

JOHNNIE A. LOTESTA

Harvard Kennedy School
Ash Center for Democratic Governance & Innovation
79 John F. Kennedy Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

630-253-9364
johnnie_lotesta@hks.harvard.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2019-2021 Postdoctoral Fellow, Ash Center for Democratic Governance & Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School

EDUCATION

2019 Ph.D. in Sociology, Brown University
Dissertation: *Rightward in the Rustbelt: How Conservatives Remade the GOP, 1947-2012*

*Winner of 2020 Theda Skocpol Dissertation Award, Comparative Historical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association

Committee: Josh Pacewicz (Co-Chair), Nitsan Chorev (Co-Chair), José Itzigsohn, Cedric de Leon (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)

2014 M.A in Sociology, Brown University

2011 B.A. in Global Affairs, George Mason University, summa cum laude

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Political Sociology, Cultural Sociology, Labor, Social Movements, Organizations, Public Policy, Methods

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Lotesta, Johnnie and Cedric de Leon. 2020. "Political Parties: From Reflection to Articulation and Beyond." Pp. 646-665 In *The New Handbook of Political Sociology*, edited by Thomas Janoski, Cedric de Leon, Joya Misra, and Isaac W. Martin. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Lotesta, Johnnie. 2019. "The Myth of the Business Friendly Economy: Making Neoliberal Reforms in the Worst State for Business." *American Journal of Cultural Sociology* 7(2): 214-245.

Lotesta, Johnnie. 2017. "The Strength of Civil Society Ties: Explaining Party Change in America's Bluest State." *Research in Political Sociology* 24: 257-287.

JOURNAL MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Lotesta, Johnnie. “Beyond the Koch Network: Making Sense of Conservatives’ Variable Success in the States.”

Lotesta, Johnnie and Stephanie Lee Mudge. “Party-Expert Relations and the Postwar Remaking of U.S. Politics.”

Lotesta, Johnnie and Danny Alvord. “Rethinking the Civil Sphere: The Constitutive Role of Business.”

Conner, Jerusha, Johnnie Lotesta, Kristen Oshyn, and Joanna Timmerman. “From the Streets to the Ballot Box: How Youth Organizing Impacts Voting-Related Attitudes and Behavior.”

BOOKS

Lotesta, Johnnie. *Rightward in the Rustbelt*. Draft in progress.

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP: ESSAYS, OP-EDS & POLICY REPORTS

Bradlow, Benjamin H. and Johnnie Lotesta. 2019. “Whither a Global Wave of Populism.” *GATS: Newsletter of the Global and Transnational Sociology Section of the ASA*. 16-22.

Lotesta, Johnnie. 2019. “Does Canceling Primaries Cancel Democracy?” *Daily Herald*, September 25, <https://www.dailyherald.com/discuss/20190925/does-canceling-primaries-cancel-democracy>.

Triplett, Jennifer, Johnnie Lotesta, Ricarda Hammer, and Sara Tomczuk. 2018. “A Successful Mentorship Event: 2018 ASA Annual Meeting.” *Trajectories: Newsletter of the Comparative and Historical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association* 30(1): 40-42.

Lotesta, Johnnie and Cedric de Leon. 2015. “Challenging Racist Speech in US Politics.” *Truthout*, October 8, <http://www.truth-out.org/opinion/item/33128-challenging-racist-speech-in-us-politics>.

Baiocchi, Gianpaolo, Diana Graizbord, Johnnie Lotesta, Michael Rodríguez-Muñiz. 2015. “Resilient Communities and Distressed Neighborhoods: The Findings of the Southern Nevada Strong Ethnography Research Summer Clinic.” Pp. 136-137 in *Southern Nevada Strong Regional Plan*. Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition. Las Vegas, NV.

AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2020 Theda Skocpol Dissertation Award, Comparative Historical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association

2019 New Venture Fund, “Youth Movements in the 2018 Midterms and Beyond,” Co-PI with Jerusha Conner, John Holbein, Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, \$105,881

- 2019-2021 Harvard Kennedy School Ash Center for Democratic Governance & Innovation Postdoctoral Fellowship
- 2018 History of American Democracy Graduate Student Fellowship, The Tobin Project
- 2017 Joukowsky Summer Research Grant, Graduate School, Brown University, \$700
- 2016 Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation, Grant #1602931, \$11,743
- 2016 Doctoral Research Travel Grant, Graduate School, Brown University, \$2,000
- 2016 Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Sociology, Brown University
- 2015 Hazeltine Fellowship, Business, Entrepreneurship & Organizations Program, Brown University
- 2013-2015 National Science Foundation Integrated Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) Fellowship, Watson Institute for International & Public Affairs, Brown University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

- 2019 “Beyond the Koch Network: Making Sense of Conservatives’ Variable Success in the States.” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.
- 2018 “War of Position: Business, Think Tanks and the GOP.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 “The Right and the Crisis of Labor.” The Crisis of History and the History of Crisis. Mini-Conference of the Comparative Historical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 “Rightward in the Rustbelt: How Business Took over the GOP and Ousted Organized Labor, 1971-2012.” Comparative Historical Social Sciences Conference, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2017 “Mediating Party and Public: Intellectuals and the Resurgence of Right-to-Work in the Industrial Midwest.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Montreal, QC.
- 2016 “Partisans, Lawyers or Pollsters?: The Reiterative Problem Solving of Right-to-Work.” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.
- 2016 “Party-Expert Relations and the Postwar Remaking of Democratic Politics.” Can Comparative-Historical Sociology Save the World? Mini-Conference of the Comparative Historical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA.

- 2015 “Making States for Business: The Production, Evaluation, and Management of Business-Friendly Climates.” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting. Baltimore, MD.
- 2015 “The Myth of the Failed Economy: Making Neoliberal Reforms in the Worst State for Business.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.
- 2015 “Imagining the State: The Role of Myth and Mythmaking in Politics.” Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society. New York, NY.
- 2014 “The Rhode Island Democratic Party in the 21st Century: A Study of Political Party Change.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA.
- 2014 “Politics and Expertise: The Structuring of State Politics in the Contemporary United States.” Chicago Ethnography Conference. Chicago, IL.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course Instructor

- 2013 Summer Urban Ethnography Graduate Research Clinic, University of Nevada-Las Vegas. Co-designed and co-taught with Gianpaolo Baiocchi, Diana Graizbord, and Michael Rodríguez-Muñiz

Teaching Assistant

- 2015 Sex, Gender & Society, Brown University
- 2012 Human Sexuality in a Social Context, Brown University

Invited Lectures (selected)

- 2018 “Cultural Sociology,” Introduction to Sociology, Instructor of record: Apollonya Porcelli, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY
- 2016 “Unions and Society,” Introduction to Sociology, Instructor of record: Carly Schall, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN
- 2014 “Political Ethnography: Reading ‘The Political’ in Everyday Life,” Ethnography and Qualitative Methodologies, Instructor of record: Josh Pacewicz, Brown University, Providence, RI
- 2013 “Qualitative Methods: Practice and Politics,” Research Methods, Instructor of record: Deborah Curtis, Salve Regina University, Newport, RI

Consultation

- 2015 English Language Learner (ELL) Associate, Writing Center, Brown University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2017-2019 Managing Editor, *Studies in Comparative International Development*

2011-2012 Public Policy Fellow, National Housing Trust, Washington, DC

ACADEMIC SERVICE

2020-2021 Member, Democracy Convening Planning Committee, Ash Center, Harvard Kennedy School

2020 Panel organizer, “Who Governs?: Power and Policymaking in the States,” Social Science History Association, Washington, DC

2020 Panel organizer, “Shared Goals, Diverse Approaches: Methodological Pluralism in Labor Studies,” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA

2020 Organizer, Labor Politics Workshop, Ash Center, Harvard Kennedy School

2019-Present Editor, American Sociological Association Sociology of Culture Section Newsletter

2018 Member, Mentorship Event Planning Committee, Comparative Historical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association

2017 Panel organizer, “Interrogating the Rustbelt,” Social Science History Association, Montreal, CA

2016 Chair, Mini-Conference Planning Committee, Comparative Historical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association

2013-2015 Member, Graduate Student Mentorship Program, Department of Sociology, Brown University

2013-2014 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Sociology, Brown University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association

American Political Science Association

Social Science History Association

Eastern Sociological Society

REFERENCES

Nitsan Chorev
Harmon Family Professor of Sociology &
International Studies
Brown University
401.863.7698
nitsan_chorev@brown.edu

José Itzigsohn
Professor of Sociology
Brown University
401.863.3213
jose_itzigsohn@brown.edu

Archon Fung
Winthrop Laflin McCormack Professor of
Citizenship and Self-Government
Harvard Kennedy School
617-495-9846
archon_fung@hks.harvard.edu

Josh Pacewicz
Associate Professor of Sociology & Urban Studies
Brown University
401.863.3213
pacewicz@brown.edu

Cedric de Leon
Associate Professor of Sociology
Director of the Labor Center
University of Massachusetts – Amherst
734.255.4849
cedricdeleon@umass.edu