

## **SOMA CHAUDHURI**

### **CURRICULUM VITAE**

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Center for Gender in Global Context  
Michigan State University  
206 International Center  
427 N. Shaw Lane  
East Lansing, MI 48824

Department of Sociology  
Michigan State University  
509 East Circle Drive  
Berkey Hall, Room # 316  
East Lansing, MI 48824

### **EMPLOYMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

- 2023-Present Co-Director, Center for Gender in Global Context, International Studies and Programs (Global Research, Outreach and Engagement, portfolio)  
2021-2024 Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Coordinator, Department of Sociology  
2017-Present Associate Professor, Department of Sociology  
2008-2017 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, joint with School of Criminal Justice

### **RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS**

2018-2021 GenCen Faculty Fellow

Core Faculty Member at the following research centers across Michigan State University:  
Asian Studies Center; Center for Gender in Global Context (GenCen); Muslim Studies Center

Affiliated Faculty: Asian Pacific American Studies, Michigan State University

### **EDUCATION**

- 2008 Ph.D. Sociology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN  
Dissertation title: *Tempest in a Tea Pot: An Analysis of Witch Hunts in the Tea Plantations of India (1980 – 2006)* (Chair: Gary F. Jensen)
- 2005 M.A. Sociology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
- 2000 M.A. Sociology, Center for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India
- 1998 B.A. Sociology (Honors), Department of Sociology, Presidency College, Calcutta, India

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Gender; Development; Social Movements; Violence; Witch hunts

*Methodological expertise:* Qualitative Methods

*Regional expertise:* South Asian immigrant communities; South Asia (India)

*Languages:* Bengali (native fluency); Gujarati (beginning); Hindi (native fluency)

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Books (Peer Reviewed)*

2025 The Witch Studies Reader (Edited volume with Jane Ward; *Duke University Press*) [The Witch Studies Reader \(dukeupress.edu\)](https://dukeupress.edu)

(Reviewed in: *Choice*; *Gender & Society*; *Journal of International Women's Studies*; *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*; *Irish Times*; *Ms Magazine*)

2013 Chaudhuri, Soma. *Witches, Tea Plantations, and Lives of Migrant Laborers in India: Tempest in a Teapot*. Lanham: Lexington Books, A division of Rowman and Littlefield Publishers

South Asia reprint: *Witches, Tea Plantations, and Lives of Migrant Laborers in India*. Cambridge University Press, India. 2014

(Reviewed in *American Journal of Sociology*; *Mobilization*; *Gender & Society*; *International Sociology Reviews*; *Contemporary Sociology*; *Contributions to Indian Sociology*)

2009 Munshi, Surendra, Biju Paul Abraham, Soma Chaudhuri, *The Intelligent Person's Guide to Good Governance*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, India

Hindi reprint: सुशासन (*Sushashan*). Jaipur: Rawat Publications India, 2011

### *Guest-Edited Journal Issues*

Soma Chaudhuri and Jane Ward (Ed). 2026. Special issue on Witch Hunts. *Journal of Gender Studies*. Forthcoming

### *Articles (Peer Reviewed)* Current or former student co-authors' names indicated by “\*”

2026 Soma Chaudhuri and Jane Ward. WITCH HUNTS EVERYWHERE: A Feminist Re-Mapping of Misogyny and Contemporary Anti-Witch Violence. *Journal of Gender Studies* (forthcoming)

- Soma Chaudhuri and Alison Colby\*. Negotiating with Intersectional Consciousness: Women Leaders and the Everyday Politics of Advocacy in India. *Mobilization: An International Journal* (forthcoming)
- 2023 Elizabeth Chacko, Paromita Sanyal, Soma Chaudhuri and Bandana Purkayastha. Caregiving and Care Receiving Among Asian Indian Immigrants in the USA During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Geographical Review*, Vol. 113 (4): 502-514 <https://doi-org.proxy1.cl.msu.edu/10.1080/00167428.2023.2196542>
- 2022 Andala Yakubu\* and Soma Chaudhuri. Potential Opportunities and Challenging Realities: Organization' Experiences while Accessing Resources and Advocating on Behalf of Survivors of Domestic Violence in Ghana. *Women's Studies International Forum*. Vol. 94 (September-October): 1-10 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wsif.2022.102620>
- 2022 Cobbina-Dungy, Jennifer, Soma Chaudhuri, Ashley Lacourse\* and Christina Dejong. Defund the Police: Perceptions among Protestors in the 2020 March on Washington. *Criminology & Public Policy*. Vol. 21 (1): 147-174
- (Article highlighted in *Research Features*: "Black Lives Matter Protests Spark Calls to Defund the Police." August 26, 2022. [Black Lives Matter protests spark calls to defund the police \(researchfeatures.com\)](https://www.researchfeatures.com/black-lives-matter-protests-spark-calls-to-defund-the-police))
- 2021 Cobbina, Jennifer, Ashleigh Lacourse\*, Erika Brooke and Soma Chaudhuri. Protesting During a Pandemic: Narratives on Risk Taking and Motivation to Participating in the 2020 March on Washington. *Crime & Delinquency*. Vol. 67 (8): 1195-1220
- 2019 Chaudhuri, Soma and Merry Morash. Monitoring Team Interviews. Lessons from Large Qualitative Data Collection. *International Journal of Sociology*. Vol 49 (6): 389-399
- 2019 Chaudhuri, Soma and Merry Morash. Analyzing the Importance of Funding for Gender Focused Empowerment Programs. *Advances in Gender Research*. Vol. 27: 169-183
- 2019 Cobbina, Jennifer, Soma Chaudhuri, Victor Rios and Michael Conteh\*. "I will be out there everyday strong!" Protest Policing and Future Activism Among Ferguson and Baltimore Protestors. *Sociological Forum*. Vol. 34 (2):409-433
- 2019 Chaudhuri, Soma and Merry Morash. Building Empowerment, Resisting Patriarchy: Understanding Intervention Against Domestic Violence Among Grassroots Women in Gujarat, India. *Sociology of Development*. Vol. 5(4): 360-380

- 2018 Chaudhuri Soma, Preethi Krishnan\*, and Mangala Subramaniam. Mainstreaming Gender, Endangered, Ungendered? Analysis of Media Reports of the 2012 Case of Rape in India. *Advances in Gender Research*. Vol. 26: 25-40 (Equal Authors)
- 2018 Chaudhuri, Soma. Changing the Patriarchal Narrative: Going Behind the Roots of Gender Based Violence. *Contexts*. Vol. 17 (2): 64-66
- 2017 Chaudhuri, Soma. Witches, Activists, and Bureaucrats: Navigating Gatekeeping in Qualitative Research. *International Journal of Sociology*. Vol. 47 (2): 131-145
- 2015 Birch Maginot, Kelly\* and Soma Chaudhuri. ‘No Shaming This Slut’: Strategic Frame Adaptation and North American SlutWalk Campaigns. *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change*. Vol. (38):137-170
- 2015 Chaudhuri, Soma and Sarah Fitzgerald\*. Rape Protests in India and the Birth of a New Repertoire. *Social Movement Studies* Vol. 14 (5): 622-628
- 2014 Chaudhuri, Soma, Merry Morash and Julie Yingling\*. Marriage Migration, Patriarchal Bargains and Wife Abuse: A Study of South Asian Women. *Violence Against Women*. Vol. 20 (2):141-161 [Lead article; Nominated for best article award in the journal]
- 2012 Chaudhuri, Soma. Women as Easy Scapegoats: Witchcraft Accusations and Women as Targets in Tea Plantations of India. *Violence Against Women* Vol. 18(10):1213-1234
- 2012 Chakravarty, Anuradha and Soma Chaudhuri. Strategic Framing Work(s): How Micro-credit Loans facilitate Anti-Witch Hunt Movements. *Mobilization an International Journal*. Vol. 17 (2):175-194 (Equal Authors)
- 2010 Chaudhuri, Soma. The Fight for Property Rights: How Changes in Movement Actors and History Brought about the Changes in Frames in a Single Movement. *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East*. Vol. 30 (3):633-643
- 2008 McCammon, Holly, Soma Chaudhuri, Lyndi Hewitt, Courtney Sanders Muse, Harmony D. Newman, Carrie Lee Smith, Teresa M. Terrell. Becoming Full Citizens: The U.S. Women's Jury Rights Campaigns, the Pace of Reform, and Strategic Adaptation. *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol.113 (4):1104-1147 [Honorable mention for Collective Behavior Social Movement Outstanding Article Award, American Sociological Association, 2009]

### ***Book Chapters (Peer Reviewed)***

- 2025 Chaudhuri, Soma, and Jane Ward. “Introduction: Manifesting Witch Studies.” In *The Witch Studies Reader*, edited by Jane Ward and Soma Chaudhuri, 1–20. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

- 2014 Chaudhuri, Soma. Unusual Expressions of Social Protest: Witchcraft accusations in Jalpaiguri (pages 1-30). CAS Working paper series in the Center for Advanced Studies/Center for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University- CAS/WP/14-5)
- 2013 Chaudhuri, Soma. Extending the Logic of Functional Explanations: A theoretical model to explain the victimization process during an Indian witch hunt (pages 315-333). *Crime and Victimization in the Globalized Era*. Edited by K Jaishankar and Natti Ronel, CRC Press, Taylor and Francis

#### ***Non-Peer Reviewed Publications***

- 2011 Chaudhuri, Soma. The Case of Witch Hunts in the Tea Plantations of Jalpaiguri, West Bengal. *Conference proceedings. First International Conference of Criminology and Victimology*. Edited by K. Jaishankar and Natti Ronel (230-232)
- 2010 Chaudhuri, Soma. Crime and Legal System in Tunisia. *Crime and Punishment Around the World. Volume 1: Africa and Middle East*. Edited by Mahesh K. Nalla. New York: Greenwood (374-377)

#### ***Book Reviews (Solicited, Non-Peer Reviewed)***

- 2023 Review of *Witch Hunts: Culture, Patriarchy, and Structural Transformation*, by Govind Kelkar and Dev Nathan. *Journal of Agrarian Change*, Vol 23 (3): 649-652
- 2018 Review of *Undervalued dissent: Informal Workers Politics in India*, by Manjusha Nair. *Contemporary Sociology*, Vol. 47 (5): 613-614
- 2015 Review of *Of Virgins and Martyrs. Women and Sexuality in Global Conflict*. By David Jacobson. *Contemporary Sociology*, Vol. 44 (6):813-815
- 2013 Review essay: *Dispossession and Resistance in India. The River and the Rage*. By Alf Gundvald Nilsen; and *Displaced by Development: Confronting Marginalization and Gender Injustice*. By Lyla Mehta *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, Vol. 47 (3): 464-467
- 2012 Review of *Anatomy of the Red Brigades. The Religious Mind-Set of Modern Terrorists*. By Alessandro Orsini. *Mobilization: An International Journal*, Vol.17 (2):226-227
- 2010 Review of *The Snake Dance of Asian American Activism: Community, Vision and Power*. By Michael Liu, Kim Geron and Tracy Lai. *Mobilization: An International Journal*, Vol.15 (4):537-538
- 2009 Review of *Textures of Struggle: The Emergence of Resistance Among Garment Workers in Thailand* by Piya Pangsapa. *Work Occupations: An International Sociological Journal*, Vol. 36 (4):432-433

- 2009 Review of *Erotic Journeys: Mexican Immigrants and Their Sex Lives* by Gloria Gonz'alez-L'opez. *Sociological Inquiry*, Vol. 29 (4):528-529
- 2008 Review of *The Path of the Devil. Early Modern Witch Hunts* by Gary Jensen. *Feminist Teacher*, Vol. 18 (3): 240-241

### **WORK IN PROGRESS (Selected)**

Creating Livability: Survivors of domestic violence and the quest for dignity in India.  
Book Manuscript in Progress

Our Bodies, Our Terrain: A Decolonial Queer Feminist Approach towards Understanding the Social and Legal Politics of Rape in Africa and Asia. Edited book with Portia Leoto & Godisang Mookodi (Revise & Resubmit, Emerald Publishing)

Women Entrepreneur Safety and Firm Failure: Evidence from Microenterprises in India, with Disha Bhanot, Sriram Narayanan and Sreedevi R (Revise & Re-submit, Production and Operations Management Journal)

Long Term Impact of Lack of Access to Childhood Education on Women's Lives, with Jainisha Chavda and Merry Morash (Revise & Re-submit, Sociology of Development)

Situating Rape in Decolonial Feminist Frames from the Global South. Book chapter with Portia Leoto & Godisang Mookodi (Revise & Resubmit, Emerald Publishing)

Immigrant Tax and the Cost of Model Minority during a Global Pandemic, with Paromita Sanyal, Elizabeth Chacko and Stephanie Winston (Draft in progress)

Silence on Violence: A Botswanan Femicide Crisis, with Portia T Loeto (Draft in progress)

### **RESEARCH & RESEARCH OUTREACH GRANTS (selected)**

- 2026-2028 Intimate Partner Femicide (IPF) in Botswana: When Perpetrators Walk – Where is the Justice for Victims? **Wellcome Foundation Early Career Award** (Portia Loeto, University of Botswana, PI). Chaudhuri, mentor. (300,000, GBP)
- 2025-2026 Assessing the Psychosocial and Socioeconomic Wellbeing of Caregivers of Children with Cerebral Palsy in Malawi. **Claffey-Meyer International Award**. PI Bryan Vonasek (College of Osteopathic Medicine, MSU). Soma Chaudhuri, Co-Investigator and lead qualitative methods expert (Awarded)
- 2025-2027 “Gender Based Violence in Higher Education Institutions: A focus on STEM at the University of Botswana and Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN),” **Sexual Violence Research Initiative**. (Godisang Mookodi PI; Soma Chaudhuri lead PI from MSU) (\$100,000; under review)

- 2025-2026 Africa Futures Research Leadership Program, **Alliance for African Partnership** (with Portia Loeto and Godisang Mookodi, University of Botswana)
- 2024-2025 “Advancing Young Women Agribusiness Entrepreneurs and Innovators.” **US Department of State Professional Fellows Program.**  
PI Amy Jamison (AAP, MSU). CO-PIs Soma Chaudhuri and Alaina Bur (GenCen MSU)
- 2024-2025 “Aesthetics of Solidarity by Arab American and Arab Diaspora Artists in the U.S., 1948–Present.” **National Endowment for the Humanities** Collaborative Research Grant. (Sallah Hassan: PI/Project Director; Team members: Rachel Winter (Broad Art Museum; Soma Chaudhuri (GenCen); Mohammad Khalil (Muslim Studies Center); Tad Boehmer (MSU Libraries). Amount Awarded: \$50,000. [CongressionalNotificationFinal \(neh.gov\)](#)

Chaudhuri ‘s role in NEH grant: Help with writing, planning, conceptualization and review of the conference; serve as a reviewer of the conference

- 2024-2029 “Advancing Global Impact through Local Empowerment (AGILE).” **Strategic Partnerships for Advancing Research and Knowledge (SPARK) USAID.** (\$74,954,196) Unfunded. Encouraged to reapply in 2025  
PI: Titus Awokuse (ISP)  
CO-PIs/Key Personnel:
- a. Volodymyr V. Tarabara, Ph.D., BCEEM, F. EWRI, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Director of Global Innovations, Engagement, and Scholarship, Director of the Center for European, Russian, Eurasian Studies, Michigan State University
  - b. John Bonnell, Ph.D. Senior Capacity Development and Higher Education Specialist, Global IDEAS. Director of BHEARD Program
  - c. Amy Jamison, Ph.D., Co-Director for Institutional Engagement, Director of Alliance for African Partnership
  - d. **Soma Chaudhuri**, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sociology, Co-Director for Global Research, Outreach, and Engagement, Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University.

Chaudhuri’s role in SPARK USAID

**Gender Expert, GenCen (Soma Chaudhuri):** Demonstrating the project’s dedication to gender integration, Soma Chaudhuri’s full-time role across all five years is vital for embedding gender perspectives within the project’s framework. USAID’s total contribution to this role is **\$778,866**, highlighting the project’s commitment to inclusivity and diversity.

- 2020-2023 “Pandemics and Migrant Precarity: North South Dialogues.” **Social Science Research Council.** (Chaudhuri PI; Co-PIs Elizabeth Chacko and Bandana

Purkayastha; Consultants: Paromita Sanyal, Anandhi Shanmugasundaram, Jaita Talukdar and Anand Venkatesh). Amount Awarded: \$50,000. [[Announcing the 2020 Grantees: New Interdisciplinary Projects in the Social Sciences – Social Science Research Council \(SSRC\)](#)]

2017-2019 “Building Agency, Resisting Patriarchy: Understanding empowered intervention against domestic violence among grassroots women in Gujarat, India.” **National Science Foundation**. (Chaudhuri PI). Amount Awarded: \$128, 381 [Award # 1658249; [https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\\_ID=1658249](https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1658249)]

#### Internal Research Grants

2025-2026 Assessing the Psychosocial and Socioeconomic Wellbeing of Caregivers of Children with Cerebral Palsy in Malawi. **Student Research Fellowship, Alliance for African Partnership and African Studies Center**. PI Bryan Vonasek (College of Osteopathic Medicine, MSU). Soma Chaudhuri, Co-Investigator and lead qualitative methods expert (Awarded)

2024-2027 “Striving for Institutional Courage at University of Nigeria: Scaling Up Policy and Practice to Reduce Sexual Harassment.” Partnerships For Innovative Research In Africa (**PIRA/AAP**). [PI: Dr. Heather McCauley (Michigan State University; MSU) & Professor Raymond Adibe (University of Nigeria, Nsukka; UNN)]; Co-Investigator: Soma Chaudhuri and Alaina Bur (GenCen)] Amount requested: \$100,000 (Unfunded)

2024 Cost of a comfortable period: Influence of taboos, cultural norms, policies and finances on women and adolescent girls’ access to menstrual health and hygiene. **Spartan Tetrad Program**. Chaudhuri PI; CO-PI Hannah Bolder and Constance Currier. Amount Requested:\$30,000 (Unfunded)

2023-2024 “The Witch Studies Reader” **Humanities and Arts Research (HARP)** Production Award, Michigan State University (awarded \$5000)

2019 “Smart Phones, Apps, and the Fight to End Violence Against Women.” Koo Endowment research award, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University (Awarded \$7760); Diversity Research Network Launch Award, Michigan State University (awarded \$2000)

2014 “Empowerment and its implications on grassroots women and their intervention against domestic violence in Gujarat India.” Koo Endowment research award, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University (awarded \$8000)

2013 “Grassroots Women Leaders, Activism against Domestic Violence, and Strategies of Intervention.” *Center for Gender in Global Context*, Michigan State University, Strategic Partnership Grant (awarded \$7700 for pilot study)

- 2012 “Women’s actions to improve quality of life: The connections between marital abuse and economic empowerment. Laying the Groundwork for Research in Ahmedabad Gujarat, India.” *Asian Studies Center*, Michigan State University, (Strategic Partnership Grant, awarded \$6000)
- 2011 “Women’s Actions to Improve Quality of Life within Patriarchal and Other Hierarchies. Laying the Groundwork for Research in Gujarat, India.” (Chaudhuri PI; Merry Morash CO-PI). Funded by the following centers at MSU: *The Center for Advanced Study of International Development Grant*, (awarded \$3600); *Asian Studies Center*, (Strategic Partnership Grant, awarded \$3600); *Center for Gender in Global Context*, (Strategic Partnership Grant, awarded \$3620).
- “How women establish agency in the household in patriarchal societies: SEWA, Marriage Migration and Domestic Violence.” *The Center for Advanced Study of International Development Grant*, Michigan State University, (International Development Grant Program; awarded: \$7500)
- 2009 “(De) mobilizing violence: Social capital, group-based violence and prospects for social reconstruction.” *The Center for Advanced Study of International Development Grant*, Michigan State University, with Anuradha Chakravarty, University of South Carolina Columbia (awarded \$4000)

#### Grants to Support Student Research Mentoring

- 2019 *Understanding Institutional Resources for Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence in Ghana*. Provost Undergraduate Research Initiative, Michigan State University (Undergrad Mentee: Andala Yakubu; Award amount \$2000)
- 2019-20 *Understanding Institutional Resources for Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence in Ghana*. Dean’s Assistantship from the College of Social Science, Michigan State University. (Undergrad Mentee: Andala Yakubu; Award amount \$5245)

#### Small Travel Grants

- 2021 Koo Endowment Travel Award, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University (awarded \$300 towards AAG meetings)
- 2015 Koo Endowment Travel Award, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University (awarded \$1000 towards SWS meetings)
- 2013 Travel Award to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Sociology of Development, University of Utah, “Future of Development.”
- 2011 Travel Award to attend the Rethinking Development Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca

- 2010 Special Travel Award for paper presentation at the Moral Panics Conference. London, by International Studies and Program, Michigan State University (\$808)

### SELECTED AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024-2025 Big Ten Academic Alliance Academic Leadership Program Fellowship, Michigan State University
- 2016 John K. Hudzik Emerging Leader in Advancing International Studies and Programs (award includes \$1000 towards research)
- 2015 ‘Excellence-in-Graduate Teaching Award,’ Department of Sociology, Michigan State University [Graduate teaching award]
- 2015 Nominated for best article for the journal *Violence Against Women*. Article title: *Marriage Migration, Patriarchal Bargains and Wife Abuse: A Study of South Asian Women*. (with Merry Morash and Julie Yingling)
- 2013 ‘Outstanding Integrative Studies in Social Science Faculty Award’ for 2011-2012, College of Social Science, Michigan State University (award includes \$1000 towards research) [Undergraduate teaching award]
- 2011 Plenary session presenter for South Asian Society of Criminology and Victimology, Jaipur, India. Paper title: “*The Role of rumor and conspiracy against women scapegoats: The case of witch hunts in Indian tea plantations.*”
- 2009 Honorable mention for *Collective Behavior Social Movement Outstanding Article Award*, American Sociological Association. Article title: *Becoming Full Citizens: The U.S. Women's Jury Rights Campaigns, the Pace of Reform, and Strategic Adaptation*. (With McCammon et al)

### WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCE LED/ORGANIZED

- 2025 Session organized: Intersectionality in Social Movements; International Sociological Meetings, Rabbat, Morocco
- Understanding Participant’s Rights: IRB, Ethics and Power of Researchers. Workshop co-lead with Aminda Smith and Sappho for Equality Kolkata. Porshi, Kolkata. Total participants: 30
- 2024 The Zoonotic Vector Borne Research and Training Centre, Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH) Shillong along with the Centre for Gender in Global Context, Michigan State University organized a two-day workshop on Advanced Qualitative Data Analysis. Developed, led and presented by Soma Chaudhuri; Total participants: 30

- 2023 Social Science Research Council, Department of Geography Loreto College, Pandemic Precarity Research group, organized a day long workshop on effective methods of research during a global pandemic. Lead organizer: Soma Chaudhuri. Total participants: 100
- 2023 Reflections on the Impact of Pandemics on People, Places and Communities: A Social Science Interdisciplinary & International Conference, Organized by Social Science Research Council & Loreto College Kolkata. Lead organizer and PI: Soma Chaudhuri. Total participants: 150

### CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION (SELECTED)

- 2025 American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Chicago  
Intersectional Consciousness and Women's Leadership Strategies In India (CBSM Roundtable presentation, with Alison Colby)
- 2024 National Women's Studies Association Annual Meetings, Detroit  
The Aesthetics and Erotics of Feminist Revenge: Witch Studies (panel presenter)
- 2023 American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Philadelphia  
Effects of the Pandemic on Work-Life Balance Among Higher Skilled Asian Inda Immigrants in USA: Gender, Remote Work and Wellbeing, (Invited session: Long Tail of Covid, with Paromita Sanyal and Elizabeth Chacko)
- Long Term Impact of Lack of Access to Childhood Education on Women's Lives* (Session on Gender and Development, with Jainisha Chavda and Merry Morash)
- Reflections on the Impact of Pandemics on People, Places and Communities: A Social Science Interdisciplinary & International Conference, Loreto College Kolkata  
*Effects of the Pandemic on Work-Life Balance Among Higher Skilled Asian Inda Immigrants in USA: Gender, Remote Work and Wellbeing*, with Elizabeth Chacko and Paromita Sanyal
- 2022 American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, LA  
*Gendered Management of Bodily Fluids: Menstrual Supplies, Diapering and Breastfeeding among India women* (with Jennifer Randles and Heather Bomsta)
- National Women's Studies Association Annual Meetings, Minneapolis  
*The Witch Studies Reader* (with Jane Ward and select authors from the forthcoming book)

- 2021 American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Online  
*Protesting During a Pandemic: Narratives on Risk Taking and Motivation to Participating in the 2020 March on Washington* (with Jennifer Cobbina, Ashleigh Lacourse and Erika Brooke)
- American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle/Online  
*Competing Narratives of the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War and Associated Genocide: A Geopolitical Analysis if Leading Accounts* (with Siddharth Chandra and Kyle Evered)
- The 1971 Genocide in Bangladesh: A Geospatial Approach* (with Siddharth Chandra and Kyle Evered)
- 2019 Sociology of Development Conference, University of Notre Dame  
*Analyzing the importance of funding on gender focused empowerment programs* (with Merry Morash)
- American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, NYC  
*Analyzing the importance of funding on gender focused empowerment programs* (with Merry Morash); Regular session on Development
- Unveiling Inequality and Gender-Based Violence: A Global Public Policy Symposium at Monmouth University  
*Building Empowerment, Resisting Patriarchy: Findings from Gujarat* (with Merry Morash); Invited
- Witchcraft and Human Rights: Past, Present, Future. Lancaster University  
*Oppression-Alienation- Protest Discourse: The unique case of witchcraft accusations in Jalpaiguri India;* (with Merry Morash) Invited
- 2018 American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Philadelphia  
*The Impact of Protest Policing on Future Activism among Ferguson and Baltimore Protesters,* with Jennifer Cobbina (Thematic Invited Session on the Ferguson Effect)
- 2017 American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, Montreal  
*Building Empowerment, Resisting Patriarchy: Understanding empowered intervention against domestic violence,* with Merry Morash (Regular session on Development and Gender)

#### **INVITED COLLOQUIUMS (SELECTED)**

- 2026 Department of Feminist Studies, University of California Santa Barbara.  
*(Manifesting The Witch Studies Reader,* with Jane Ward and Tushabe Wa Tushabe)

University of Cincinnati, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. (*Manifesting The Witch Studies Reader*, with Jane Ward)

Journal of Gender Studies roundtable conversations, with Jane Ward

London School of Economics (*Manifesting The Witch Studies Reader*, with Jane Ward)

2025 Northumbria University, Department of Sociology (*Manifesting The Witch Studies Reader*, with Jane Ward)

2024 Public Lecture, the Indian Institute of Public Health, Shillong.  
*Negotiating Livability for Precarious Lives: Childhood Education and Women's Agency in India*

Keynote speaker for Department of Prevention, Outreach & Education at Michigan State University, Annual Faculty and Staff Summit with Big 10 partners  
*Countering the Culture of Gendered Violence Through Collective Participation in Empowerment Programs: Cases from the Global South*

2022 Boston Migration Workshop, Department of Sociology, Boston University  
*Retelling Migrant Precarity: Analyzing Indian worker experiences during Covid-19 across space and time* (With Elizabeth Chacko, Deepa Ebenezer, Bandana Purkayastha, Rianka Roy, Paromita Sanyal, S. Aanadhi, and Jaita Talukdar).

2020 Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University  
*Building Empowerment, Resisting Patriarchy: Understanding Intervention against Domestic Violence among Grass-Roots Women in Gujarat, India*

2019 Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.  
*Organizations, Women's Empowerment and Funding*

GenCen Fall Colloquium  
*Building Empowerment, Resisting Patriarchy: Understanding Intervention against Domestic Violence among Grass-Roots Women in Gujarat, India*

2017 Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata.  
*Understanding empowerment models in development programs.*

West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata.  
*Importance of drafting a state law against witch hunting in West Bengal*

## TEACHING

### *Graduate Courses*

Feminist Theories, Epistemologies and Pedagogy; Social Movements; Gender and Power; Classical Sociological Theory; Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change;

Advanced Qualitative Methods: Large Data Analysis; Field Methods

*Undergraduate Courses*

Special Topics Seminar: Techniques of Interview Methods; Introduction to Gender Methods; Sex and Gender; Social Movements; National Diversity and Social Change; Violence Against Women; Juvenile Justice.

**NOTABLE MEDIA APPEARANCES AND CITATIONS (SELECTED REFERENCES)**

- 2025 Podcast on The Witch Studies Reader with Jane Ward. New Books Network.  
<https://newbooksnetwork.com/the-witch-studies-reader>
- 2018 Interviewed by Voice of America Bangla, on their program “Women’s Voices,” featuring Chaudhuri’s research on violence against women and related activism  
<https://www.voabangla.com/a/womens-voice-episode18-shoma-chaudhuri-shegoftah-queen-3may18/4376649.html>
- Interviewed by the Scientific American on the rise of witch hunts in India:  
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/witch-hunts-today-abuse-of-women-superstition-and-murder-collide-in-india/>
- 2017 Interviews on the Voice of America Bangla on the linkages between travel ban and rise of hate crimes against South Asian immigrants post 2016 elections:  
<http://www.voabangla.com/a/travel-ban-dr-soma-choudhuri-shegoftah-nasreen-queen-28feb17/3743626.html>
- Interviewed by The First Post on witchcraft accusations in India:  
<http://www.firstpost.com/living/amid-the-tea-plantations-of-jalpaiguri-west-bengal-what-drives-the-hunt-for-witches-3399248.html>
- 2016 Interviewed on the Irish National Radio for a feature on Indian witch hunts
- Article on the neglect of witchcraft accusation related incidents by the media, published in WION India: <https://www.wionews.com/south-asia/witches-poor-communities-and-the-advocacy-in-india-6055>
- 2014 Book feature in Gender & Society blog. Link can be found here:  
<http://gendersociety.wordpress.com/2014/07/01/witches-tea-plantations-and-lives-of-migrant-laborers-in-india/>
- 2013 Featured in the documentary “A curse in the family” on Indian witch hunts as an expert. Aired on Aljazeera English. Link to the documentary can be found here:  
<http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/101east/2013/01/2013121101834161718.html>

Article on witchcraft accusations among Adivasi in India, published in February issue of Aljazeera Digital Magazine. A brief summary of the article can be found here:

<http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/101east/2013/01/2013121101834161718.html>

Cited in “The Witch Hunts of India.” Friday Magazine, September 4, 2013.

<http://fridaymagazine.ae/features/the-big-story/the-witch-hunts-of-india-1.1227329>

“This is War! Reflections on the Delhi Gang Rape” and other entries. The Feminist Wire, February 2, 2013

<http://thefeministwire.com/2013/02/9990/>

“Rape in India: Domestic and Global Politics.” The Feminist Wire, February 2, 2013

<http://thefeministwire.com/2013/02/rape-in-india-domestic-and-global-politics/>

“Can we End Violence Against Women and Girls?” The Feminist Wire, February 4, 2013

<http://thefeministwire.com/2013/02/ending-violence-against-women-and-girls/>

2012 Research on self help microcredit groups and anti witch hunt protest reported in MSU News, NBC News, Smithsonian, Futurity, Newstrack India, Science codex. among others. Link to MSU news can be found here:

<http://msutoday.msu.edu/news/2012/witch-hunts-targeted-by-grassroots-women/>

Interviewed by 1320 WILS Lansing for research on witchcraft accusations in India.

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE (SELECTED)**

### *Post Doctoral Fellow*

Portia T Loeto (Gender Studies and Department of Educational Foundations; University of Botswana)

### *PhD Dissertation Chair*

Logan Treviño-Fica (Co-Chair; Sociology)

### *PhD Dissertation Committee Member*

#### Ongoing

Yoojin Jang (Sociology)  
Latifa Salangi (Community Sustainability)  
Titus Dutta (Community Sustainability)  
Gungun Islam (Anthropology)

#### Defended

Suha Gangopadhyay (Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher Education, College of Education. 2025)

Taylor Reid (Human Development and Family Studies, 2023): Post Doctoral Fellow, Institute of Gender and Sexual Minority, Health and Wellbeing, Northwestern University

Angelica Ruvalcaba (CLS and Sociology, 2023): Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Texas Woman's University

Ariel Roddy (Criminal Justice, 2022) Current position: Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Utah

Heather Bomsta (Community Sustainability, 2022)

Jillian Kochanek (Kinesiology, 2021) Current position: Director of Masters Program in Athletic Leadership, School of Physical Education, Performance and Sport Leadership, Springfield College

Kelly Birch Maginot (Sociology, 2019) Current position: Assistant Director, Women's Leadership and Resource Center, University of Illinois Chicago

Jina Lee (Criminal Justice; 2017) Current position: Lecturer at Grand Valley State University

Rachel Johansen (Sociology; 2015) Current position: Sociology Instructor, Northwestern Michigan College

Rebecca Stone (Criminal Justice; 2014) Current position: Assistant Professor, Sociology and Criminal Justice, Suffolk University

Breanne Grace (Sociology 2013) Current position: Associate Professor, School of Social Work, University of South Carolina, Columbia

Tia Stevens (Criminal Justice, 2013) Current position: Associate Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of South Carolina, Columbia

Julie Yingling (Criminal Justice 2013) Current Position: Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice, Lycoming College

Mohammad V. Ali (Criminal Justice, 2012) Current position: Assistant Professor, School of Social Sciences & Humanities, University of Management and Technology, Pakistan

Juyoung Song (Criminal Justice, 2012) Current position: Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice and Criminology, Penn State University, Schuylkill

#### *Masters Thesis/Second Year Papers Committee Member*

Geography      Michelle Bullock (Defended 2022)

Sociology      Drew Kirks-Cler (Sociology, 2023)  
Luis Rivera-Ayala (CLS and Sociology, 2023)  
Kelly Birch Maginot (defended 2014)  
Shannon Brenneman (defended 2014)  
Paula Miller (defended 2011)  
John Clements (defended 2010)  
Eric Beasley (defended 2009)  
Naomi Glogower (defended 2009)  
Breanne Grace (defended 2009)

Criminal Justice

Trevariana Mason (defended 2017)  
Marva Goodson (defended 2014)

*Other student mentoring (non committee member role)*

Manvir Bamrah, Masters in Global Health (2025-present)  
Project: Assessing the Psychosocial and Socioeconomic Wellbeing of Caregivers of Children with Cerebral Palsy in Malawi. PI Bryan Vonasek. Chaudhuri: guides the qualitative data collection and analysis of the project.

*Departmental Service (Sociology), Michigan State University (selected)*

2026	Department of Sociology Chair search committee member
2025	Research Assistant Professor of Sociology Faculty Hiring Committee.
2025-2026	Research speaker series, committee member
2024-2025	DEI committee member
2018-2021	Faculty Advisory Committee member
208-2019	Course Assignments and Teaching Schedule Coordinator
2016-2017	Graduate Education Committee member
2015-2016	Graduate admissions committee member TA evaluation Committee member

*Service to the College and University (selected)*

2026	College committee member for promotion to Senior Academic Specialist, ISP
2025-2026	College of Social Science, Graduate Advisory Committee
2024-2025	ISP Associate Dean of Research, Search Committee
2022-2024	College Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (Sociology representative)
2022-2023	College of Social Science DEI Strategic Planning Working group
2022	College Program Review Committee, (Sociology representative)
2021-2022	College Associate Chairs & Directors (Sociology representative)
2020-2021	College Curriculum Committee (Sociology representative)
2020-2021	Search committee member (external) Sexual Minority Health position, School of Social Work

- 2018-2021 Gender Dialogues, Advisory Board member
- 2018 Theorizing the Senate Hearings. Survivor Narratives at this Moment of Crisis. Organized by MSU Museum. (Panel presenter)
- 2014-2016 Advisory Council Member for South Asia, Asian Studies Center, College of Social Science representative (Elected)
- 2014-2015 Alternate for University Committee on Undergraduate Education, College of Social Science representative
- 2012-2016 GenCen Advisory Committee, Representative from College of Social Sciences (Elected twice for 2 terms)
- 2011-2013 Advisory Council Member for South Asia, Asian Studies Center, College of Social Science representative (Elected)
- 2010-2012 Faculty Advisory Committee, Center for Integrative Studies.

*Service to the Profession*

- 2023-2026 Secretary/Treasurer (elected), Sex & Gender Section, ASA
- 2025-2026 Chair, Membership, Diversity, and Inclusion (elected), Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section, ASA
- 2023-2026 Membership, Diversity, and Inclusion (elected), Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section, ASA
- 2024 Career Award, committee member (Senior Scholar, CBSM-ASA)
- 2023 Kathleen S. Lowney Mentoring Award committee, SSSP
- 2020- present Editorial Board Member, *Sociology of Development*
- 2013-present Editorial Board Member, *International Journal of Sociology*
- 2020- 2023 Editorial Board Member, *Contemporary Sociology*
- 2023 Organizer for invited session on *Long Tail of Covid* ASA Annual meetings
- 2021 Discussant for session on *Developing Feminist Leadership and Research on Movements and Indigenous Communities in the Global South*, SSSP Annual meetings
- 2019 Organizer for regular session on *Violence* (Reviewed 35 papers for the session), ASA Annual meetings

- 2018            Presider for *Agency and Citizenship* Round Table, Global and Transnational Sociology Section, ASA Annual meetings
- 2016-2017      Mentoring Committee (elected), Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section, ASA
- 2007-2008      Graduate Assistant, *Homicide Studies. An Interdisciplinary & International Journal*.
- 2004-2006      Assistant Editor, *Work and Occupations. An International Sociological Journal*.

Reviewer (2008-present)

*Reviewer for the following Journals*

American Journal of Sociology; American Sociological Review; Asian Journal of Criminology; Australian Feminist studies; Contemporary South Asia; Critical Sociology; Feminist Criminology; Gender & Society; Global Public Health; Homicide Studies; Humanity and Society; International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice; International Journal of Sociology; International Journal of Social Research Methodology; Journal of Health and Social Behavior; Journal of Men Studies; Journal of South Asian Development; Journal of Urban Affairs; Mobilization: An International Journal; Oñati Socio-Legal Series; Poetics: Politics & Gender; Journal of Empirical research on Culture, the Media and the Arts; Qualitative Sociology; Racial and Ethnic Studies; Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change; Sexuality, Gender & Policy; Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society; Sociology of Development; Sociological Quarterly; Studies in Comparative International Development; Third World Thematic; Violence Against Women; Women's Studies International Forum; World Development; Work & Occupations

*Reviewer for the following press*

Bloomsbury Press; Lexington Books; Oxford University Press; Routledge; Routledge (India division) Rutgers University Press; Polity Press

*Reviewer for the following grant bodies*

American Council of Learned Societies  
 Israel Science Foundation  
 Economic and Social Research Council, UK  
 Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship, UK  
 National Science Foundation: Career Grant, Sociology  
 National Science Foundation: Panelist for Sociology and Geographic Sciences  
 Social Science Research Council (SSRC) International Dissertation Research Fellowship competition

Internal

DRN-LAP awards

Flourish Grants (Sponsored by GenCen and Womxn of Color initiatives at MSU)

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) summer and annual fellowship, MSU,

*External Reviewer/Committee member for PhD thesis at the following Universities*

Jawaharlal Nehru University (India); Queensland University of Technology (Australia); University of Delhi (India)

**EXPERT CONSULTANT (select)**

Testimonies on asylum cases for survivors of domestic violence from South Asia:

*State of California, USA*

*Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) of Canada*

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Sociological Association (Sectional member: *Sex and Gender; Collective behavior/social movements; Sociology of development; Human rights; Methodology*)

American Association for Geographers

Society for the Study of Social Problems

Sociologists for Women in Society

International Sociological Association (RC09-*Social Transformations and Sociology of Development; RC32-Women, Gender and Society; RC48-Social Movements, Collective Action and Social Change*)

National Women's Studies Association