

# Rebecca Hanson

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## Academic Appointments

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Assistant Professor, Joint Appointment in Department of Sociology, Criminology, & Law and Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida, 2017 – present

## Education

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Ph.D., Sociology, University of Georgia, 2017

Committee: David Smilde (chair, Tulane University), Patricia Richards, Pablo Lapegna, Alice Goffman (University of Wisconsin-Madison)  
Dissertation: “Civilian Policing, Socialist Revolution, and Violent Pluralism in Venezuela”

M.A., Social Sciences, University of Chicago, 2008

Committee: Mauricio Tenorio, Betty Farrell, Nick Dempsey  
Magna cum Laude

B.A., Sociology, University of Montevallo, 2006

Summa cum Laude with Honors

## Research Interests

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Crime and Citizen Security; Latin America; Gender; Political Sociology; Urban Sociology; Social Movements and Citizen Participation; Qualitative Methods

## Positions

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Managing Editor, *Qualitative Sociology*, 2010 – 2019

## Publications

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### Books

[Harassed: Gender, Bodies, and Ethnographic Research](#) with Patricia Richards. 2019. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press

### Peer Reviewed Articles

Veronica Zubillaga and Rebecca Hanson. 2018. “[Del punitivismo carcelario a la matanza sistemática: El avance de los operativos militarizados en la era post-Chávez](#)” *REVISTA M. Estudios sobre a Morte, os Mortos e o Morrer* 3(5): 32-52

Republished in *Nueva Sociedad* 278:59-69 at the request of the journal

Received honorable mention from the Latin American Studies Association, Section on Venezuelan Studies 2019

Rebecca Hanson. 2018. “Deepening Distrust: Why Participatory Experiments Aren’t Always Good for Democracy” *The Sociological Quarterly* 59(1): 145-147. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00380253.2017.1383145>

Rebecca Hanson and Pablo Lapegna.\* 2018. “[Popular Participation and Governance in Kirchner’s Argentina and Chavez’s Venezuela: Recognition, Incorporation, and Supportive Mobilisation](#)”\* *Journal of Latin American Studies* 50(1): 153-182. doi:10.1017/S0022216X17000074

Rebecca Hanson and Patricia Richards.\* 2017. “[Sexual Harassment and the Construction of Ethnographic Knowledge](#)”\* *Sociological Forum* 32(3): 587-609, doi:10.1111/socf.12350

Andrés Antillano, Iván Pojomovsky, Verónica Zubillaga, Chelina Sepúlveda, and Rebecca Hanson. 2015. “[The Venezuelan Prison: From Neoliberalism to the Bolivarian Revolution](#)” *Crime, Law, and Social Change* 65(3): 195-211

\*Authors contributed equally to this publication

### Non-Referred Publications

Rebecca Hanson. 2018. “[Ethnographies of Security: Pushing Security Studies Beyond the Bounds of International Relations](#)” *Qualitative Sociology* 41(2): 135-144

Introduction to Special Issue “[Ethnographies of Security](#)”

Guest Editor of Special Issue

Rebecca Hanson. 2015. “[Policing the Protests in Post-Chávez Venezuela: How Human Rights Legitimize Coercion](#)” Commissioned by Amy Cooper, Robert Samet and Naomi Schiller (eds) for “Hot Spots: Protests and Polarization in Venezuela after Chávez” *Cultural Anthropology*, February 5

## **In Process**

“Gender & Urban Ethnography” in *Research in Urban Sociology*, eds. Richard E. Ocejo and Ray Hutchison. Bingley, UK: Emerald Publishing.

“Who is Responsible and What Should Be Done? Public Opinion on Crime and Citizen Security Reform in Venezuela” with David Smilde, in *The Paradox of Violence in Venezuela*, eds. David Smilde, Veronica Zubillaga, and Rebecca Hanson. To be submitted for review Spring 2019

## **Working Papers**

“Making Security Forces Insecure: How Political Alliances Between State Actors and Armed Civilian Groups Incentivize Police Violence” working title, to be submitted to *Latin American Research Review*

“Masculine Habitus and Marginality: Police Officers in Search of Respect” working title, to be submitted to the *American Sociological Review*

## **Book Projects**

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*Citizen (In)Security, Policing, and Violent Pluralism in Venezuela’s Bolivarian Revolution*. Book manuscript based on 27 months of ethnographic, interview, and survey data conducted in Venezuela. To be submitted for review Fall 2019

*The Paradox of Violence in Venezuela*, with David Smilde and Veronica Zubillaga. Edited volume based on co-organized conference held at Tulane University, October 2015 and in Caracas, Venezuela, March 2017. To be submitted for review Spring 2019

## **Policy Reports and Public Sociology**

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Rebecca Hanson, Eric Arias, Dorothy Kronick, and Tara Slough. 2019. “The Bad Apple Narrative: Police-Community Dialogue about Corruption in Medellín”. First report submitted to the Development Bank of Latin America from ongoing RCT project “Community Policing and Public Trust: A Field Experiment in Colombia.” Submitted March 31.

Rebecca Hanson and Francisco Sánchez. 2019. “Venezuela’s Popular Sectors and the Future of a Country” *NACLA*, February 13. Republished in Spanish, February 20.

Tim Gill and Rebecca Hanson. 2019. “How Washington Funded the Counterrevolution in Venezuela” *The Nation*, February 8.

Rebecca Hanson and Tim Gill. 2019. “Venezuela at Another Crossroads” *NACLA*, January 24.

Rebecca Hanson. 2018. “Deciphering Venezuela’s Emigration Wave” *NACLA* 50 (4): 356-359.

Rebecca Hanson. 2018. "Four Charts Show Venezuela's Worsening Migrant Crisis" *The Conversation*, September 6.

Rebecca Hanson and Leonard Gómez Núñez. 2018. "Los operativos policiales en Venezuela post-Chávez: Análisis crítico de sus actuaciones desde la perspectiva de los ciudadanos y los funcionarios de los cuerpos de seguridad" Commissioned by the Development Bank of Latin America. Submitted May 31.

Rebecca Hanson and Leonard Gómez Núñez. 2018. "Behind the Scenes of Venezuela's Deadly Prison Fire" *The Conversation*, April 4.

Rebecca Hanson. 2017. "Protecting the Right to Life in Venezuela" *NACLA* 49(3): 309-314.

Rebecca Hanson. 2016. "Venezuela Opposition's Police Reform Law Seeks Decentralization and Increased Firepower" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, December 11.

Rebecca Hanson. 2016. "Why are Police Officers Dying in Venezuela?" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, September 20.

Rebecca Hanson. 2016. "Human Rights Watch and PROVEA Release Devastating Report on Venezuelan Citizen Security Initiative" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, April 18.

Rebecca Hanson. 2016. "Amid Crisis, Venezuela's National Assembly Proposes Security Reforms" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, February 9.

Republished by *Insight Crime*, February 10.

Rebecca Hanson. 2015. "Venezuela's New Security Plan Turns Fight Against Crime into Battle Against Paramilitaries" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, July 24.

Rebecca Hanson. 2014. "What's Behind Venezuela's Latest Police Reforms?" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, November 24.

Republished by *Insight Crime*, November 25.

Rebecca Hanson. 2014. "The Quinta Crespo Siege and the Dilemmas of Combatting Police Violence" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, November 3.

Rebecca Hanson. 2014. "La Desconfianza: The View from Western Caracas II" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, March 12.

Rebecca Hanson. 2014. "Venezuelan Protests: The View from Western Caracas" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, February 25.

Republished by *Foreign Policy in Focus*, February 27.

Rebecca Hanson. 2013. "Police Reform on a Political Tightrope: Citizen Security and Public Perceptions, Part 3" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, November 21.

Rebecca Hanson and David Smilde. 2013. "What Should be Done to Reduce Crime in Venezuela?" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, October 16.

Republished by *Insight Crime*, October 17.

Rebecca Hanson and David Smilde. 2013. "Citizen Security Reform in Venezuela: Gun Control" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, August 7.

Republished by *Insight Crime*, August 8.

Rebecca Hanson. 2013. "The Impact of Plan Patria Segura on Police Reform in Venezuela" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, May 19.

Rebecca Hanson. "Why did Maduro Adopt Crime as a Campaign Issue?" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, May 3.

Rebecca Hanson. 2012. "No Housing? No Problem: Some Venezuelans Support Chávez Despite Lack of Homes" *Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights*, September 21.

Republished by *The Christian Science Monitor*, September 21.

## Book Reviews

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*We Created Chávez: A People's History of the Venezuelan Revolution*, by George Ciccariello-Maher, Duke University Press. *Estudios Interdisciplinarios de America Latina y el Caribe* 25 (2): 133-135, 2014

## Ongoing Research Projects

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"Community Policing and Public Trust: A Field Experiment in Colombia," with Eric Arias (PI, College of William & Mary), Dorothy Kronick (University of Pennsylvania), and Tara Slough (NYU). This research is part of EGAP's Metaketa IV project, a multi-country initiative to implement a community policing program consisting of two components: (1) a community engagement program to solicit information on community problems from citizens and transmit information about police programs to citizens; and (2) a problem-oriented policing program.

## Active Grants

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2019	University of Florida International Center, Rebecca Hanson (PI) and Travis McArthur \$12,000
2019	Evidence in Governance and Politics, Eric Arias (PI), Rebecca Hanson, Dorothy Kronick, and Tara Slough \$25,500
2018	Development Bank of Latin America, Eric Arias (PI), Rebecca Hanson, and Dorothy Kronick \$15,000
2017	Evidence in Governance and Politics, Eric Arias (PI), Rebecca Hanson, and Dorothy Kronick

\$170,878

2017 Economic Development and Institutions, Eric Arias (PI), Rebecca Hanson, and Dorothy Kronick  
\$120,510

### Past Grants & Fellowships

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2017 Development Bank of Latin America, Rebecca Hanson (PI) and Leonard Gómez Núñez  
\$10,000

2010 Tinker Foundation Grant  
\$1300

2009-2014 Presidential Fellowship, University of Georgia  
\$24,000/yr.

### Awards

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2018-2021 University of Florida Term Professorship award

### Invited Presentations

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“Community Policing and Public Trust: Evidence from Colombia” LACEA-LAMES, Guayaquil, Ecuador, November 2018

Panel sponsored by Development Bank of Latin America

“Harassed: Gender, Bodies, and Ethnographic Research” with Patricia Richards, Columbia University, September 2018

“Getting Out of Our Heads: Taking theory into the Body, Space, and Place” American Sociological Association’s 2018 Junior Theorists Symposium, Philadelphia, PA, August 2018

Author-Meets-Critics: Enrique Desmond Arias' *Criminal Enterprises and Governance in Latin America and the Caribbean*, Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, January 2018

"Masculinities, Marginality, and Reducing Police Use of Force" Florida Atlantic University, November 2017

“Policing Violent Democracies: Understanding New Relations of Power and Police Violence in Plurally Violent Contexts” Unequal Security in the Americas, Brown University, April 2016

“Quién es el Responsable y Qué Debería Pasar? Opinión Publica Sobre La Inseguridad y Las Reformas de Seguridad Ciudadana en Venezuela” with David Smilde, *Crimen y Violencia en Venezuela: Insumos para la Formulación de Políticas Públicas*, Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Administración, Caracas, Venezuela, November 2015

“The Bolivarian Revolution and Citizen Security Reform: Taking Stock of ‘Socialist-Humanist’ Security Six Years In” *Venezuela After Chávez: Challenges of Democracy, Security, and Governance*, Brown University, April 2014

## **Conferences Organized**

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“Ethnographic Horizons of the Americas: Method, Evidence, Aesthetics” at University of Florida, Spring 2021. Co-organized with Richard Kernaghan. Supported by the Center for Latin American Studies

“The Paradox of Violence in Venezuela: A Comparative Approach I” at Tulane University, October 2015. Co-organized with David Smilde and Veronica Zubillaga. Supported by The Center for Inter-American Policy and Research and the Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies at Tulane University

“The Paradox of Violence in Venezuela: A Comparative Approach II” in Caracas, Venezuela, March 2017. Co-organized with David Smilde and Veronica Zubillaga. Supported by the Development Bank of Latin America, the Canadian Embassy, and Tulane University

## **Conference Presentations**

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“Making Security Forces Insecure: Police Vulnerability, Pluralized Violence, and Urban Politics in Venezuela” American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 2018

“Gendered Bodies, Sexual Harassment, and Field Research” with Patricia Richards, American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 2018

“Democratic Means, Authoritarian Ends” Latin American Studies Association International Congress, Barcelona, May 2018

Special Session Organizer/Chair. “The Paradox of Violence in Venezuela: Crime, Violence and the Left Wing Citizen Security” Latin American Studies Association International Congress, Barcelona, May 2018

“The Trump Administration and the War on Drugs: Empire's Waning Influence in Latin America” Southern Sociological Society, April 2018

“Gendered Bodies and Field Research” with Patricia Richards, Sociologists for Women in Society, Atlanta, GA, February 2018

Special Session Organizer/Chair. "Sexual Harassment and the Production of Ethnographic Knowledge"  
American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA, August 2016

"Policing Violent Democracies: Understanding New Relations of Power and Police Violence in Plurally  
Violent Contexts" American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA, August 2016

Panel organizer. "Padding the Iron Fist? Ethnographic Approaches to Ongoing Criminal Justice and Citizen  
Security Reforms in Latin America" Latin American Studies Association International Congress, New York,  
May 2016

Presented: "Padding the Iron Fist: How Community Policing Legitimizes Mano Dura Logic"

"Who is Responsible and What Should be Done? Public Opinion on Crime and Citizen Security Reform in  
Venezuela" with David Smilde. *The Paradox of Violence in Venezuela: A Comparative Approach*, Tulane  
University, October 2015

"Sexual Harassment and the Construction of Ethnographic Knowledge" with Patricia Richards, American  
Sociological Association, Chicago, August 2015

Panel organizer. "Trust, Intimacy, and Sexual Harassment: What Doing 'Good' Qualitative Research Means  
for Women in the Field" Sociologists for Women in Society, Washington, D.C., February 2015

"When Participation 'Fails': The Implications of Struggling Organizations for Participatory Democracy"  
American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA, August 2014

Panel Organizer. "Beyond the Dichotomous Divide" Latin American Studies Association International  
Congress, Chicago, May 2014

Presented: "States Controlling Citizens Controlling the Police: Negotiating Citizen Participation and  
its Institutionalization within Venezuela's Police Reform"

Panel Chair. "Policing Democratic Latin America: A Comparative Perspective" Latin American Studies  
Association International Congress, Chicago, May 2014

Panel Organizer. "Emerging Political Subjectivities and Venezuela's Bolivarian Revolution" with Donald  
Kingsbury, Latin American Studies Association International Congress, San Francisco, May 2012

Presented: "Co-Constitutive Subject Formation in Venezuela's Bolivarian Revolution: The Case and  
Non-Case of the Communal Councils"

"Policing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Socialism: Community Policing in Caracas." Latin American Studies Association  
International Congress, Washington, D.C., May 2013

"Clients of the State: How Social Policies Shape Social Movements and Civil Society in South America" with  
Pablo Lapegna, Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies, Gainesville, FL, March 2012

"Deepening or Extending Democracy? The Contestation over Space and Equality in Venezuela's 21<sup>st</sup>  
Century Socialism" American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV, August 2011



“Avoiding Participation: An Ethnographic Perspective on Mobilization in Venezuela's Participatory Democracy” Southern Sociological Society, Jacksonville, FL, April 2011

“Defend Your Civic Center! The Symbolic Struggle over Space in 21st Century Socialism” American Sociological Association, Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta, GA August 2010.

## **Professional Associations**

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American Sociological Association, Latin American Studies Association, Sociologists for Women in Society, The Strategic Hub for Organised Crime Research (SHOC)

## **Professional Service**

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Editorial Board member, *Qualitative Sociology*

Co-coordinator of the Crime, Law, and Governance specialization and working group, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida. 2017 – present

Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Human Rights, Peace & Transitional Justice position, Center for Latin American Studies, 2018

Moderator and Contributor to the Washington Office on Latin America blog [Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights](#), 2012-2017

Reviewer for *Cultural Anthropology*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Gender & Society*, *The Sociological Quarterly*, *International Journal of Conflict and Violence*, *British Journal of Sociology*

## **Community Engagement**

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Panel Participant, University Forum on Policing Post Ferguson, University of Montevallo, August 30, 2014

Organizer, Public Forum on Prison Reform in Alabama, University of Montevallo, February 26, 2014

## **Languages**

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English: Native

Spanish: Fluent