiffert (chair), Emma Mishel, Yuchen Luo, Safa Salim, Sejin Um, Belicia Teo

New York University (reader): Ned Crowley, Sonia Prelat, Kira Pratt, Oscar Stuhler, Di Zhou

Other: Raff Thompson (Stony Brook), Nick Pang (Columbia)

GRADUATE COMPS COMMITTEES

2024 – Economic Sociology Reader
2023 – Reader for Xiyan Liu
2022 – Reader for Claire Sieffert

MASTERS COMMITTEES

Cella Masso-Rivetti (NYU, Experimental Humanities)

AQR THESIS ADVISEES

Lilya Pekdemir

UNDERGRADUATE SENIOR THESIS ADVISEES

New York University: Tytus Wilhem (2020), Ran Wang (2020), Ainsley Dean (2024)

Harvard University: Siobhan McDonough, Harvard University, 2016-2017; Jesse Schulman, 2015-2016, Winner of Thesis Prize for Best Senior Thesis in Social Studies; William Montgomery, 2015-2016; Nima Hassan, 2014-2015

SERVICE

ACADEMIC

Reviewer: *American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, Sociological Theory, Social Forces, Sociological Methods & Research, Critical Historical Studies, Mobilization, Social Problems, Socio-Economic Review, Gender & Society*

2024-present Editorial Board Member of *American Journal of Sociology*

2024 Organizer for Mentorship Program, Economic Sociology Section of the ASA
Organizer for Mentorship Program, Theory Section of the ASA
Committee for ASA Culture Section Award for Best Article
Chair of Nominations Committee, Theory Section
2022-2024 Council Member, Theory Section, ASA
2019-2024 Editorial Board Member, *Sociological Theory*
2020-2023 Council Member, Economic Sociology Section, ASA
2021 Chair of Economic Sociology Membership and Mentoring Committee (ASA)
2020 Chair of Committee for ASA Culture Section Award for Best Student Article
2019 Committee for ASA Economic Sociology's Granovetter Award for Best Article
2019 Committee for ASA Theory Section's Junior Theorist's Award
2015-2017 Student Representative for Comparative-Historical Section of ASA
2015 Editor, Accounts: ASA Economic Sociology Section Newsletter

UNIVERSITY

2024-2025 Elected to department's Executive Advisory Committee (EAC)
2023 Department Graduate Program Review Committee
2022 Department Graduate Admissions Committee
2021 Department Recruitment Committee Member, Dean's Undergraduate Research Fund Reviewer
2020 Dean's Undergraduate Research Fund Reviewer

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Consultant, Boston Consulting Group, 2007
Research Associate, Urban Institute, 2007-2009