

VANESSA PARKS

Department of Sociology, Louisiana State University
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EDUCATION

PhD, Sociology, Louisiana State University, Expected May 2019

General Exams: Disasters, Resilience, Health

Committee: Tim Slack, Matthew R. Lee, Rhiannon Kroeger

MA, Sociology, University of Mississippi, May 2014

Thesis: "The Social Ecology of Young Men's Sexual Self Efficacy in the Mississippi Delta"

Committee: John J. Green, Kirsten Dellinger, Jeffrey Jackson

BA, English Writing, Summa Cum Laude, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, May 2012

PUBLICATIONS

Parks, Vanessa, Leah Drakeford, Michael R. Cope, and Tim Slack. 2018. "Disruption of Routine Behaviors Following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill." *Society & Natural Resources* 31(3):277-290.

Revise and Resubmit

Parks, Vanessa, Tim Slack, Rajeev Ramchand, Leah Drakeford, Melissa Finucane, and Matthew R. Lee. "Fishers, Social Support, and Depression after the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill." *Rural Sociology*.

Drakeford, Leah, **Vanessa Parks**, Tim Slack, Rajeev Ramchand, Melissa Finucane, and Matthew R. Lee. "Oil Spill Disruption and Problem Drinking: Assessing the Impact of Religious Context among Gulf Coast Residents." *Population Research and Policy Review*.

Under Review

Cope, Michael R., Tim Slack, Kimberly Webb, and **Vanessa Parks**. "Changing Community Sentiment following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Disaster: A Test of Systemic and Corrosive Community Models." *Social Forces*.

Petrun-Sayers, Elizabeth, Andrew M. Parker, Rajeev Ramchand, Melissa Finucane, and **Vanessa Parks**. "Reaching Vulnerable Populations in the Disaster Prone U.S. Gulf Coast: Communicating Across the Crisis Lifecycle." *Journal of Emergency Management*.

Ramchand, Rajeev, Rachana Seelam, **Vanessa Parks**, Bonnie Ghosh-Dastidar, Matthew Lee, and Melissa Finucane. “Exposure to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Long Term Mental and Behavioral Health Outcomes.” *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*.

In Preparation

Drakeford, Leah, **Vanessa Parks**, Tim Slack, Rajeev Ramchand, Melissa Finucane, and Matthew R. Lee. “Social Resources, Community Religiosity, and Depression among Gulf Coast Residents.”

Parker, Andrew M., Melissa L. Finucane, Lynsay Ayer, Rajeev Ramchand, **Vanessa Parks**, and Noreen Clancy. “Persistent Risk-Related Worry as a Function of Recalled Exposure to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Prior Trauma.” Target Journal: *Environmental Health Perspectives*.

Parks, Vanessa, Lynsay Ayer, Tim Slack, Rajeev Ramchand, and Melissa L. Finucane. “Social Capital and Health Outcomes in a Disaster-Prone Region.” Target Journal: *Social Science & Medicine*.

Reports

Parks, Vanessa. 2017. “Social Capital, Birth Outcomes, and Breastfeeding.” Submitted to Right from the Start (Hernando, Mississippi). The University of Mississippi Center for Population Studies.

Green, John, **Vanessa Parks**, Lynn Woo, and Dana Thomas. 2014. “Livelihoods Development in the Gulf Coast Region of Mississippi: Evaluating and Planning for the Future.” Submitted to Visions of Hope (Biloxi, Mississippi). The University of Mississippi Center for Population Studies.

Green, John, Lynn Woo, and **Vanessa Parks**. 2014. “Evaluation of the Delta Directions Consortium and Delta Fellows Program.” Submitted to the Winkour Family Foundation (Grenwich, Connecticut). The University of Mississippi Center for Population Studies.

Phillips, Molly, John Green, and **Vanessa Parks**. 2013. “Charting New Pathways to Health in the Mississippi Delta: Comprehensive Program Evaluation Report.” Submitted to the Dreyfus Health Foundation (New York City, New York) and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (Battle Creek, Michigan). The University of Mississippi Center for Population Studies.

Book Reviews

Parks, Vanessa. 2017. *Taking Chances: The Coast After Hurricane Sandy*, edited by Karen M. O’Neill and Daniel Van Abs. *Rural Sociology* 82(3):585-588.

Parks, Vanessa. 2017. *American Dunkirk: The Waterborne Evacuation of Manhattan on 9/11*, by James M. Kendra and Tricia Wachtendorf. *Social Forces* Book Reviews:1-2.

Miscellaneous Publications

Ramchand, Rajeev, **Vanessa Parks**, Leah Drakeford, and Bonnie Ghosh-Dastidar. 2018. *Survey of Trauma, Resilience, and Opportunity among Neighborhoods in the Gulf (STRONG) Codebook*. RAND Corporation: Santa Monica, CA.

Parks, Vanessa and Rajeev Ramchand. 2016. *Database of Literature on Oil Spills and Public Health*. RAND Corporation: Santa Monica, CA.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Consultant, June 2017 - September 2017

University of Mississippi, Center for Population Studies

Duties: I conducted a systematic literature review documenting research on the effects of social capital indicators on birth outcomes and breastfeeding. I assembled the findings into a searchable Excel database for public use, wrote a report summarizing the findings, and developed an accompanying PowerPoint for the Right from the Start program to use when training new personnel.

Summer Associate, June 2016 - August 2016

RAND Corporation, Washington Office

Duties: Through my assistantship with the Consortium for Resilient Gulf Communities (CRGC), I developed a comprehensive literature review, analysis plan, data dictionary, and other supplemental materials to assist researchers when analyzing data from CRGC's *Survey of Trauma, Resilience, and Opportunity among Neighborhoods in the Gulf*.

Research Associate, May 2014 - August 2014

University of Mississippi, Center for Population Studies

Duties: I administered in-person and telephone surveys for a needs assessment for Visions of Hope, a non-profit in Biloxi, Mississippi. I also assisted in a program evaluation of the Harvard Delta Fellowship in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Intern, October 2013

University of Michigan, School of Public Health, Office of Public Health Practice

Duties: I helped administer Flint's biennial *Speak To Your Health! Community Survey* that would later contribute to the city of Flint's master plan.

Intern, May 2013 - August 2013

University of Mississippi, Center for Population Studies

Duties: I conducted interviews and focus groups for a needs assessment of an underutilized community center in Clarksdale, Mississippi. I assisted with projects in partnership with Right from the Start program.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Roland Pellegrin Outstanding Graduate Student Award, March 2018
Louisiana State University

GoMRI Scholar, 2017 - Present
Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative

Larry W. Debord Award for Outstanding Graduate Students in Sociology, May 2014
University of Mississippi

University Honors, Brock Scholar, August 2008 - May 2012
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Paper Presentations

Ramchand, Rajeev, Rachana Seelam, **Vanessa Parks**, Bonnie Ghosh-Dastidar, Matthew R. Lee, Andrew Parker, and Melissa Finucane. "Exposure to Disasters in the Gulf States and Long-Term Mental and Behavioral Health Outcomes." Natural Hazards Workshop and Researcher's Meeting. Broomfield, Colorado. July 2018.

Adams, Chelsea Elizabeth, Rajeev Ramchand, **Vanessa Parks**, Tim Slack, Leah Drakeford, Melissa L. Finucane, and Matthew R. Lee. "Who's Listening? General Risk Perception and Trust by Education Following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill." Southern Sociological Society annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. April 2018.

Fondren, Kristi M., **Vanessa Parks** (presenting author), and Danielle Mullins. "Are You Ready? Celebrative Social Occasions and the Art of Tailgating in the Grove." Southern Sociological Society annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. April 2018.

Parks, Vanessa, Tim Slack, Rajeev Ramchand, Leah Drakeford, Melissa L. Finucane, and Matthew R. Lee. "Social Capital and Health after the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill." Southern Sociological Society annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. April 2018.

Parks, Vanessa, Tim Slack, Rajeev Ramchand, Leah Drakeford, Melissa Finucane, and Matthew R. Lee. "Understanding Social Capital's Effects on Health: Opportunities for Resilience Activation in the Gulf Coast Region." Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. February 2018.

Drakeford, Leah, **Vanessa Parks**, Tim Slack, Rajeev Ramchand, Melissa Finucane, and Matthew R. Lee. "Social Resources, Community Religiosity, and Depression among Gulf Coast Residents." Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. February 2018.

Parks, Vanessa and Kathryn S. Keating. "Marine Melancholy: Place Attachment and Risk Perceptions in Southeast Louisiana." Rural Sociological Society annual meeting. Columbus, Ohio. July 2017.

Parks, Vanessa. "Marine Melancholy in Southeast Louisiana." Mardi Gras Conference. Baton Rouge, Louisiana. February 2017.

Drakeford, Leah, **Vanessa Parks**, Rajeev Ramchand, Melissa Finucane, and Matthew R. Lee. "Assessing the Effects of Religion and Disruption on Mental Health in Vulnerable Gulf Communities." Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. February 2017.

Parker, Andrew M., Melissa L. Finucane, Lynsay Ayer, Rajeev Ramchand, **Vanessa A. Parks**, and Noreen Clancy. "Persistent Perceived Vulnerability as a Function of Recalled Exposure to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Prior Trauma." Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. February 2017.

Parks, Vanessa, Rajeev Ramchand, and Melissa Finucane. "Ties to the Fishing Industry, Social Support, and Depression after the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill." Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. February 2017.

Petrun-Sayers, Elizabeth, Andrew M. Parker, Rajeev Ramchand, Melissa L. Finucane, and **Vanessa Parks**. "In Media We Trust? Reaching Special Populations in the Gulf of Mexico." Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. February 2017.

Ramchand, Rajeev, Rachana Seelam, **Vanessa Parks**, Bonnie Ghosh-Dastidar, Matthew R. Lee, and Melissa Finucane. "Mental and Behavioral Health in the Gulf States 5 Years after the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill." Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. February 2017.

Parks, Vanessa. "Resource Networks and Community Satisfaction Among Coastal Louisiana Residents." Rural Sociological Society annual meeting. Toronto, Canada. August 2016.

Parks, Vanessa and Michael R. Cope. "Resource Networks and Community Sentiments in the Face of a Changing Climate and Coast." Southern Sociological Society annual meeting. Atlanta, Georgia. April 2016.

Lee, Matthew R., Tim Slack, Troy C. Blanchard, **Vanessa Parks**, and Rajeev Ramchand. "Tracking Health Impacts of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill." Center for Natural Resource Economics and Policy meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. March 2016.

Parks, Vanessa, Michael R. Cope, Tim Slack, Troy C. Blanchard, and Matthew R. Lee. "Behavioral Disruption and the Deepwater Horizon Disaster." Southern Sociological Society annual meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. March 2015.

Parks, Vanessa. “Understanding Teenage Pregnancy: Young Men’s Sexual Self-Efficacy.” Southern Sociological Society annual meeting. Charlotte, North Carolina. March 2014.

Parks, Vanessa. “Male Contraceptive Self-Efficacy in the Mississippi Delta.” Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association annual meeting. Jackson, Mississippi. February 2014.

Parks, Vanessa. “Cooking in America: How Families Do, Undo, and Redo Gender in the Kitchen.” Southern Sociological Society annual meeting. Atlanta, Georgia. April 2013.

Parks, Vanessa. “Care Work and Food Preparation: Doing Gender in the Home.” Sarah Isom Center Student Conference on Gender. Oxford, Mississippi. March 2013.

Parks, Vanessa. “Teenage Pregnancy in Mississippi.” Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association annual meeting. Montgomery, Alabama. February 2013.

Panels

Parks, Vanessa, Ian Burfoot-Rochford, and Jose Garcia-Pabon. “Research and Outreach with Hard-to-Reach Populations: Experiences, Approaches, and Best Practices.” Rural Sociological Society annual meeting. Toronto, Canada. August 2016.

Snell, Sannie, **Vanessa Parks,** Sarah Gayden Harris, Jennifer Gladney, and John J. Green. “Right From the Start: Addressing the Socioeconomic Stressors Influencing Poor Birth Outcomes and Breastfeeding.” Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Jackson, Mississippi. February 2014.

Parks, Vanessa et al. “Education, Capacity Building, and Poverty: Research to Inform Community-Campus Partnerships and the AmeriCorps*Volunteers in Service to America Program.” Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Montgomery, Alabama. February 2013.

Posters

Ramchand, Rajeev, Matthew R. Lee, and **Vanessa Parks.** “Trauma, Resilience, and Opportunities Among Neighborhoods in the Gulf: Design and Administration of the STRONG Survey.” Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science annual meeting. Tampa, Florida. February 2016.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Parks, Vanessa. “The Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: Current Research and the Road Ahead.” Guest lecturer for Public Policy 2700 at Vanderbilt University. Nashville, Tennessee. March 2018.

Fiore, Jacqueline and **Vanessa Parks**. “Managing the Grad School Process.” Consortium for Resilient Gulf Communities’ Educational Webinar Series. Baton Rouge, Louisiana. October 2017.

Parks, Vanessa and Rajeev Ramchand. “Health, Resilience, and Oil Spills: Identifying and Filling Research Gaps.” RAND Corporation Summer Associate Presentations. Arlington, Virginia. August 2016.

Parks, Vanessa and Leah Drakeford. “Behavioral Disruption and the Deepwater Horizon Disaster.” LSU Sociology Graduate Student Brown Bag Lunches. Baton Rouge, Louisiana. October 2015.

Parks, Vanessa. “The Social Ecology of Men’s Sexual Self-Efficacy in the Delta.” Mississippi AIDS Council Meeting. Tunica, Mississippi. June 2014.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Research Assistant, January 2015 - Present
Louisiana State University, Department of Sociology
Consortium for Resilient Gulf Communities, funded by the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative and the National Science Foundation
PI: Melissa Finucane (RAND Corporation)

LSU Flagship Assistant, August 2014 - December 2014
Louisiana State University, Department of Sociology
Directed by Tim Slack

Teaching Assistant, August 2012 - May 2014
University of Mississippi, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Courses: Introduction to Sociology (taught by Jeffrey Jackson), Sociology of Culture (taught by Minjoo Oh), Sociological Theory (taught by Ross Haenfler), and Pop Culture (taught by Minjoo Oh)

SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Service to Peer Reviewed Journals

Student Editor, January 2017 – May 2018
Social Problems

University Service

Committee Member, August 2014 – May 2017
LSU Sociology Graduate Student Association

Director of Research, 2014
University of Mississippi Real Food Initiative

Professional Memberships

Rural Sociological Society
Society for the Study of Social Problems
Southern Sociological Society

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Statistical and quantitative data analysis: Stata, SPSS, Excel
Geographic information systems and analysis: ArcGIS
Structural equation modeling: MPlus

REFERENCES

Tim Slack

Professor of Sociology
Louisiana State University
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Rajeev Ramchand

Senior Behavioral Scientist
RAND Corporation
ramchand@rand.org

John J. Green

Director, Center for Population Studies
Professor of Sociology
University of Mississippi
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