

# Helen Webley-Brown

✉ [helenwb@stanford.edu](mailto:helenwb@stanford.edu)    🌐 [helenwebleybrown.github.io](https://helenwebleybrown.github.io)    📄 [helenwebley-brown](https://helenwebley-brown.github.io)

## Education

<b>Ph.D. in Sociology</b> , Stanford University	Palo Alto, CA
• <b>Honors:</b> CCSRE Emerging Scholar	Sept 2025 – Present
<b>S.M. in Political Science</b> , Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	Cambridge, MA
• <b>Thesis:</b> Democracy Under Surveillance: The Effect of Pretrial Electronic Monitoring on Voting Behavior	Feb 2025
• <b>Fields:</b> American Politics, Quantitative Methods [GPA: 4.9/5.0]	
<b>A.B. in Political Science</b> , Washington University in St. Louis (WashU)	St. Louis, MO
• <b>Honors:</b> Danforth Scholar, Civic Scholar, College Honors, Phi Beta Kappa [GPA: 3.97/4.0]	May 2022

## Publications

- Gupta, A., Wu, V., **Webley-Brown, H.**, King, J., Ho, D. (2023). [The Privacy-Bias Tradeoff: Data Minimization and Racial Disparity Assessments in U.S. Government](#) [↗](#). In Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT).
- [Best Paper Award](#) [↗](#) at FAccT, 2023
  - [Student Paper Award](#) [↗](#) from Future of Privacy Forum, 2023

## Other Writing

- Webley-Brown, H.**, Sipek, A., Buoymaster, K., Shivalkar, J., Owen, W., Manis, E. (2022). [ShotSpotter and the Misfires of Gunshot Detection Technology](#) [↗](#). Surveillance Technology Oversight Project.
- Loshkajian, N., Van Doran, S., Melendi, J., Saran, S., **Webley-Brown, H.**, Manis, E. (2022). [Privatizing The Surveillance State: How Police Foundations Undermine Rule of Law](#) [↗](#). Surveillance Technology Oversight Project.

## Works in Progress

- Divisions at Home, Broken Promises Abroad? How Domestic Politics Shapes the United States' Nuclear Credibility (with Lauren Sukin)
- Revise and Resubmit at *International Studies Quarterly*
- We've Got Democracy at Home: Resident Council Emergence in Public Housing Developments
- Telling on Yourself To Build Trust: The Effect of Open Data Initiatives on Public Perceptions of the Police
- Why Watch The Watchers? Frame Utilization In Community Control Over Police Surveillance (CCOPS) Legislation

## Research Experience

<b>Research Assistant</b> , Oxford Internet Institute (Prof. Helen Margetts)	London, England
• Analyzed original survey data on trends in UK citizen-government information exchange	Jan 2025 – Aug 2025
<b>Research Officer</b> , LSE Phelan United States Center (Prof. Lauren Sukin)	London, England
• Conducted quantitative and archival data analysis across Dr. Sukin's research portfolio	Dec 2024 – Aug 2025
• Co-authored papers on global ideological polarization and nuclear attitudes	
<b>Research Assistant</b> , MIT Political Science (Prof. Ariel White)	Cambridge, MA
• Used Sequential Monte Carlo algorithm to <a href="#">analyze</a> <a href="#">↗</a> impact of prison gerrymandering reforms on legislative outcomes	May 2023 – Aug 2023
<b>Summer Research Fellow</b> , Stanford Regulation, Evaluation, and Governance Lab	Remote
• Conducted content analysis of 25 federal agencies' equity action plans	June 2022 – Aug 2022
• Analyzed privacy-related barriers to data collection, and its impact on bias assessments	

<b>Research Intern</b> , Surveillance Technology Oversight Project	Remote
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wrote two reports on emerging surveillance technologies' impact on civil rights</li> <li>Created data visualization of racial disparities in ShotSpotter technology deployment</li> </ul>	Jan 2022 – May 2022
<b>Student Researcher</b> , Modernist Prehistory of Facial Recognition Lab (Prof. Anca Parvulescu)	St. Louis, MO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traced physiognomic roots of facial recognition using archival data and literary analysis</li> </ul>	Sept 2021 – Dec 2021
<b>Data Analysis and Research Intern</b> , The Bail Project	St. Louis, MO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performed data fidelity checks on Salesforce reports with 900+ unique client records</li> <li>Surveyed 43 clients and conducted 3 interviews to write <a href="#">report</a> on socio-economic impacts of pretrial electronic monitoring</li> </ul>	June 2021 – Aug 2021
<b>Research Assistant</b> , WashU Sociology (Prof. Sarah Gaby)	St. Louis, MO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyzed sentiment in pre/post class survey data to track changes in protest attitudes</li> </ul>	Jan 2020 – June 2020

## Teaching Assistant Experience

---

<b>Making Public Policy (UG)</b> , MIT Political Science (Prof. Andrea Campbell)	Fall 2024
<b>Quantitative Political Methodology (UG)</b> , WashU Political Science (Prof. Christopher Lucas)	Spring 2021
<b>Social Movements (UG)</b> , WashU Sociology (Prof. Sarah Gaby)	Spring 2020

## Pedagogical Training

---

<b>MIT Teaching + Learning Lab Teaching Certificate</b>	Fall 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Course Design Track</b> (backward design, inclusive class policies, syllabus development)</li> <li><b>Lesson Planning Track</b> (giving formative feedback, active learning)</li> <li><b>Inclusive Teaching Track</b> (strategies to foster a welcoming, equitable classroom)</li> <li><b>Microteaching Track</b> (lecture skills, facilitating discussions, teaching demos)</li> </ul>	

## Service

---

<b>First-Year Representative</b> , Association of Sociology Graduate Students, Stanford Sociology	Fall 2025 – Present
<b>Co-Chair</b> , Graduate Student Works-in-Progress Workshop, MIT Political Science	Fall 2023 – Spring 2024
<b>Diversity Co-Chair</b> , Graduate Student Council, MIT Political Science	Fall 2023 – Spring 2024
<b>Mentor</b> , Political Science Application Mentorship Program (PSAMP), MIT Political Science	Fall 2022

## Conferences and Workshops

---

American Politics Group (APG) Early Career Researcher Conference	2025
BRIDGE Event on Electronic Monitoring (Arnold Ventures)	2025
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)	2024

## Grants and Awards

---

<b>Stanford</b> , CCSRE Emerging Scholars Award (3-year fellowship)	2025
<b>MIT</b> , Political Methodology Lab Research Grant (\$1000)	2023
<b>Future of Privacy Forum</b> , Student Paper Award (shared with co-authors)	2023
<b>FAccT</b> , Best Paper Award (shared with co-authors)	2023
<b>WashU</b> , Shepley Outstanding Senior Award	2022
<b>WashU</b> , Harriet K. Switzer Leadership Award	2022
<b>WashU</b> , Gephardt Institute Fox-Clark Civic Scholarship	2020
<b>WashU</b> , William H. Danforth Scholarship (4-year full tuition award)	2018

## Non-Academic Experience

---

### **Legal Lark**, Founder and Project Manager

- Managed team of 4 to create [website](#) on e-carceration and juvenile justice
- Built resource bank, designed infographics, and wrote articles on youth incarceration

St. Louis, MO  
May 2021 – May 2022

### **Government Affairs Intern**, Human Rights Campaign

- Coded 506 cities' LGBTQ+ police liaison policies for [HRC's Municipal Equality Index](#)
- Tracked politicians' votes and bill sponsorships for [HRC's Congressional Scorecard](#)

Remote  
Jan 2021 – April 2021

### **Public Affairs and Communications Intern**, Hanbury Strategy

- Drafted client op-eds, government consultation responses, and stakeholder maps

London, England  
June 2020 – Sept 2020

### **Campaign Donations Researcher**, Lavender for State Senate

- Researched past contributions of 300+ potential donors; out-raised incumbent by 106%

Remote  
June 2020 – Aug 2020

## Technical Skills

---

LaTeX, R and R Studio, Python, ArcGIS, QGIS