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Dissertation: *Criminal Inequality: Ex-prisoners in a State of Reentry*
Using the richness of ethnographic data and 76 in-depth interviews, this project examines how processes of criminalization shape the lives of formerly incarcerated people. I argue that along with numerous structural disadvantages, cultural ideas (e.g. individualism) operate as hidden barriers to reintegration – influencing how ex-prisoners, along with reentry professionals and organizations, navigate and manipulate the reentry terrain. I explore issues of race & racism, precarious employment, masculinity, organizational logic, trauma, and criminal justice policy in order to provide a holistic understanding of post-imprisonment experiences.

Areas of Interest: Race and racism, class, gender, mass incarceration, prisoner reentry, criminalization, insecure work experiences, organizations, experiential learning, public sociology, qualitative methods, public policy.

Education

Expected 2019 PhD Candidate, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts Amherst
2017 Master's in Sociology, University of Massachusetts Amherst
2012 B.A. Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, With Honors

Publications

Wooten, Melissa and Lucius Couloute. 2017. "The Production of Inequality Within and Among Organizations." Sociology Compass. In print.

Couloute, Lucius. Forthcoming. "Organizing Reentry: How Race Structures the Post-Imprisonment Terrain." Research in the Sociology of Organizations. Volume 58. Accepted.

In Preparation

Couloute, Lucius. "Fighting Just to Stay Right": Exclusion and Individualism in the Age of Mass Criminalization"

Branch, Enobong Hannah and Lucius Couloute. "Gaming the Racialized Social System: How Blacks Talk about Navigating Inequality."

Branch, Enobong Hannah, Christina Jackson, and Lucius Couloute. "Is Justice Blind? Race and the Rise of Mass Incarceration." Book chapter in *Black in America: What it Means to be the Problem*. Enobong Hannah Branch & Christina Jackson.

Couloute, Lucius. "Who Belongs in the Land of Second Chances?: Offense-type, Social Distancing, and the Construction of an Offender Hierarchy.

Couloute, Lucius & Armanthia Duncan. "The Mystification of Blackness in the United States."

Couloute, Lucius. "Hip Hop and Racial Violence." Essay in the *Encyclopedia of Racial Violence in America*. Greenwood Press. Editors: Douglas J. Flowe and Sowande M. Mustakeem.

Couloute, Lucius. "Slave Code." Essay in the *Encyclopedia of Racial Violence in America*. Greenwood Press. Editors: Douglas J. Flowe and Sowande M. Mustakeem.

Policy Reports

Couloute, Lucius and Dan Kopf. 2018. Out of Prison & Out of Work: Unemployment Among Formerly Incarcerated People. *Prison Policy Initiative*.

- Media coverage: [Colorlines](#), [Washington Post](#), [NBC](#), [CNBC](#), [The Wall Street Journal](#), [The Griot](#), [The Marshall Project](#), [The Crime Report](#), [Mic](#).

Couloute, Lucius. 2018. Nowhere to Go: Homelessness Among Formerly Incarcerated People. *Prison Policy Initiative*.

- Media coverage: [CityLab](#), [Forbes](#), [The Times-Picayune](#), [The Crime Report](#), [Witness LA](#).

Couloute, Lucius. Forthcoming: Fall 2018. Barring the Great Equalizer: Formerly Incarcerated People and Educational Inequality. *Prison Policy Initiative*.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

2018	Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship – Honorable Mention
2018	Summer Research Fellowship: Department of Sociology, UMass Amherst. (\$4,000.00)
2017	Public Sociology Graduate Student of the Year Award
2017	Best Comprehensive Exam Paper: UMass Department of Sociology
2017	Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Doctoral Summit Scholarship
2017	Fieldwork Grant: Graduate School, UMass Amherst. (\$2,034.00)
2017	Pre-Dissertation Summer Fellowship: Graduate School, UMass Amherst. (\$4,000.00)
2017	Eastern Sociological Society: Travel Grant to present "Organizing Reentry: How Race Structures the Post Imprisonment Terrain" (\$200)
2016	Labor Research & Action Network: New Scholars Research Grant for " <i>Examining Former Prisoners' Precarious Work Experiences</i> " (\$4,830.00).
2016	Best Teaching Assistant Award: UMass Department of Sociology (for the 2014-15 academic year.)
2013	Graduate Diversity Fellowship: Graduate School, UMass Amherst.

Public Sociology

2017	Written & oral testimony before the Massachusetts Public Safety Committee in support of S.1278 (an act protecting in-person visitation for inmates).
2017	Prison Policy Initiative articles: https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/author/lucius/
2016-	Quoted in <i>The New York Times</i> , <i>The Guardian</i> , <i>The Denver Post</i> , <i>Bill of Rights Defense Committee and Defending Dissent Foundation</i> , <i>Wired Magazine</i> , <i>Ars Technica</i> , <i>Forbes</i> , <i>Truthout (A)</i> , <i>Truthout (B)</i> , <i>the Florida Times-Union</i> , <i>The Crime Report</i> .

2016- Greater Hartford Reentry Council (GHREC), Active Member. Hartford, CT.

Research & Teaching Experience

2018 Lecturer, Globalization and Inequality (Sociology; UMass Amherst)
2016 Teaching Assistant (discussion leader), Contemporary Am. Society (Sociology; UMass Amherst)
2016 Teaching Assistant, Intro to Sociology (Sociology; UMass Amherst)
2015 Research Assistant (Spring, Summer, Fall), NSF Funded Project on Employment Insecurity. Principle Investigator: Enobong Hannah Branch. Department of Sociology; UMass Amherst
2014 Teaching Assistant (discussion leader), The Family (Sociology; UMass Amherst)
2013 Teaching Assistant, Criminology (Sociology; UMass Amherst)
2013 Teaching Assistant, Intro to Sociology (Sociology; UMass Amherst)
2012 Teaching Assistant, Social Problems (Sociology; UMass Amherst)

University & Departmental Service

2015-16 University Common Read Book Evaluator
2014-15 Co-chair: Sociology Graduate Student Association, Graduate Course Allocations Committee
2014-15 Each One Teach One Mentor: Center for Multicultural Advancement & Student Success
2013-14 University Common Read Book Evaluator
2013-14 Secretary: Sociology Graduate Student Association

Professional Service

2018-19 Eastern Sociological Society mini-conference co-organizer: Race & Organizations

Selected Presentations

2018 "Creating a Crime Problem: Mass Criminalization from Emancipation to the Present." University of Connecticut. Storrs, CT.
2018 "Mass Criminalization in the Age of Colorblind Racism." Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance. Holland, MI.
2018 "Organizing Reentry: How Racial Colorblindness Structures the Post Imprisonment Terrain." Eastern Sociological Society. Baltimore, MD.
2018 "Making your – Social Justice – Mark in College & Beyond." Male Youth Summit. Waterbury, CT.
2017 "“Fighting Just to Stay Right”: Work and Individualism in the Age of Mass Criminalization.” American Society of Criminology. Philadelphia, PA.
2017 "Organizing Reentry: How Race Structures the Post Imprisonment Terrain.” Eastern Sociological Society. Philadelphia, PA.
2016 "The Social Construction of Reentry: How Criminal Justice Practitioners Talk About the Post Imprisonment Terrain.” American Society of Criminology. New Orleans, LA.
2016 "Hope Among the Hopeless: Examining the Reentry Work of Ex-Prisoners.” UMass Amherst.
2016 "Why We Need the Black Lives Matter Movement.” Forum on Racial Reconciliation. Hartford, CT.
2016 "Working on the Margins: An Examination of Former Prisoners’ Precarious Work Experiences.” Labor Research & Action Network Annual Conference. Chicago, IL

Invited Panelist

- 2018** “Advancing equity in the criminal justice system.” Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance. Holland, MI.
- 2017** “People of color in Academia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Resources.” UMass Amherst.
- 2017** “Effective Teaching: Advice from Outstanding TAs.” UMass Amherst.

Related Employment

- 2017-** Policy Analyst (Prison Policy Initiative)
- 2017** Research consultation for the ESSIE Justice Group
- 2017** Research consultation for Face to Face Knox

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association
American Society of Criminology
Eastern Sociological Society

References

Enobong Branch (ebranch@soc.umass.edu)
Wenona Rymond-Richmond (wenona@soc.umass.edu)
Melissa Wooten (mwooten@soc.umass.edu)
Don Tomaskovic-Devey (tomaskovic-devey@soc.umass.edu)
Katie Young (young@umass.edu)

Additional references available upon request