

# KATE J. SIM

*curriculum vitae*

[kate.sim@oii.ox.ac.uk](mailto:kate.sim@oii.ox.ac.uk) | +44 (0)7453 113317

University of Oxford, Oxford Internet Institute

1 St. Giles, Oxford, OX1 3JS, UK

## EDUCATION

July 2020

**PhD in Information, Communication, and the Social Sciences**

*Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford*

Dissertation: “A Digital helping hand?: Digitizing campus safety through sexual misconduct reporting systems in US higher education”

Supervisors: Gina Neff and Victoria Nash

June 2016

**MSc in Social Science of the Internet**

*Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford*

Thesis Honors: “Missed opportunities and the promise of Big Data: Child protection workers’ perspectives on information sharing, risk assessment, and predictions”

May 2014

**BA in Studies of Women, Gender & Sexuality and Social Studies**

*Harvard University*

Cum Laude with Special Honors. Legacy Prize for Creativity and Service.

Thesis: “Yes, no, maybe: The Politics of consent under compulsory sex positivity”

## RESEARCH FOCUS

My core research question concerns the intersection of gender, technology, trust, and social control. I study how data-driven systems mediate knowledge construction and social stratification with a focus on relational power dynamics of gender and sexuality. I employ qualitative and ethnographically informed methods, including interviews, observations, and interface analysis. I am especially interested in building conceptual links between gender, technology, and governance, and translating qualitative scholarship to inform technology designers, practitioners, and policymakers. My research advances theoretical conversations in critical data studies, gender and sexuality studies, and social policy.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Refereed Conference Papers & Presentations**

- 2020 “She said, It said: How data- and AI-driven systems are used to report sexual violence and how to assess them.” *TechSummit*. **National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)**. Washington DC. July.
- “The Politics of campus rape and data imaginary in sexual misconduct reporting system design.” *Data justice 2020*. **Data Justice Lab, Cardiff University**. May. *Algorithms for her: Feminist approaches to digital infrastructures, cultures, and economies*. **King’s College London**. January.
- 2019 “The Imaginaries of campus rape and data in sexual harassment reporting softwares.” *TechnoLogics: Power and resistance*. Gender, Bodies & Technology. **Virginia Tech**. April.
- 2018 “Digitizing campus safety: Reporting technologies in the ecosystem of sexual violence prevention and response in US higher education.” *Just imagine, Imagining justice: Feminist visions of freedom, dream making and the radical politics of futures*. **National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)**. Atlanta, GA. November.
- 2017 “Predicting abuse: Information sharing and predictive risk assessment in UK child protection services.” **Theorizing the Web**. New York, NY. April.

### **Publications in Progress**

- n.d. **Sim, K.** “Configuring misconduct: Binary logics of feminist consent politics and technochauvinism.” *Global Perspectives*: Special collection on cross-cultural feminist technologies. Abstract accepted for publication; publication estimated November 2020.

### **Invited Speaking Engagements**

- 2019 **Invited speaker.** Workshop on inequalities in the age of AI. *Edgeryders Festival*. Brussels, Belgium. November.
- Invited speaker.** “Algorithmic help-seeking: Credibility and institutional trust in the design of sexual misconduct reporting systems.” *Expert working group for UN Special Rapporteur report on ICTs and racism*. UCLA Center for Critical Internet Inquiry, Los Angeles, CA. October.
- Invited lecturer.** “성의 정치와 데이터화되는 성폭행 신고/Sexual politics and the datafication of reporting procedures.” *Korean Institute for Gender Equality Promotion and Education*. Ulsan, South Korea. September.

## Reports

- n.d. Shultz, J., Kak, A. & **Sim, K.** “Litigating Algorithms in Europe.” AI Now Institute. In partnership with Digital Freedom Fund. Release scheduled for March 2020.
- 2017 **Sim, K.** & Zevenbergen, B. “Workshop report: Design ethics for gender-based violence and safety technologies.” Princeton Center for Info Tech Policy (CITP). Princeton, NJ. <https://freedom-to-tinker.com/2017/07/24/design-ethics-for-gender-based-violence-and-safety-technologies/>.

## Other publications

- 2019 “Respond and resolve: Sex, power, and trust in the design of workplace misconduct reporting systems.” *Deep Dives*. Forthcoming.
- “Tech4SocialGood and categorization.” *Big Data & Society* blog. Forthcoming.
- 2018 “Victim blaming meets technological objectivity: Anti-rape technology and its design.” *XYZ*. <https://xyz.informationactivism.org/en/victim-blaming-meets-technology>.
- 2017 “Who gets sick from yellow fever? What carceral feminism does not see.” *Novara Media*. <https://novaramedia.com/2017/03/12/who-gets-sick-from-yellow-fever-what-carceral-feminism-does-not-see/>.

## GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2020 Fairness, Accountability and Transparency Travel Grant (865 USD)  
Rothermere American Institute Graduate Fund (1,000 GBP)
- 2019 Microsoft Gender and AI Grant (tuition)  
Oxford Internet Institute PhD Scholarship (tuition)
- 2018 Oxford Internet Institute PhD Scholarship (tuition)
- 2017 Ford Foundation: Gender, Racial, and Ethnic Justice (5,000 USD)  
Mozilla Foundation (2,500 USD)  
Oxford Internet Institute Ambassadorial Grant (850 GBP)  
Oxford Internet Institute PhD Scholarship (tuition)  
Rothermere American Institute Travel Awards (1,000 GBP)  
SIGCIS SHOT Travel Award  
Santander Academic Fellowship (1,000 GBP)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

I serve as the **Academic Advisor for the Social Sciences** (2019-present) at the University of Oxford where I prepare personalized sessions for undergraduate students on structuring and developing argumentative essays, creating and critiquing research designs, and balancing work/life commitments. I was the **sole Instructor** for “Gender and Technology” (Spring; Summer 2019) “Technology and Society” (Spring 2018) for which I designed interdisciplinary curriculum, created assignments involving mixed methods, developed critical reading and writing guides, and incorporated reflexive feedback and evaluation process. I was also an **Instructor** for “Digital Era Government & Politics” (Spring 2019) for which I introduced sociotechnical literature and ethnographic methods.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2016 – present

### PhD Researcher

I conducted over 40 interviews and observations with system vendors, higher education administrators, and users. I designed a three-year data collection and analysis plan, developed a systematic methodology for combining interface analysis with qualitative data analysis, and funded fieldwork through grantwriting.

Jan – Aug 2016

### Qualitative Researcher

*Thames Valley Police Predictive Harm Analytics Project.* Oxford, UK.

I analyzed methodologies for predictive risk assessment models in child protection and developed a brief on social work, surveillance, and privacy. I interviewed and observed social workers on data collection, information sharing, and risk assessment practices. I translated my findings into legal, ethical, and practical recommendations for practitioners.

2014 – 2015

### Researcher

*Seoul Crisis Center for Women and Children.* Seoul, South Korea.

I interviewed victims, families, and frontline workers on their technology use with regards to help-seeking. Based on this, I facilitated design brainstorming sessions with technology designers, practitioners, and survivors on safety technology design. I also evaluated existing safety technologies on accessibility, privacy, security, and usability.

## SERVICE

- 2020 **Facilitator.** Civil society advocacy in AI governance: Lessons learned. *Data Justice Lab*. Cardiff, UK. May.
- Reviewer,** Program Committee. *ACM Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAT\*)*. Barcelona, Spain. January.
- 2017 **Convener.** Workshop on gender-based violence and tech design ethics. *Princeton Center for Information Tech Policy (CITP)*. Princeton, NJ.
- I **co-convened** a workshop on gender-based violence and tech design ethics at Princeton Center for Info Tech Policy in 2017 and raised over **\$16K in funding** from the Ford Foundation and Mozilla Foundation. The workshop brought together anti-violence practitioners, technology designers, and academics to diagnose harms and establish a set of conceptual and methodological criteria for assessing gender considerations in tech design.
- 2016 **Organizer; Reviewer.** *Resisting race: Identity politics and the project of liberation*. The Oxford Research Center in the Humanities (TORCH). Oxford, UK. October.
- Organizer.** *Connected life: Collective action and the Internet*. Oxford Internet Institute. Oxford, UK. June.
- I **co-organized** the interactive portion of this two-day flagship graduate conference. I programmed workshops and panels from civil society organizations, and moderated the opening panel with digital rights activists.

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2016 – present **Residential Sub-Dean.** Wadham College, University of Oxford. UK.
- I provide after-hours crisis response, welfare support, and academic guidance to residential undergraduate and graduate students. I have trained and onboarded new hires on navigating disciplinary and welfare systems, balancing confidentiality in information sharing and incident report writing. I have also drafted inclusivity statement and assessed harassment procedures.
- 2016 – 2019 **PhD Committee Chair and Representative.** Graduate Joint Consultative Committee (GJCC), Oxford Internet Institute.

I organized and facilitated methodology workshops, reading groups, and writing sessions. I directed termly reflection sessions on curriculum programming, professional development, and diversity and inclusion.

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

2014 – present

### **Advisor; Mentor**

*Seoul Crisis Center for Women and Children*

I trained frontline workers and Youth advocates on anti-rape activism, power mapping, and strategizing by incorporating theories of gender and sexuality. I also mentor and support young survivors and youth advocates on career development.

2013 – present

### **Founding Board Member; Campaign Organizer.**

*Know Your IX*

I co-directed a two-year national campaign that led to the **White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault** in 2014. I facilitated organizational growth from a grassroots campaign to a non-profit organization, and mentored and trained youth organizers on strategizing, project management, and media communication.

## **REFERENCES**

### **Victoria Nash**

Deputy Director, Associate Professor, and Senior Policy Fellow

[victoria.nash@oii.ox.ac.uk](mailto:victoria.nash@oii.ox.ac.uk)

+44 (0)1865 287231

1 St. Giles

Oxford, OX1 3JS

UK

### **Gina Neff**

Associate Professor, Senior Research Fellow

[gina.neff@oii.ox.ac.uk](mailto:gina.neff@oii.ox.ac.uk)

+44 (0)1865 612778

1 St. Giles

Oxford, OX1 3JS

UK

### **Caroline Light**

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Senior Lecturer

[clight@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:clight@fas.harvard.edu)

+1 617 495 1964  
Boylston Hall G32  
5 Harvard Yard  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
USA