

Sam Lutzker

Contact Information

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Department of Sociology

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Research Interests

Urban Sociology; Race & Ethnicity; Ethnographic, Interview and Survey Methods; Public Policy; Public Sociology; Participatory Action Research.

Education

UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

M.A., Sociology, 2021 (PhD expected 2026, GPA: 3.945)

- Thesis: “Race Brokering: Developing Racial Awareness Across White Peer Networks”
- M.A. Committee: Stefan Timmermans, Karida Brown

Columbia University, New York, NY

B.A., Sociology (major) and East Asian Studies (concentration), *Magna Cum Laude*, 2015

- Thesis Topic: “Gentrification on the Block: Community Conflict and Perceptions of Displacement”

Peer-Reviewed Scholarship

Roy, Ananya, Annie Powers, Ashley Bennet, Sam Lutzker and Hilary Malson (on behalf of After Echo Park Lake Research Collective). 2022. “Continuum of Carcerality: How Liberal Urbanism Governs Homelessness.” *Radical Housing Journal*. (<https://radicalhousingjournal.org/2022/continuum-of-carcerality/>)

Policy Reports

After Echo Park Lake Research Collective. 2022. *Dis(Placement): The Fight for Housing and Community after Echo Park Lake*. UCLA Luskin Institute on Inequality and Democracy report.

(<https://challengeinequality.luskin.ucla.edu/2022/03/23/displacement/>)

- Report has been covered by national media, including *The Guardian*: <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/mar/23/los-angeles-echo-park-unhoused-residents-homelessness>

Public Scholarship

Roy, Ananya and Sam Lutzker (on behalf of After Echo Park Lake Research Collective). 2022. “How the brutal clearing of an L.A. homeless encampment can teach S.F. what not to do in the Tenderloin.” *San Francisco Chronicle*. (<https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/How-the-brutal-clearing-of-an-L-A-homeless-17057211.php>)

Lutzker, Sam. 2021. “Op-Ed: Cancel parking fines for unhoused people who live in their cars.” *Los Angeles Times*. (<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2021-05-19/homeless-cars-parking-tickets-los-angeles>)

Lutzker, Sam. 2021. "Is Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas 'champion of the homeless population?' Depends who you ask." *Knock L.A.* (<https://knock-la.com/mark-ridley-thomas-anti-homeless-camping-laws/>)

Lutzker, Sam. 2021. "'Project No Key': How punitive policies hamper California's efforts to house the unhoused." *Knock L.A.* (<https://knock-la.com/project-roomkey-punitive-policies-ce8d59c534fb/>).

Book Chapters

Kitonga, Ndindi and Sam Lutzker (on behalf of Palms Unhoused Mutual Aid). Forthcoming (2022-2023). "What to make of 'mutual aid?' Lessons from organizing across unhoused camps." *Dispatches from the Threshold: Organizing for Housing Justice in a Pandemic*.

Teaching

Teaching Assistant, UCLA, 2021-2022 (including summer)

- Contemporary Sociological Theory
- Global China
- Self and Society
- Intro to Sociology
- Urban Sociology

Lead instructor, Columbia University INCITE, Social Science Fall Fellows Program, 2018

Princeton in Asia Teaching Fellow, Wuhan University of Technology, People's Republic of China, 2015-2016

Honors & Awards

National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention, 2021

UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship (GSRM), 2021 (\$6,000)

UCLA Graduate Research Mentorship (GRM), 2020-2021 (\$20,000)

UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship (GSRM), 2020 (\$6,000)

UCLA Luskin Institute on Inequality and Democracy Graduate Student Working Group Funding Awardee

- Housing Justice Public Scholarship Series, 2021-2022 (\$1,000)
- Informal Tenancy Working Group, 2021-2022 (\$1,000)
- Palms Unhoused Mutual Aid, 2020-2021 (\$1,000)

Other Research Experience

Graduate Student Researcher, UCLA Luskin Institute on Inequality and Democracy, 2021-2022

- Project(s): *After Echo Park Lake* (PI: Ananya Roy)

Project Coordinator, Columbia University Interdisciplinary Center for Innovative Theory and Empirics (INCITE), 2017-2019

- Project(s): *Facing Whiteness* (PI: Peter Bearman); *Grocery Delivery Workers Project* (PI: Adam Reich)

Organizing/Research Intern, Columbia University INCITE & United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), 2014

- Project(s): *Summer for Respect: Organizing and Oral History* (PI: Adam Reich)

Work Experience

Senior Consultant, Positive Planet China (formerly Planet Finance), Beijing, People's Republic of China, 2016-2017

Presentations and Workshops

“(Dis)Placement: The Fight for Housing and Community After Echo Park Lake.” Presented with the After Echo Park Lake Research Collective to such audiences as *Los Angeles Times* editorial board, local press, local politicians and candidates, Venice Community Housing and Coalition on Homelessness SF.

“Ticketed, Seized, Held and Sold: Organizational Practices of Municipal Vehicle Enforcement and Reform.” To be presented at Northwestern University Problem-Solving Sociology Workshop on May 26th, 2022 (NSF-funded dissertation proposal workshop).

“Race Brokering: Developing Racial Awareness Across White Peer Networks.” Presented to the UCLA Race & Ethnicity Working Group on June 4th, 2021.

“Organizing *with* Un-Housed People in LA County.” Presented to Mar Vista Community Council on January 19th, 2021.

Service

Co-founder, Palms Unhoused Mutual Aid, 2020-2021

Reviewer

- *Social Science and Medicine*, 2021
- *Radical Housing Journal*, 2021

Other Skills

Languages: Mandarin Chinese, Spanish

Software: Excel, ATLAS.ti, Dedoose, Qualtrics, STATA, R, Adobe Illustrator