

VICTORIA PIEHOWSKI

University at Buffalo, SUNY | Department of Sociology
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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2023 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University at Buffalo, SUNY

EDUCATION

2023 Ph.D. Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota
Minor: Feminist and Critical Sexuality Studies
Dissertation: The Political Uses of Trauma: Establishing and Expanding Veterans Treatment Courts in Minnesota
Honorable Mention Recipient for the **Law and Society Dissertation Prize, (Law and Society Association), 2024*

2019 M.A Sociology, University of Minnesota

2009 B.A. English and Spanish, College of St. Benedict (summa cum laude)

AREAS OF INTEREST

Punishment, Medical Sociology, Science and Technology Studies, Qualitative Methods, Discourse Analysis, Social Policy, Violence, Treatment Courts, Gender, Race, Class

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Piehowski, V. 2025. "Medicalizing Violence: The Institutional Politics of Trauma in Veterans Treatment Courts." ***Social Science & Medicine*** 380:118170.

Piehowski, V., Phelps, M. 2022. "Strong-arm Sobriety: Addressing Precarity through Probation." ***Law & Social Inquiry***. 1-28. doi:10.1017/lsi.2022.49.

Piehowski, V. 2022. "Under the Punitive Aegis: Dependency and the Family Justice Center Model." ***Punishment & Society***. 24 (2): 221–40.

Horowitz, V., Larson, R. Nobles, A., **Piehowski, V.** & Page, J. 2021. "Pragmatic Punitiveness: The institutionalization of criminal domestic violence protection orders." ***Social & Legal Studies***. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/09646639211061848>

Page J., **Piehowski, V.**, and Soss J. 2019. "A Debt of Care: Commercial bail and the gendered logic of criminal justice predation. *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*. 5(1): 150-172.

*Honorable Mention Recipient for the Sociology of Law Distinguished Article Award (American Sociological Association), 2021.

Piehowski, V. 2012. "'Business as Usual': Sex, Race, and Work in Spike Lee's *Bamboozled*." *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*. 33(1): 1-23

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

External

- 2023 Law and Society Association Graduate Student Paper Prize (\$500)
- 2022 The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Emerging Scholar Award (declined \$25,000)
- 2022 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$43,000)

Internal

- 2025 Humanities Institute Faculty Fellowship Recipient (course release for Fall 2025)
- 2024 Honorable Mention, UMN Best Dissertation Competition (Social Sciences Division)
- 2022 Don Martindale Award-UMN Department of Sociology (\$1,000)
- 2021 Mark & Judy Yudof Fellowship for Science Policy and Ethics (\$25,000 plus tuition)
- 2020 College of Liberal Arts Doctoral Dissertation fellowship (\$12,500 plus tuition)
- 2019 Anna Welsch Bright Research Award (\$2,000)
- 2018 Sociology Graduate Research Partnership Project Fellowship (\$4500)
- 2017 Gender Policy Report Summer Research Fellowship Award (\$3500)
- 2017 Sociology Graduate Research Partnership Project Fellowship (declined \$4500)
- 2016 Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies Graduate Research Partnership Project Fellowship (\$2000)

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- 2022 Podcast Guest, *The Criminology Academy*. "[Better Not Drink, Better Not Smoke, We're Tellin' You Why: Strong-arm Probation Sobriety with Victoria Piehowski.](#)" Released December 19, 2022.
- 2021 Co-author, with Michelle Phelps, De Andre' Beadle, and Ingie Osman. "Supporting the Wellbeing of Adults on Probation: Results from the Mass Probation and Health Project." Presented to Hennepin County Department of Corrections in April 2021.
- 2019 Co-author, with Josh Page. "[Pretrial Justice: A Report on the Cash Bail System.](#)" Minneapolis Foundation.
*Was awarded the **2020 Sociological Research Institute Engaged Scholarship Award** from the University of Minnesota Department of Sociology for this work

- 2017 Research Collaborator: Gender Policy Report Women, Gender and Public Policy in the Humphrey School, University of Minnesota.
Selected writing: Piehowski, V. (June 2017) [“Swept Up in the Crackdown: Immigration Enforcement and Gender-Based Violence.”](#)

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2021-23 Research Assistant (2021) and Research Manager (2022-23) for The Minnesota Justice Research Center. Project titles: “Criminal Legal System Policy Reform: A Landscape Analysis of the Greater Twin Cities Area”; and “Reimagining Bail.”
- 2019-20 Research Assistant for Professor Michelle Phelps. “Mass Probation in the U.S.: Understanding Supervision’s Impact on Wellbeing.” Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota.
- 2016-17 Research Assistant for Professor Joshua Page. *Preying on the Poor: How Tough on Crime Became a Revenue Racket*. Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor

Department of Sociology, University at Buffalo, SUNY

Criminal Justice Systems [in person]
Law and Society [in person]
Sociology of Law [in person, graduate-level]

Instructor of Record

Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota

Social Theory [online, asynchronous]
Criminal Behavior and Social Control [in person]

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

- Piehowski, V. (2023) Trauma and the latent risk subject: the institutional politics of determining risk in Veterans Treatment Courts. Social Science History Association. November 18, Washington D.C.

Piehowski, V. (2022) We Broke ‘em, we fix ‘em: Trauma discourse, Veterans Treatment Court, and the politics of crime. Cultivating Networks & Innovative Scholarship in Law & Courts. June 9, Middletown, Connecticut.

Piehowski, V. (2021) The Social Uses of Trauma: Trauma Discourse and Realignment in Criminal Legal Reform. New Directions in Law and Society Workshop. October 8, Online through UMass Amherst.

Piehowski, V. and Joshua Page. (2017) A Debt of Care: Commercial Bail and the Gendered Logic of Criminal Justice Predation. Russell Sage Criminal Justice and Inequality Workshop, September 22, New York City.

Conferences

Piehowski, V. (2025). The State of Vulnerability: How Knowledges of Harm Limit State Intervention. American Sociological Association. August 10, Chicago, IL.

Piehowski, V. (2025). Partners in Coalition: Veterans, Violent Crime, and Coalition Politics in Contemporary Reform. Law & Society Association. May 23, Chicago, IL.

Piehowski, V. (2024). Veteran or Violent Offender: Trauma as a Causal Narrative of Violent Crime. Social Science History Association. November 1, Toronto, Canada.

Piehowski, V. (2024) Trauma and the latent risk subject: the institutional politics of determining eligibility for Veterans Treatment Court. The American Sociological Association. August 11, Montreal, Canada.

Piehowski, V. (2024) We Broke ‘em, We Fix ‘em: The role of trauma expertise in criminal justice reform. The British Society of Criminology. July 11, Glasgow, Scotland.

Piehowski, V. (2024) An Institutional Genealogy of the Trauma Narrative: Understanding the rise and political legitimization of Veterans Treatment Courts. Law and Society Association. June 8, Denver, Colorado.

Piehowski, V. (2022) We Broke ‘em, we fix ‘em: Trauma as causal story for Veterans Treatment Court. Law and Society Association, July 13, virtual session at hybrid conference.

Piehowski, V. (2021) The Social Uses of Trauma: Expanding Veterans Treatment Courts in Minnesota. American Sociological Association. August 9, Online.

Piehowski, V. (2021) The Social Uses of Trauma: Expanding Veterans Treatment Courts in Minnesota. Society for the Study of Social Problems. August 4, Online.

Piehowski, V. (2021) Strong-Arm Sobriety as Coercive Care: Addressing Precarity in Probation. Law and Society Association. May 28, Online.

- Piehowski, V. (2020) Under the punitive aegis: Dependency and the family justice center model. American Sociological Association. August 8, Online.
- Piehowski, V. (2019) A Fickle Rationality: The relation of care, affect, and managerialism in therapeutic jurisprudence. Law and Society Association, May 30, Washington, D.C.
- Piehowski, V. (2019) Under the punitive aegis: Deviant dependence and the family justice center model. Sociologists for Women in Society, February 9, Denver, Colorado.
- Piehowski, V. (2018) Under the punitive aegis: Deviant dependence and the family justice center model. Law and Society Association, June 7, Toronto, Canada.
- Piehowski, V. and Larson R. (2018) No Contact: The origins and trajectory of domestic abuse law in Minnesota. Midwest Sociological Society Meeting. March 22, Minneapolis, MN.
- Piehowski, V., Nobles A. and Horowitz V (2017) “No Contact: The Origins and Trajectory of Domestic Abuse Law in Minnesota” Law and Society Association, June 23, Mexico City.
- Piehowski, V. Johnson, E., Garcia S., Nobles, A. (2017) Teaching for All Learners. Sociology Research Institute, April 21, University of Minnesota.

Invited Guest Lectures

- Piehowski, V. (2020) Critical Discourse Analysis. Discourse Analysis, University of Minnesota, Department of Sociology.
- Piehowski, V. (2017) Private bail and the financializing of caring labor. Race, Class, and Gender, University of Minnesota, Department of Sociology.
- Piehowski, V. (2017) Caring Labor and the Criminal Justice System. Sociology of Family, University of Minnesota, Department of Sociology.
- Piehowski, V. (2010, 2011, 2012) Sex, Race, and Work in Spike Lee's *Bamboozled*. Race, Class, and Ethnicity in U.S. Literature. St. John's University, Department of English.

SERVICE

To Department

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| 2024 | Faculty Search Committee, SUNY at Buffalo |
| 2023-25 | Undergraduate Committee, SUNY at Buffalo |
| 2021 | Sociology Hiring Committee, University of Minnesota |
| 2018-19 | Co-Chair, Sociology Graduate Student Organization, University of Minnesota |
| 2018 | Co-organizer of student-led workshop, “Teaching sensitive issues in the Sociology Classroom,” Sociology, University of Minnesota |
| 2017 | Workshop Committee Member, University of Minnesota |

To Profession

Manuscript Reviewer, *Social Problems*
Manuscript Reviewer, *Violence Against Women*
Manuscript Reviewer, *Law and Society Review*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Social Science History Association
Law and Society Association
American Sociological Association