

Michael H. Esposito

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email: mesposit@umn.edu **website:** <https://www.mhesposito.com/>

Research Interests

population health; race; statistical methodology; social/spatial context

Appointments

University of Minnesota Assistant Professor <i>Don A. Martindale Endowed Chair in Sociology</i>	Minneapolis, Minnesota 2023 – now
Washington University in St. Louis Assistant Professor	St. Louis, Missouri 2021 – 2023
University of Michigan Postdoctoral Fellow	Ann Arbor, Michigan 2018 – 2021

Education

University of Washington PhD in Sociology Certificates in Demography and Statistics Committee: Drs. Hedwig Lee, Jerald Herting, Stewart Tolnay, Anjum Hajat	Seattle, Washington 2013 – 2018
University of Washington MA in Sociology	Seattle, Washington 2011–2013
University of Missouri BA in Sociology	Columbia, Missouri 2007–2011

Journal Articles

- [25] **A National Data Set of Historical US Sundown Towns for Quantitative Analysis**
David Rigby, Michael H. Esposito, Hedwig Lee, David Van Riper, Margaret Hicken, Stephen Berrey
Scientific Data, Forthcoming.
- [24] **Racial Capitalism and Firearm Violence: Developing a theoertical model for firearm violence research examining structural racism**
Mudia Uzzi; Shannon Whittaker; Michael Esposito; Lorraine Dean; Shani Buggs; Keshia Pollack-Porter.
Social Science and Medicine, 2024.
- [23] **Influence of Structural Racism on Cancer Health Disparities: Tailoring Measures Relevant to Multiple Myeloma**
Hugh Roland, Cydney McGuire, Monica Baskin, Michael Esposito, Elizabeth Baker, Elizabeth Brown
Cancer, 2024.

[22] **Bodily Harm: The Health Consequences of Policing in the United States**

Abhery Das, Michael Esposito, Hedwig Lee

California Law Review, 2024.

[21] **Segregated Patterns of Hospital Care Delivery and Health Outcomes**

Sunny Lin, Gmerice Hammond, Michael Esposito, Cassandra Majewski, Randi Foraker, Karen Joynt Maddox

JAMA Health Fourm, 2024.

[20] **Historical redlining and contemporary racial disparities in neighborhood life expectancy.**

Nick Graetz, Michael H. Esposito*

Social Forces, 2023.

[19] **Policing and Population Health: Past, Present, and Future**

Hedwig Lee, Savannah Larimore, Michael Esposito*

Milbank Quarterly, 2023.

[18] **Neighborhood “Disamenities:” local barriers and cognitive function among Black and white aging adults**

Wenshan Yu, Michael Esposito, Mao Li, Philippa Clarke, Suzanne Judd, Jessica Finlay

BMC Public Health, 2023.

[17] **Cognability: An Ecological Theory of Neighborhoods and Cognitive Aging.**

Jessica Finlay, Michael Esposito*, Ken Langa, Suzanne Judd, Phillipa Clarke

Social Science and Medicine, 2022.

NIH MATILDA WHITE RILEY EARLY STAGE INVESTIGATOR PAPER AWARD

[16] **Structural Racism and Quantitative Causal inference: A Life-Course Mediation Framework for Decomposing Racial Health Disparities.**

Nick Graetz, Courtney Boen, Michael H. Esposito.

Journal of Health and Social Behavior, 2022.

[15] **Walkable neighborhoods and cognition: implications for the design of health promoting communities.**

Dominique L. Sylvers, Margaret Hicken, Michael Esposito, Jennifer Manly, Suzanne Judd, Phillipa Clarke.

Journal of Aging and Health, 2022.

[14] **“My neighbourhood is fuzzy, not hard and fast:” Individual and contextual associations with perceived residential neighbourhood boundaries among ageing Americans.**

Jessica Finlay, Joy Jang, Michael Esposito, Leslie McClure, Suzanne Judd, Phillipa Clarke.

Urban Studies, 2022.

[13] **Beholding Inequality: Race, Gender, Physical Attractiveness, and SES in the United States**

Ellis Monk, Michael H. Esposito, Hedwig Lee.

American Journal of Sociology, 2021.

ASA RACE, GENDER, CLASS DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOLARSHIP ARTICLE AWARD
ASA SECTION ON THE SOCIOLOGY OF BODY AND EMBODIMENT: BEST ARTICLE AWARD
ASA INEQUALITY, POVERTY AND MOBILITY DEVAH PAGER AWARD: HONORABLE MENTION

[12] Aggressive Policing, Population Health, and Health Equity

Michael H. Esposito, Savannah Larimore, Hedwig Lee.
Health Affairs, 2021.

[11] White Health Benefits of Histories of Enslavement: The Case of Opioid Deaths

Ryan Gabriel, Michael H. Esposito*, Geoff Ward, Hedwig Lee, Margaret Hicken, David Cunningham.
The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences, 2021.

[10] Neighborhood Active Aging Infrastructure and Cognitive Function: A Mixed-Methods Study of Older Americans

Jessica Finlay, Michael H. Esposito*, Mao Li, Natalie Colabianchi, Huajun Zhou, Suzanne Judd, Phillipa Clarke.
Preventive Medicine, 2021.

[9] Linking History to Contemporary State-Sanctioned Slow Violence through Cultural and Structural Racism

Margaret T. Hicken, Regan Patterson, Lewis Miles, Solome Haile, Michael Esposito.
The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences, 2021.

[8] Can Neighborhood Social Infrastructure Modify Cognitive Function? A Mixed-Methods Study of Urban-Dwelling Aging Americans

Jessica Finlay, Michael H. Esposito*, Mao Lee, Lindsay Kobayashi, Anam Khan, Iris Gomez-Lopez, Robert Melendez, Natalie Colabianchi, Suzanne Judd, Phillipa Clarke.
Journal of Aging and Health, 2021.

[7] Racial segregation and cognitive function among older adults in the United States: Findings from the Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke (REGARDS) study

Joy Jang, Margret T. Hicken, Megan Mullins, Michael H. Esposito, Ketlyne Sol, Jenifer Manly Suzanne Judd, Phillipa Clarke.
The Journals of Gerontology: Series B, 2021.

[6] Retail Food Environments as Resources for Cognitive Health and Wellbeing Among Aging Americans

Jessica Finlay, Michael H. Esposito*, Sandra Tang, Iris Gomez-Lopez, Dominique Sylvers, Suzanne Judd, and Phillipa Clarke.
Health & Place, 2020.

[5] Inequality in Process: Income and Heterogeneous Educational Health Gradients among Blacks and Whites in the U.S

Michael H. Esposito
Race and Social Problems, 2019.

[4] Risk of Being Killed by Police Use-of-Force in the U.S. by Age, Race and Sex

Frank Edwards, Hedwig Lee, Michael H. Esposito
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 2019.

[3] Closure of Third-Places? Exploring Potential Consequences for Collective Health and Wellbeing.

Jessica Finlay, Michael H. Esposito*, Min Hee Kim, Iris Gomez-Lopez, Phillipa Clarke.
Health & Place, 2019.

[2] Risk of Police-Involved Death by Race/Ethnicity and Place, United States, 2012–2018.

Frank Edwards, Michael H. Esposito*, Hedwig Lee.
The American Journal of Public Health, 2018.

[1] The Consequences of Contact with the Criminal Justice System for Health in the Transition to Adulthood.

Michael H. Esposito, Hedwig E. Lee, Margret Hicken, Lauren Porter, and Jerald Herting.
Longitudinal and Life Course Studies, 2017.

Peer Reviewed Reports
& Other Publications

[5] Identifying Midlife Social Exposures That Might Modify Risks of Cognitive Impairment Associated with Early Life Disadvantage: Proceedings of a Workshop

(Contributing Presenter.) Rapporteur: Bradford Chaney.

[National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine](#), 2025.

[4] Shared Fates: A Housing Resilience Policy Vision for the Home Insurance Crisis

Moira Briss, Alex Casey, Michael Esposito, Nick Graetz, Sarah Knuth, C.S. Ponder, Zac J. Taylor

[Climate and Community Institute Research Series](#), 2024.

[3] The Past, Present, and Future of Racial Health Disparities in the US

Michael Esposito, Nick Graetz, Margaret Hicken, Hedwig Lee

[Uncovering Inequality](#), edited by Jelani Cobb, 2023.

[2] The demographics of racial inequality in the United States

Hedwig Lee, Michael Esposito, Frank Edwards, Yung Chun, Michal Grinstein-Weiss

[Brooking Institute](#), 2020.

[1] Police kill about 3 men per day in the US, according to new study

Frank Edwards, Michael Esposito

[The Conversation](#), 2018.

Manuscripts-in-
Progress

includes 5 projects closest
to publication

[5] American Eco-Apartheid: Mapping the links between racial disparities in longevity with political economy, state violence, and environmental exposure

Daniel Aldana Cohen, Nick Graetz, Seth J. Prins, Michael Esposito.
Revise and Resubmit.

[4] Incarceration and psychiatric emergency department visits among Black Americans

Abhery Das, Michael Esposito, Hedwig Lee, Tim Bruckner
Revise and Resubmit.

[3] Sundown Towns and the Contemporary, Racialized Organization of Space

David Rigby, Sierra Clark, Michael H. Esposito*, Hedwig E. Lee, Tyson Brown.
Under review.

[2] Professional Football Players and Mortality Consequences Over Time.

Nadia Jackson-Fitch, John R. Warren, Gina Rumore, Michael Esposito, Douglas Hartmann
In preparation.

[1] Covenanted-Policing: How does historical spatial racism shape contemporary policing practices?

Christopher Robertson, Michael Esposito
In preparation.

Recent Presentations

from (2023-2024)

[15] Neighborhoods and Cognitive Function among Older Adults

National Academies of Sciences: Identifying Midlife Social Exposures that might Modify Risk for Cognitive Impairment Associated with Early Life Disadvantage
(August 2024; *Invited*)

[14] Differences in Police Contact, Trust, and Accountability by Race and Ethnicity: Findings from Focus Groups in St. Louis and Milwaukee

Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting
(September 2024)

[13] Fatal Police Violence and the Maintenance of Racialized Space

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec
(August 2024)

[12] The durable consequences of policy: lessons from redlining in designing for an equitable future

School of Science and Technology Policy Seminar, Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology
(July 2024; *Invited*)

[11] Fatal Police Violence and the Maintenance of Racialized Space

Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Columbus, OH
(April 2024)

[10] Restrictive Covenants and Police Territoriality

Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Columbus, OH

(April 2024)

[9] Historical redlining and contemporary racial disparities in neighborhood life expectancy

Institute for Population Research, The Ohio State University.
(February 2024; *Invited*)

[8] Historical redlining and contemporary racial disparities in neighborhood life expectancy

Donald J Bouge Demography Workshop, University of Chicago.
(October 2023; *Invited*)

[7] Challenges of Measuring Structural Racism: A Case Study of Redlining

Methods Matter Conference: Understanding and Measuring Race and Racism in Health Research Conference, University of Pennsylvania.
(September 2023; *Invited*)

[6] Legacies of Historical Racism

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Pennsylvania, PA.
(August 2023)

[5] Political Determinants of Health: The Case of Policing

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Pennsylvania, PA.
(August 2023)

[4] Sundown Towns and the Contemporary, Racialized Organization of Space

Population Association of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
(April 2023)

[3] Historical redlining and contemporary racial disparities in neighborhood life expectancy

CDHA Demography Seminar, University of Wisconsin.
(April 2023; *Invited*)

[2] The Past Present, and Future of Racial Health Disparities in the United States

Uncovering Inequality Symposium, Columbia University.
(March 2023; *Invited*)

[1] Historical redlining and contemporary racial disparities in neighborhood life expectancy

Duke Population Research Seminar, Duke University.
(February 2023; *Invited*)

Teaching

Sociology of Health and Illness

University of Minnesota, Spring 2024.

Social Statistics

University of Minnesota, Fall 2023.

Sick Society

Washington University in St. Louis, Spring 2022 + 2023.

Statistics for Sociology

Washington University in St. Louis, Fall 2021 + 2022.

Introduction To Racial And Ethnic Health Disparities In The United States.

University of Washington, Summer 2018.

Fellowships & Grants

Life Course Cognability: A Mixed Methods Study of The Place-Based Determinants of Late-Age Cognitive Health Outcomes (Co-PI)

PIs: Jessica Finlay; Michael Esposito *University of Minnesota Life Course Center Pilot Grant (2023-2024)*

The Relationship Between State Violence, Trust in Government, and Vaccine Uptake (Co-PI)

PIs: Caitlin McMurtry; Michael Esposito; Matthew Gabel; Darrell Hudson; *Washington University Transdisciplinary Institute in Applied Data Sciences Seed Grant (2023-2024)*

The St. Louis Policy Initiative: Segregation, Public Health, and Environmental Policy (Co-PI)

PIs: Michael Esposito, Matthew Gabel, Elizabeth Korver-Glenn, Scott Krummenacher, Andrew Reeves; *Washington University Incubator for Transdisciplinary Futures (2022-2025).*

Trust and Public Health Incubator (Co-PI)

PIs: David Carter; Michael Esposito; Matthew Gabel; Jimin Ding; Mark Huffman *Washington University Incubator for Transdisciplinary Futures (2022-2025).*

Estimating the impact of the school-to-prison pipeline on adolescent health: racialized, spatial disparities in policing, school discipline, substance use, and mental illness (Co-PI)

PI: Seth Prins, Columbia University; *NIH (2024-2028).*

DNA methylation in context: Racial inequities in social adversity and vulnerability to the health impact of air pollution (Co-PI)

PI: Margaret Hicken, University of Michigan; *NIH (2021-2026).*

Examining racial segregation and underlying mechanisms related to VCID and incident stroke in the REGARDS study (Co-PI)

PI: Natalie Colabianchi, University of Michigan; *NINDS (2022-2026).*

LRP Health Disparities Award

NIH National Institute on Minority Health (2019-2021).

Dissertation Fellowship

UW Graduate Opportunities and Minority Achievement Program (2017-2018).

NICHD Training Fellowship

University of Washington Center for Demography and Ecology (2015-2017).

Editorial Service

Demography (deputy editor)

2025 - now.

Social Forces (editorial board)

2023 - now.

Socius (editorial board)

2021 - 2024

Professional- Affiliations

Population Association of America; American Sociological Association; Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science; Association of Black Sociologist; The Institute in Critical Quantitative, Computational, and Mixed Methodologies.

Skills

R; Git; ~~La~~TeX; RMarkdown