

Gerard Torrats-Espinosa

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Research Interests

Data Science; Crime; Inequality and Stratification; Urban Policy

Academic Employment

Columbia University, Department of Sociology
Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2020-
Post-Doctoral Fellow in Data Science, 2019-2020

Other Affiliations

Columbia University, Data Science Institute
Affiliate, 2019-
Behavioral Insights Team North America
Research Fellow, 2017-2019
Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, New York University
Doctoral Fellow, 2014-2019

Education

Ph.D. in Sociology, New York University, 2019
Dissertation: “Inequality and Opportunity in the Crime Decline Era”
Committee: Ingrid Gould Ellen, Jennifer Hill, Mike Hout, Patrick Sharkey (Chair), and Florencia Torche
M.Phil. in Sociology, New York University, 2017
Field Exams: Social Stratification; Inequality; Causal Inference
Master in Public Policy, Harvard University, 2014
Thesis: “A Strategy for Supportive Child Care in Massachusetts”
Advisor: Jeffrey Liebman
B.S. Building Engineering, Polytechnic University of Catalonia, 2011
Thesis: “The Fireproof Construction of Rafael Guastavino in New York City”
B.S. Technical Architecture, Polytechnic University of Catalonia, 2004

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Torrats-Espinosa, Gerard. (Forthcoming). “Crime and Inequality in Academic Achievement across School Districts in the United States.” *Demography*

Ellen, Ingrid G. and **Gerard Torrats-Espinosa.** (Forthcoming). “Gentrification and Fair Housing: Does Gentrification Further Integration?” *Housing Policy Debate.*

Ellen, Ingrid G., Michael Suher, and **Gerard Torrats-Espinosa.** 2019. “Neighbors and Networks: The Role of Social Interactions on the Residential Choices of Housing Choice Voucher Holders.” *Journal of Housing Economics* 43: 56-71.

Balcells, Laia and **Gerard Torrats-Espinosa.** 2018. “Using a Natural Experiment to Estimate the Electoral Consequences of Terrorist Attacks.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 115(42): 10624-10629.
Outstanding Paper Award from the Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Migration Section of ISA

Heissel, Jennifer A., Patrick T. Sharkey, **Gerard Torrats-Espinosa,** Kathryn Grant, and Emma K. Adam. 2018. “Violence and Vigilance: The Acute Effects of Community Violent Crime on Sleep and Cortisol.” *Child Development* 89(4): 323-331.

Sharkey, Patrick, **Gerard Torratts-Espinosa**, and Delaram Takyar. 2017. "Community and the Crime Decline: The Causal Effect of Local Nonprofits on Violent Crime." *American Sociological Review* 82(6): 1214-1240.

Sharkey, Patrick and **Gerard Torratts-Espinosa**. 2017. "The Effect of Violent Crime on Economic Mobility." *Journal of Urban Economics* 102: 22-33.

Working Papers

Torratts-Espinosa, Gerard. "The Growth in Between-City Income Segregation"

Torratts-Espinosa, Gerard. "Aggregation Bias in the Two-Stage Least Squares Fixed Effects Model"

Torratts-Espinosa, Gerard and Patrick Sharkey. "The Fall of Violence and the Reconfiguration of Urban Neighborhoods"

Ellen, Ingrid G. and **Gerard Torratts-Espinosa**. "High-Cost Cities, Gentrification, and Voucher Use"

Other Publications

Book Chapters

Ellen, Ingrid G., Brian J. McCabe, and **Gerard Torratts-Espinosa**. (Forthcoming). "How Can Historic Preservation Be More Inclusive?" in *Preservation and Social Inclusion*. Columbia University Press.

Weiss, Christopher, Emma Garcia, and **Gerard Torratts-Espinosa**. 2015. "A Comparative Analysis of the Relationship between Learning Environments and Educational Performance in Japan and the United States" Pp. 211-240 in *Japan Viewed from Interdisciplinary Perspectives* edited by Yoneyuki Sugita. Lexington Books.

Media Articles

"Do terrorist attacks make people more politically engaged?" *Washington Post*. August 28, 2017 (with Laia Balcells).

"Els efectes polítics del terrorisme" ("The Political Consequences of Terrorism"). *Ara*. August 22, 2017 (with Laia Balcells).

"La violencia policial y la división racial en los Estados Unidos" ("Police Brutality and the Racial Divide in the United States"). *La Vanguardia*. July 12, 2016.

Grants

Russell Sage Foundation & William T. Grant Foundation (PI, \$7,000), "Crime and Inequality in Academic Achievement across School Districts in the United States," 2016.

Fellowships & Awards

Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, New York University, 2019-2020 (Declined).

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award, New York University, 2018.

Urban Doctoral Fellowship, New York University, 2018-2019.

Outstanding Paper Award from the Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Migration Section of ISA, 2017.

Predocctoral Interdisciplinary Research Training Fellowship (PIRT), New York University, 2014-2017.

Henry M. MacCracken Doctoral Fellowship, New York University, 2014-2019.

"La Caixa" Graduate Fellowship, Spain, 2012-2014.

Teaching

Columbia University

Sociological Methods (Quantitative Methods Module), Fall 2019.

New York University

Introduction to Quantitative Methodology (Sociology Graduate), Fall 2017 (TA and Lab Instructor).
 Math, Probability and Statistics Refresher (Sociology Graduate), Summer 2017 (TA and Lab Instructor).
 Statistical Inference & Regression Analysis (Stern Undergraduate), Spring 2016 (TA).

Harvard Kennedy School

Intro Microeconomics (MPP Program Graduate), Fall 2012 (TA).

Conference Presentations

SREE Spring Conference, Washington, DC, 2019.
 APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC, 2018.
 American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, 2018.
 Population Association of America, Denver, CO, 2018.
 APPAM Fall Research Conference, Chicago, IL, 2017.
 Population Association of America, Chicago, IL, 2017.
 International Studies Association, Baltimore, MD, 2017.
 Urban Economics Association, Minneapolis, MN, 2016.
 American Society of Criminology, New Orleans, LA, 2016.
 APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC, 2016.
 American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA, 2016.
 American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association, Washington, DC, 2016.
 Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia: Conference in Gentrification, Philadelphia, PA, 2016.
 Education and Inequality in 21st Century America, Stanford University, CA, 2016.
 Population Association of America, Washington, DC, 2016.
 Russell Sage Foundation: Intergenerational Mobility in the United States, New York, NY, 2015.

Seminar Presentations

Center for the Study of Wealth and Inequality, Columbia University, 2018
 Furman Center Speaker Series, New York University, 2017

Programing & Language Skills

Software: Python, R, Stata, \LaTeX .
 Languages: Spanish and Catalan (Native), English (Fluent), French (Intermediate).

Service*Conference Service*

Organizer, “Inequalities and Social Justice in the 21st Century City,” ASA Pre-Conference, New York, NY, 2019
 Session organizer, “Fair Housing Research 50 Years after the Fair Housing Act,” APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC, 2018
 Session organizer, “Understanding the Locational Decisions and Outcomes of Assisted Housing Recipients,” APPAM Fall Research Conference, Chicago, IL, 2017
 Session organizer, “Reforming the Housing Choice Voucher Program,” APPAM Fall Research Conference, Chicago, IL, 2017
 Discussant, “Gentrification and Urban Policies,” Urban Economics Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, 2016

Session organizer, "Gentrification in the 21st Century," APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC, 2016

Journal Service

Reviewer for: American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review (2), American Political Science Review, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Health, Sociology of Education (2), AERA Open, Sociological Forum, Sociological Methods and Research.

Membership

American Sociological Association, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management.

Other

Student Representative, Graduate Student Association, New York University, 2015-2016.

Assistant Editor, Harvard Journal of Real Estate, Harvard University, 2012-2013.

Past Employment

Goldman Sachs & Co, New York, 2013

Summer Research Analyst, Securities Division Strategy

Barcelona Fire Department, Spain, 2007 - 2012

Fire-Fighter (full-time, civil servant)

Last updated: July 2019