

KATE J. SIM

curriculum vitae

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University of Oxford, Oxford Internet Institute

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EDUCATION

January 2021

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

Honors thesis: “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 algorithmic and data-driven systems mediate users’ experience of reporting safety concerns through the lens of gender and sexuality. I employ ethnographically informed methods, including interface analysis, social semantic network analysis (SSNA), interviews, and observations, to investigate how networked and communicative technologies mediate social relations. I collaborate across disciplines and practices, and I am especially interested in translating academic findings to inform technology designers, practitioners, and policymakers.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

Sim, Kate. “Respond and resolve: A Critical feminist inquiry for technologies of sexual governance,” forthcoming in *Global Perspectives*, 2021.

Refereed Conference Papers & Presentations

- 2021 “The Politics of campus rape and data imaginary in sexual misconduct reporting system design.” *Data justice 2021*. **Data Justice Lab, Cardiff University**. May 20-21.
- “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.
- 2020 “The Politics of campus rape and data imaginary in sexual misconduct reporting system design.” *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.

Invited Speaking Engagements

- 2021 Invited speaker. [Gender Summit](#). Munich, Germany. April.
- Invited speaker. Ethnography for Social Semantic Network Analysis (SSNA). [Oxford Digital Ethnography Group \(OxDeg\)](#). Spring.
- 2020 Invited speaker. Ethnography and the Internet: Collective intelligence insights for digital policy. [Next Generation Internet Policy Summit](#). September.
- Invited speaker. Workshop on public safety technology and women’s agency. [Global Digital Development Forum](#). May.
- 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

2020 **Sim, Kate & Marchal, Nahema.** “[Safeguarding digital rights amidst COVID-19 through strategic litigation](#).” *Digital Freedom Fund*. December.

Contributor to the report on “[Human rights, racial equality, and emerging digital technologies: Mapping the structural threats](#).” *The Promise Institute for Human Rights* and *UCLA Center for Critical Internet Inquiry*. June.

2017 **Sim, Kate & Zevenbergen, Ben.** “[Workshop report: Design ethics for gender-based violence and safety technologies](#).” *Princeton Center for Info Tech Policy (CITP)*. Princeton, NJ.

Other writing

2020 “What's the harm in categorisation? Reflections on the categorisation work of Tech4Good.” [Big Data & Society blog](#). March.

2018 “Victim blaming meets technological objectivity: Anti-rape technology and its design.” [XYZ](#).

2017 “Who gets sick from yellow fever? What carceral feminism does not see.” [Novara Media](#).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

March 2021

PhD Research Intern

Microsoft Research – New England, Social Media Collective. Cambridge, MA.

Mentor: Tarleton Gillespie

I will be researching how social media companies gender different forms of technology-facilitated harms and how this gendering work shapes regulatory norms.

2020 - 2021	<p>Digital Ethnographer Edgeryders Research Network.</p> <p>Next Generational Internet (NGI) Forward project sets policy and research agenda about emerging technologies for the European Commission. As a digital ethnographer, I induct, analyze, and visualize participant-generated data the Semantic Social Network Analysis (SSNA).</p>
Jan – Aug 2016	<p>Qualitative Researcher Thames Valley Police Predictive Harm Analytics Project. Oxford, UK.</p> <p>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.</p>
2014 – 2015	<p>User Researcher Seoul Crisis Center for Women and Children. Seoul, South Korea.</p> <p>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.</p>

GRANTS & AWARDS

2020	<p>National Network to End Domestic Violence Travel Grant (1,000 USD) Fairness, Accountability and Transparency Travel Grant (865 USD) Rothermere American Institute Graduate Fund (1,000 GBP)</p>
2019	<p>Microsoft Gender and AI Grant (tuition) Oxford Internet Institute PhD Scholarship (tuition)</p>
2018	<p>Oxford Internet Institute PhD Scholarship (tuition)</p>
2017	<p>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)</p>

2016

Wadham College Senior Scholarship (500 GBP)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

I am the **Sole Instructor** for undergraduate courses on the social impacts of emerging technologies. I designed interdisciplinary curriculum, created assignments involving mixed methods, developed critical reading and writing guides, and incorporated reflexive feedback and evaluation process for the following courses:

University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
Tutor for Undergraduates, 2018 – 2021

“Gender and Technology” (Spring 2021)
“Gender and Technology” (Spring 2019)
“Digital Era Government & Politics” (Spring 2019)
“Technology and Society” (Spring 2018)

I have been invited to be a **Guest Lecturer** for the following courses:

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India.
MA in Women’s Studies
“Gender, Media & Culture” (Spring 2020)

I have also served as the **Academic Advisor for the Social Sciences** (2019-2020) at the University of Oxford where I prepared personalized sessions for undergraduate students on structuring and developing argumentative essays, creating and critiquing research designs, and balancing work/life commitments.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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| 2021 | Facilitator. “Civil society advocacy in AI governance: Lessons learned.” <i>Data Justice</i> . Cardiff, UK. September. |
| 2020 | Reviewer. Special issue collection on cross-cultural feminist technologies. <i>Global Perspectives</i> .

Reviewer. Program Committee, <i>ACM Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAT*)</i> . Barcelona, Spain. January. |
| 2017 | Convener. “Workshop on gender-based violence and tech design ethics.” <i>Princeton Center for Information Tech Policy (CITP)</i> . Princeton, NJ. |

I **co-convoked** 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 – 2020

Residential Sub-Dean. Wadham College, University of Oxford. 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 drafted inclusivity statement and assessed harassment procedures.

2016 – 2020

PhD Committee Chair and Representative. Graduate Joint Consultative Committee (GJCC), Oxford Internet Institute. Oxford, UK.

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

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

2014 – present

Advisor; Mentor. Seoul Crisis Center for Women and Children. Seoul, South Korea.

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.
Cambridge, MA.

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

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