GERARD TORRATS-ESPINOSA
Assistant Professor of Sociology
Columbia University
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Causal Inference; Crime; Data Science; Demography; Inequality; Policing; Public Health

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Sociology, New York University	2014-2019

Dissertation: "Inequality and Opportunity in the Crime Decline Era"
Committee: Ingrid Ellen, Jennifer Hill, Mike Hout, Patrick Sharkey (Chair), and Florencia Torche

Master in Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School	2012-2014
B.S. Building Engineering, Polytechnic University of Catalonia	2001-2004

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Columbia University
Department of Sociology, Assistant Professor (tenure track)	2020-
Population Research Center, Affiliate	2019-
Data Science Institute, Member	2019-
Department of Sociology, Post-Doctoral Fellow in Data Science	2019-2020

Behavioral Insights Team North America
Research Fellow	2017-2019

New York University
Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, Doctoral Fellow	2014-2019

NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT AND SERVICE

Barcelona Fire Department, Spain
Fire-Fighter (full-time, civil servant)	2007-2011

Spanish Army, Spain
Special Operations Group	2005-2007

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2021   Mark, Nicholas and **Gerard Torrats-Espinosa**. 2021. "Declining Violence and Improving Birth Outcomes in the US: Evidence from Birth Certificate Data" *Social Science and Medicine* 294: 114595

Fabbri, Camilla, Katherine Rodrigues, Baptiste Leurent, Elizabeth Allen, Mary Qiu, Martin Zuakulu, Dennis Nombo, Michael Kaemingk, Alexandra De Filippo, **Gerard Torrats-Espinosa**, Elizabeth Shayo, Vivien Barongo, Giulia Greco, Wietse Tol, and Karen M. Devries. 2021. "The EmpaTeach Intervention for Reducing Physical Violence from Teachers to Students in Nyarugusu Refugee Camp: A Cluster-Randomised Controlled Trial." *PLoS Medicine* 18(10): e1003808

Torrats-Espinosa, Gerard. 2021. "Using Machine Learning to Estimate the Effect of Racial Segregation on COVID-19 Mortality." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 118(7): e2015577118

2020   **Torrats-Espinosa, Gerard**. 2020. "Crime and Inequality in Academic Achievement across School Districts in the United States." *Demography* 57: 123–145

Ellen, Ingrid G. and **Gerard Torrats-Espinosa**. 2020. "Do Vouchers Protect Low-Income Households from Rising Rents?" *Eastern Economic Journal* 46: 260–281

2019   Ellen, Ingrid G. and **Gerard Torrats-Espinosa**. 2019. "Gentrification and Fair Housing: Does Gentrification Further Integration?" *Housing Policy Debate* 29(5): 835-851

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

2018 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

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

BOOK CHAPTERS

Ellen, Ingrid G., Brian J. McCabe, and **Gerard Torrats-Espinosa**. 2020. "How Can Historic Preservation Be More Inclusive?" in *Preservation and Social Inclusion*. Columbia University Press

Weiss, Christopher, Emma Garcia, and **Gerard Torrats-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

GRANTS AND FUNDING

Russell Sage Foundation Trustee Grant (PI, $130,497), 2022

Data Science Institute Seed Grant, Columbia University (PI, $25,000), 2022

Lenfest Junior Faculty Development Grant, Columbia University (PI, $11,100), 2022

Provost's Grants Program for Junior Faculty, Columbia University (PI, $20,060), 2021

Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (co-PI, $29,467), "The Relationship between Incarceration and COVID-19," 2021

Hettleman Junior Faculty Summer Research Grant, Columbia University (PI, $6,000), 2021

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

Predoctoral 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

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS
(Includes scheduled conferences)

2020 American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA, 2020 (Cancelled)

2019 SREE Spring Conference, Washington, DC, 2019

2018 APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC, 2018

American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, 2018

Population Association of America, Denver, CO, 2018

2017 APPAM Fall Research Conference, Chicago, IL, 2017

Population Association of America, Chicago, IL, 2017

International Studies Association, Baltimore, MD, 2017

2016 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
2015   Russell Sage Foundation: Intergenerational Mobility in the United States, New York, NY, 2015

INVITED TALKS
(Includes scheduled talks)

2022   Pompeu Fabra University, Criminology Program, 2022
2021   Berkeley University, Computational Social Science Forum, 2021
       Columbia University, Injury Center, 2021
       Paris School of Economics, 2021
2020   Columbia University, Data Science Institute, 2020
       Columbia University, Race, Ethnicity, and Migration Workshop, 2020 (Cancelled)
       Pompeu Fabra University, Criminology Program, 2020 (Cancelled)
2019   Pompeu Fabra University, DemoSoc Research Group Workshop, 2019
       Columbia University, Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences Research Seminar, 2019
       Northwestern University, School of Education and Social Policy, 2019
       Columbia University, Department of Sociology, 2019
2018   Columbia University, Center for the Study of Wealth and Inequality, 2018
2017   New York University, Furman Center Speaker Series, 2017

TEACHING

Columbia University

2022   Methods for Social Research (UN3010), Sociology, Undergraduate, Spring 2022
       Crime and Policing (UN3983), Sociology, Undergraduate, Spring 2022
2021   Social Data Analysis II (GR6001), Sociology, Graduate, Spring 2021
       Methods for Social Research (UN3010), Sociology, Undergraduate, Spring 2021
2019   Sociological Methods (GR5052), Sociology, Graduate, Fall 2019

New York University

2017   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)
2016   Statistical Inference & Regression Analysis, Stern, Undergraduate, Spring 2016 (TA)

Harvard Kennedy School

2012   Markets and Market Failure (API-101), MPP Program, Graduate, Fall 2012 (TA)

MEDIA WRITING

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

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

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

SERVICE

University Service

Columbia Population Research Center, Steering Committee, 2021-

Columbia Experimental Laboratory for Social Science, Board Member, 2020-

Department Service

Department Representative for Summer Session, Columbia University, 2022
Faculty Search Committee, Columbia University, 2021

Conference Service

2019 Organizer, "Inequalities and Social Justice in the 21st Century City," ASA Pre-Conference, New York, NY, 2019

2018 Session organizer, "Fair Housing Research 50 Years after the Fair Housing Act," APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC, 2018

2017 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

2016 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 Review Service

American Journal of Sociology
American Political Science Review
American Sociological Review
Journal of Politics
Journal of Public Economics
PLoS ONE

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
Review of Economics and Statistics
Social Forces
Sociological Methods and Research
Sociology of Education

Grant Review Service

William T. Grant Foundation

STUDENT ADVISING

PhD Dissertation Committees

Timothy Ittner, Sociology, Columbia University, Exp. 2024
Joanna Chae, Sociology, Columbia University, Exp. 2023
Sang Won Han, Sociology, Columbia University, Exp. 2022

Master's Thesis Advisor

Yumo Wang, Sociology, Columbia University, 2021-2022
Jane Mills, QMSS, Columbia University, 2020-2021
Anika Lanser, Sociology, Columbia University, 2020-2021

PERSONAL

Born in Barcelona, Spain (US Permanent Resident)
Languages: Spanish and Catalan (Native), English (Fluent), French (Intermediate)