

Gabriela Kirk-Werner

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APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Syracuse University 2023-
Senior Research Associate, Center for Policy Research
Core Faculty, Law, Society, and Policy Program

Faculty Fellow, Department of Sociology, Syracuse University 2022-2023

EDUCATION

PhD in Sociology, Northwestern University December 2022
Committee: Drs. Mary Pattillo (chair), John Hagan, Andrew Papachristos, Anthony Chen

MA in Sociology, Northwestern University 2018

BA with Distinction in Urban Studies, University of Pennsylvania 2014

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

* denotes equal authorship

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. 2026. "Who Should be on Electronic Monitoring: Conceptualizations of Ideal Supervisees." *Punishment and Society* Online first.
Winner of the ASA Sociology of Law, Best Graduate Student Paper Award 2023

Shannon, Sarah, **Gabriela Kirk-Werner**, Beth Huebner, and Lacey Moore. 2026. "'I Wish I Had Better Answers' – Organizational Ignorance in U.S. Criminal Courts" *Sociological Forum*. Online first.

Fernandes, April, D., Brittany Friedman, and **Gabriela Kirk-Werner**. 2026. "Civil Lawfare" *Social Problems* 73(2): 444-464.
Winner of Honorable Mention, SSSP Kimberle Crenshaw Award

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. 2024. "Pains of Privacy: Mapping Carceral Practices onto Electronic Monitoring" *Theoretical Criminology* 29(2), 179-197.

Friedman, Brittany, **Gabriela Kirk-Werner**, and April D. Fernandes. 2024. "Reforming the Shadow Carceral State." *Theoretical Criminology* 28(4):427-458.

Kirk, Gabriela, Kristina Garrity, Beth Huebner, Christopher Uggen, and Sarah Shannon. 2022. "Justice by Geography: The Role of Monetary Sanctions Across Communities." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 8(1): 200-220.

Fernandes, April D., Brittany Friedman, and **Gabriela Kirk**. 2022. "The 'Damaged' State vs. the 'Willful' Nonpayer: Constructing Damage, Harm, and Willfulness through Pay-to-Stay Lawsuits." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 8(1): 82-105.

Martin, Karin D., Kimberly Spencer-Suarez, **Gabriela Kirk**. 2022. "Pay or Display: Monetary Sanctions and the Performance of Accountability and Procedural Integrity in New York and Illinois." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 8(1): 128-147.

Kirk, Gabriela. 2021. "The Limits of Expectations and the Minimization of Collateral Consequences: Experiences of Electronic Home Monitoring." *Social Problems* 68(3): 642-657.
- Winner of Graduate Student Paper Award, Society for the Study of Social Problems

Pattillo, Mary and **Gabriela Kirk**. 2021. "Layaway Freedom: Coercive Financialization in the Criminal Justice System." *American Journal of Sociology* 126(4): 889-930.

Eife, Erin and **Gabriela Kirk**.* 2021. "And you will wait...': Carceral Transportation in Electronic Monitoring as Part of the Punishment Process." *Punishment and Society* 23(1): 69-87.

Friedman, Brittany, April D. Fernandes, and **Gabriela Kirk**. 2021. "Like if you get a hotel bill': Consumer Logic, Pay-to-Stay and the Production of Incarceration as a Public Commodity" *Sociological Forum* 36(3): 735-757.

Kirk, Gabriela, April D. Fernandes, and Brittany Friedman. 2020. "Who Pays for the Welfare State? Austerity Politics and the Origin of Pay-to-Stay Fees as Revenue Generation." *Sociological Perspectives* 63(6):921-938.

Cadigan, Michele and **Gabriela Kirk**.* 2020. "On Thin Ice: Bureaucratic Processes of Monetary Sanctions and Job Insecurity." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 6(1): 113-131.

EDITED SPECIAL ISSUE

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela*, Brittany Friedman, and April D. Fernandes, eds. 2024. Special Issue on "Dismantling the Shadow Carceral State" *Theoretical Criminology* 28(4)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND WRITING

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela, April D. Fernandes, and Brittany Friedman. 2024. "Pay-to-Stay as Stategraft" *Wisconsin Law Review Forward*. April 2024 Issue

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela, Brittany Friedman, and April D. Fernandes. 2024. "Introduction to Special Issue on Dismantling the Shadow Carceral State" *Theoretical Criminology* 28(4): 417-423.

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela and April D. Fernandes. 2024. "Expert Declaration of April Fernandes,

PhD and Gabriela Kirk-Werner, PhD. Submitted as part of ongoing litigation: *ETICLA ROBERTS and CALVIN SAYERS v. SHERIFF TONY THOMPSON, BLACK HAWK COUNTY*.

Friedman, Brittany, April D. Fernandes, and **Gabriela Kirk-Werner**. 2024 “Economies of Violence: Pay-to-Stay, Rent Seeking, and the Value of Incarcerated Bodies.” In S. Whetstone and J. Hogan (Eds). *Consuming Bodies: Body Commodification in Late Capitalist Societies*. New York, NY: Routledge Press.

Fernandes, April D., Brittany Friedman, and **Gabriela Kirk**.* 2022. “Forcing people to pay for being locked up remains common.” The Washington Post Made by History.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2022/05/02/forcing-people-pay-being-locked-up-remainscommon/>

Kirk, Gabriela. 2022. “Review of James Gacek’s Portable Prisons.” *Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Books*. Newark: Rutgers University Press.

Chicago Appleseed Fund for Justice and CGL. 2022 “Electronic Monitoring Review Cook County, Illinois Final Report.” Chicago Appleseed Fund for Justice.

James, Patrice, James Kilgore, **Gabriela Kirk**, Grace Mueller, Emmett Sanders, Sarah Staudt, and LaTanya Jackson Wilson. 2022 “Cages Without Bars: Pretrial Electronic Monitoring Across the United States.” Shriver Center on Poverty Law.

Fernandes, April D., Brittany Friedman, and **Gabriela Kirk**.* 2021 “Pay-to-Stay and Socioeconomic Inequality in Connecticut.” Connecticut General Assembly Judiciary Committee.

Fernandes, April D., Brittany Friedman, and **Gabriela Kirk**.* 2021 “Pay-to-Stay and Socioeconomic Inequality.” U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary Special Hearing “A Fine Scheme: How Court-Imposed Fees and Fines Unjustly Burden Vulnerable Communities.”

Pattillo, Mary and **Gabriela Kirk**. 2020. “Pay Unto Caesar: Breaches of Justice in the Monetary Sanctions Regime.” *UCLA Criminal Justice Law Review* 4(1):49-77.

Kirk Gabriela, Daniel J. Boches, Michele Cadigan, and Tyler Smith. September 2019. “What are you here for?” Graduate Student Positionality in Qualitative Research.” *The Criminologist* 44 (5), 40-42.

IN PROGRESS

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela* and Mary Ellen Stitt. *Outsourcing Punishment*. Book Manuscript with Russell Sage Foundation Press

Giuffre, Andrea, Veronica Horowitz, Brittany Martin, **Gabriela Kirk-Werner**, Bryan Sykes, and Karin D. Martin. "Envisioning Real Utopias from the Perspective of People with Legal-Financial Obligations."

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. "Safety through Knowing: Electronic Monitoring as a Legibility Project"

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela*, Brittany Friedman*, and April D. Fernandes. "The Fiscal Geography of Prison Pay-to-Stay." *Under Review*

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela and Stitt, Mary Ellen. "Alternatives to Incarceration and Economic Inequality." Draft available upon request, in process.

Stitt, Mary Ellen **Kirk-Werner, Gabriela**, and Caitlin Udas. "A Hidden Face of Criminal Justice? Therapeutic "Alternatives" and the Invisibilization of Punishment." Draft available upon request, in process.

HONORS AND GRANTS

External

2028-2029	Russell Sage Foundation Trustee Grant, \$75,000 – UNDER REVISION "The Changing Face of the Criminal Courts: Alternative Sanctions and Social Inequality across Policy Contexts" with Mary Ellen Stitt
2023- 2027	Arnold Ventures, \$1,571,844 "A National Landscape of Pay-to-Stay Recoupment: Mapping Variation in the Use of Civil Lawsuits, Fiscal Incentives, and Collateral Consequences" with Brittany Friedman and April Fernandes
2023	Graduate Student Paper Award, Sociology of Law, American Sociological Association
2023-2025	Racial Democracy Criminal Justice Network and Arnold Ventures, \$100,000 "Alternatives" to Punishment and Social Inequality" with Mary Ellen Stitt
2023	Berkeley Seminar on the New Political Economy, \$4,000
2023-2025	Russell Sage Foundation Pipeline Grants, \$30,000 "Alternatives" to Punishment and Social Inequality" with Mary Ellen Stitt
2022	Hayek Fund, Institute for Humane Studies, George Mason University, \$14,400 "Mapping Pay-to-Stay"
2021	Social Science Research Council's Charles E Lindblom Memorial Fellowship, \$7,500
2020	Ruth D. Peterson Fellowship for Racial and Ethnic Diversity, \$6,000
2020	Hayek Fund, Institute for Humane Studies, George Mason University

“Can Electronic Monitoring Fix Mass Incarceration? Understanding the Role of Electronic Monitoring in Local Policy Reform Efforts”, \$500

2020 Service Commendation, Editorial Board *Sociological Perspectives*, Pacific Sociological Association

2019 Student Paper Award Winner, Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division SSSP, \$150

2018 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention

2014 Phi Beta Kappa

Internal

2024 Syracuse University, SOURCE \$6000

2023 Syracuse University, SOURCE \$2907

2022 Syracuse University, Appleby-Mosher Fund \$1500

2020 Northwestern University, Graduate Research Grant \$3000

2020 Northwestern University, Emergency Small Research Grant \$504

2017 Northwestern University, Sociology Alumni Fund \$500

PRESENTATIONS

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela and Mary Ellen Stitt. November 2025. “Privatization without Profit,” American Society of Criminologists, Washington D.C.

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. October 2025. “The Spatial Organization of Prison Pay-to-Stay Lawsuits” Vera Institute, New York, NY

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. June 2025. “Paradoxes in the Use of Electronic Monitoring for Public Safety,” International Institute for the Sociology of Law, Onati, Spain.

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. November 2024. ““Alternative Sanctions and Economic Inequality,” American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela and Brittany Friedman. August 2024. “Reforming the Shadow Carceral State” American Sociological Association, Montreal.

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. June 2024. “‘Alternatives’ to Punishment and Social Inequality.” Russell Sage Foundation Pipeline Grantee Meeting. Ann Arbor

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. November 2023. “Flavors of Reform: Electronic Monitoring Policies and Current Reform Movements.” American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. August 2023. “Pains of Privacy: Mapping Carceral Practices onto Electronic Monitoring” American Sociological Association, Philadelphia

Kirk-Werner, Gabriela. May 2023. "Safety through Knowing: Electronic Monitoring as a Legibility Project" Law and Society Association, San Juan
Also Research Committee on Sociology of Law, International Association of Sociology, Lund, Sweden

Kirk, Gabriela. August 2022. "Local LFOs, Prisons, and Captive Defendants" American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles

Fernandes, April, Brittany Friedman, and Gabriela Kirk. July 2022. "Adding Insult to Injury: Suing Prisoners with Disabilities for Incarceration Costs" RDCJN, Newark NJ
Also August 2022, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles
As "Civil Lawfare" at 2023 Law and Society Conference, San Juan

Kirk, Gabriela. July 2022. "Creating Supervised Subjects: How Stakeholders Create a Need for Electronic Monitoring Technologies" Law and Society Association, Virtual
Also RDCJN, Newark NJ

Kirk, Gabriela. August 2021. "Layaway Freedom: Coercive Financialization in the Criminal Justice System." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Virtual

Kirk, Gabriela. May 2021. "Who Pays for the Welfare State? Austerity Politics and the Origin of Pay-to-Stay Fees as Revenue Generation." Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Virtual.

Kirk, Gabriela. November 2020. Panel on "Economic Injustice: Multi-State Studies of Legal and Financial Obligations" American Society of Criminologists Annual Meeting, *Cancelled COVID-19

Kirk, Gabriela and Erin Eife. August 2020. "'And you will wait ...': Carceral Transportation in Electronic Monitoring as Part of the Punishment Process." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Virtual.

Kirk, Gabriela. May 2020. "On Thin Ice: Bureaucratic Processes of Monetary Sanctions and Job Insecurity." Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Virtual.

Friedman, Brittany, April Fernandes, and Gabriela Kirk. November 2019. "Consumer Logic and Predatory Justice: Why States Sue Prisoners for the Cost of Incarceration." American Society of Criminologists Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA

Kirk, Gabriela. October 2019. "The Punishment of Carceral Transport: Electronic Monitoring in Cook County." Urban and Community Workshop at Northwestern University

Kirk, Gabriela and Michele Cadigan. August 2019. "Financial Literacy without the Finances: Social Distance between Courtroom Bureaucrats and those Under their Surveillance." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY

Kirk, Gabriela. August 2019. "Narrative and Expectation in the Experience of Electronic Home

Monitoring.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY

Kirk, Gabriela. August 2019. “The Limits of Expectations and Collateral Consequences: Experience of Electronic Home Monitoring.” Annual Meeting for the Society of the Study of Social Problems, New York, NY

Kirk, Gabriela and Michele Cadigan. February 2019. “On Thin Ice: Bureaucratic Processes of Monetary Sanctions & Job Insecurity.” The Russel Sage Foundation, New York, NY

Kirk, Gabriela. June 2018. “The Technologization of Incarceration: Impacts of Electronic Monitoring on Individual Livelihoods.” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Toronto, Canada.

Kirk, Gabriela. March 2018. “Beyond the Cage: Impacts of Electronic Monitoring.” Graduate Student Symposium, Unintended: The Promises and Perils of Criminal Justice Reform, Princeton University, Program in Law and Public Affairs.
March 2018. Crime, Law, and Society Workshop at Northwestern University

Kirk, Gabriela. August 2017. “Housing, Family and Community and Their Role in the Reentry Process.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada.

Kirk, Gabriela. May 2017. “Prisoner Reentry Organizations: Measuring Effectiveness in Philadelphia.” Urban and Community Workshop at Northwestern University

RESEARCH

Captive Money Lab

Co-Investigator with Dr. Brittany Friedman, University of Southern California, and Dr. April Fernandes, North Carolina State University

Chicago Appleseed: Center for Fair Courts, Chicago, IL

Research Associate 2020- 2021

Multi-State Study of Monetary Sanctions in the Criminal Justice System

Research Assistant to Dr. Mary Pattillo 2016- 2021

Faculty Collaborative Team: Drs. Alexes Harris (PI), Beth Huebner, Karin Martin, Mary Pattillo, Becky Pettit, Bryan Sykes, Sarah Shannon, and Chris Uggen

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Syracuse University

Sociology of Law	Fall 2024, Fall 2025
Qualitative Methods	Spring 2024, Spring, Fall 2025
Criminal Justice	Fall 2023, Spring 2024

Northwestern Prison Education Program

Instructor, Sociology of Risk and Uncertainty	Summer 2021
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Instructor, Introduction to Sociological Thought Fall 2019

Northwestern University, Department of Sociology

Teaching Assistant, Sociology of Health and Illness with Dr. Steve Epstein Spring 2022

Teaching Assistant, Economy and Society with Dr. Bruce Carruthers Fall 2021

Grader, Introduction to Sociology with Dr. David Schieber Fall 2019

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Sociology with Dr. Craig Rawlings Spring 2017

Chicago Public Schools, AP Research Course

2018-2020

Mentor

AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association

Crime, Law, and Deviance Section

Sociology of Law Section

Science, Technology, and Knowledge Section

Society for the Study of Social Problems

Law and Society Association

American Society of Criminology

TECHNICAL SKILLS

NVivo 11 and 12

Microsoft Office (i.e. Excel, PowerPoint, Word)

SurveyGizmo

ArcGIS Pro

Stata

Proficient in Spanish

SERVICE

Syracuse University

Organizer, Crime, Violence, and Punishment Working Group 2025

Executive Committee, Sociology Department 2024

Center for Policy Research Advisory Committee 2024

Law and Society Search Committee, Sociology Department 2023

Northwestern University

Director of Research and Development, Northwestern Prison Education Program 2022

Representative, Graduate Leadership and Advocacy Council, Northwestern University 2020

Co-President, Sociology Graduate Student Association 2019

Undergraduate Mentoring, Department of Sociology (*Co-Organizer*) 2018

Co-Organizer, Urban and Community Workshop 2018-2021

Graduate Space Coordinator 2017

To the discipline

Ad hoc Reviewer for *American Journal of Sociology*, *Psychology*, *Public Policy*, and *Law*, *Law and Society Review*, *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, *Punishment and Society*, *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, *Theoretical Criminology*, *Science Advances*, *Journal of Crime and Justice*

ASA Rose Book Series, Editorial Board	2027-2029
Communications Chair, Sociology of Law Section, ASA	2025-2026
Council Member (<i>elected</i>), Sociology of Law Section, ASA	2024-2026
Nomination Committee, Sociology of Law Section, ASA	2024
Grad Paper Award Committee, Crime, Law and Deviance Section, ASA	2024
Student Editorial Board, <i>Sociological Perspectives</i>	2021
Graduate Representative, Sociology of Law Section, American Sociological Association	2021