Rebecca A. Johnson

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Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor (Computational Social Science), McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University
(August 2022-)

- **Affiliate**, Massive Data Institute (MDI)
- **Affiliate**, Department of Sociology

Assistant Professor, Program in Quantitative Social Science, Dartmouth College
(July 2020-June 2022)

- **Affiliate**, Department of Sociology
- **Faculty Associate**, Dartmouth Consortium on Race, Migration, and Sexuality (RMS)

Public Policy Roles/Affiliations

- **Affiliate**, American Bar Foundation (September 2021-)
- **Academic Affiliate, Office of Evaluation Sciences**, U.S. General Services Administration, (Fellow: October 2019-July 2020; Academic affiliate July 2020-)
- **Special Sworn Status**, U.S. Census Bureau, (March 2020-)
- **Data Science Fellow, The Lab @ DC**, DC's Executive Office of the Mayor, (June 2019-)
- **Data Science for Social Good Summer Fellow**, **University of Chicago** (June 2018-August 2018)
- **Mathematica/Social Security Administration Disability Research Consortium Summer Research Fellow** (June 2015-August 2015)
- **Pre-Doctoral Fellow, NIH Department of Bioethics** (September 2012-August 2014)

Education

Ph.D., Demography, Social Policy, and Sociology, Princeton University (Sep 2014-June 2020)

- **Dissertation**: Zero-Sum Rights: Student Needs, Parental Intervention, and Hidden Rationing in K-12 Education. Defended May 2020.

- **Committee:** Dalton Conley (chair), Brandon Stewart, Sara McLanahan, and Paul Starr

- **General examinations:** Demography; Law and Inequality; Medical Sociology

B.A. with Honors, Psychology (minors: Economics; Religious studies), M.A. (Modern Religious Thought, Ethics and Philosophy), Stanford University, 2012

Honors, Grants, & Awards

- **External:**

  - **2022-2024:** National Academy of Education (NAEd)/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship Program ($70,000)

  - **2021:** Department of Labor (DOL) Summer Data Challenge on Equity and Underserved Communities ($21,844)

  - **2021**: Time Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences (TESS) Special Competition for Young Investigators Grant (study of algorithmic fairness in K-12 schooling)

  - **2020-2021**: Faculty Scholar, American Bar Foundation/JPB Foundation Access to Justice Initiative ($74,000)

  - **2019-2020; 2020-2021**: Interpersonnel Act Agreement, General Services Administration (GSA) Office of Evaluation Sciences

  - **2020-2022:** Co-PI, National Science Foundation Smart and Connected Communities Grant, Just Connect Us: A Community-Oriented Civil Justice Data Commons ($150,000; Award #1952067)

  - **2020-2023:** Data Science Consultant, National Science Foundation, Removing Barriers to Recovery: Community Partnering for Innovative Solutions to the Opioid Crisis ($27,000 sub-allocation; Award #2017068)

  - **2019**: Invited Participant, NSF-sponsored workshop on Ethics in Data Science Pedagogy

  - **2019**: Invited Participant, NSF-sponsored workshop on Data Science and Access to Civil Justice

  - **2015**: NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

  - **2013**: Young Scholar in Research Ethics, German Research and Education Ministry

- **Internal (Dartmouth; Princeton)**

  - **2021:** Dartmouth Neukom Institute for Computational Science CompX Award ($17,000)

  - **2021:** Dartmouth Center for Social Impact (DCSI) Course Development Award ($1,000)

  - **Princeton grants**: Overdeck Education Innovation Fund ($3,000); Lawrence S. Rockefeller Graduate Prize Fellowship, Center for Human Values ($\sim$ $36,000); Center for Health and Wellbeing U.S. Health Policy Research Award ($\sim$ $5,000; 2 $\times$); Research in Experimental Social Science (PRESS) Research Award ($\sim$ $ 500); Center for the Study of Social Organization (CSSO) Research Award ($\sim$ $2000)

  - **Princeton awards**: Marion Levy Fellow in Social Policy; Marvin Bressler Graduate Student Teaching Award (for teaching in undergraduate programming and quantitative methods); Ethics of Artificial Intelligence Professional Development Cohort, Center for Information and Technology Policy

Peer-reviewed Publications (summarized on Google Scholar)

Forthcoming 25. Zhang, Simone and **Rebecca A. Johnson.** "Hierarchies in the Decentralized Welfare State." *American Sociological Review.*

24. Kappes, Heather, Mattie, Toma, Rekha Balu, Russ Burnett, Nuole Chen, **Rebecca A. Johnson**, Jessica Leight, Saad Omer, Elana Safran, Mary Steffel, Kris-Stella Trump, David Yokum, Pompa Debroy. "Lessons for COVID-19 Vaccination from Eight Federal Government Direct Communication Evaluations." Forthcoming at *Behavioral Science and Policy*

23. Debroy, Pompa, Rekha Balu, Russ Burnett, **Rebecca A. Johnson**, Heather Kappes, Joseph M. Wallace, Vincent C. Marconi, and Russell Burnett. "A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial of a Modified Vaccination Clinical Reminder for Primary Care Providers." Forthcoming at *Health Psychology.*

2022 22. Johnson, Rebecca A., and Simone Zhang. "What is the Bureaucratic Counterfactual? Categorical versus Algorithmic Prioritization in US Social Policy." In *2022 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency*, pp. 1671-1682. 2022. Link: https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3531146.3533223

21. Johnson, Rebecca A.*, Ramina Sotoudeh*, and Dalton Conley. "Polygenic Scores for Plasticity: A New Tool for Studying Gene-Environment Interplay." *Demography.* Link: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35553650/

  - *Equal first authorship

2021 20. Lundberg, Ian, **Johnson, Rebecca A.**, and Brandon Stewart. "What is your estimand? Defining the target quantity connects statistical evidence to theory." *American Sociological Review.* Link: https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/00031224211004187

19. Zhang, Simone, **Rebecca A. Johnson**, John Novembre, Edward Freeland, and Dalton Conley. "Public attitudes toward genetic risk scoring in medicine and beyond." *Social Science and Medicine.* Link: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0277953621001283

2020 18. Johnson, Rebecca A. and Tanina Rostain. "Tool for Surveillance or Spotlight on Inequality? Big Data and the Law." *Annual Review of Law and Social Sciences.* Link: https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev-lawsocsci-061020-050543

2019 17. Ye, Teng, **Johnson, Rebecca A.**, Fu, Samantha, Copeny, Jerica, Donnelly, Bridgit, Freeman, Alex, Lima, Mirian, Walsh, Joe and Rayid Ghani. 2019. "Using Machine Learning to Help Vulnerable Tenants in New York City." In official proceedings of ACM SIGCAS Conference on Computing and Sustainable Societies (COMPASS) (COMPASS '19).

2018 16. Conley, Dalton, **Johnson, Rebecca A.**, Domingue, Ben, Dawes, Christopher, Boardman, Jason, and Mark Siegal "A sibling method for identifying vQTLs". *PloS One* 13(4).

2017 15. Stites, Shana, **Johnson, Rebecca A.**, Harkins, Kristin, Sankar, Pamela Xie, Dawei and Jason Karlawish. "Identifiable Characteristics and Potentially Malleable Beliefs Predict Stigmatizing Attributions Toward Persons With Alzheimer's Disease Dementia: Results of a Survey of the U.S. General Public." *Health Communication* 33(3): 264-273

2016   14. Johnson, Rebecca A., Annette Rid, Ezekiel Emanuel, and David Wendler. "Risks of Phase I Research with Healthy Participants: A Systematic Review." *Clinical Trials* 13(2): 149-160

13. Sisti, Dominic A., Segal, Andrea G., Siegel, Andrew M., **Johnson, Rebecca A.**, and John Gunderson. "Diagnosing, Disclosing, and Documenting Borderline Personality Disorder: A Survey of Psychiatrists' Practices." *Journal of Personality Disorders* 30: 848-56.

12. Stites, Shana D., **Rebecca A. Johnson**, Kristin Harkins, Pamela Sankar, Dawei Xie, and Jason Karlawish. "Identifiable Characteristics and Potentially Malleable Beliefs Predict Stigmatizing Attributions Toward Persons With Alzheimer's Disease Dementia: Results of a Survey of the US General Public." *Health Communication*: 1-10

11. Wendler, David and **Rebecca A. Johnson**. "When Clinical Care is like Research: The Need for Review and Consent." *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* 37(3): 193-209.

2015   10. Johnson, Rebecca A., Kristin Harkins, Mark Cary, Pamela Sankar, and Jason Karlawish. "The relative contributions of disease label and disease prognosis to Alzheimer's stigma: A vignette-based experiment." *Social Science and Medicine* 143: 117-127.

9. Johnson, Rebecca A. and David Wendler. "Challenging the Sanctity of 'Donorism': Tissue Providers as Payment-worthy Contributors" *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal* 25: 291-333.

8. Sisti, Dominic and **Rebecca A. Johnson**. "Revision and Representation: The Controversial Case of DSM-5." *Public Affairs Quarterly*

7. Johnson, Rebecca A., Jonathan M. Lukens, Jonathan W. Kole, and Dominic A. Sisti. "Views about Personal Responsibility for Alcohol Addiction and Evaluations of Naltrexone." *Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy* 10: 10-23.

2014   6. Johnson, Rebecca A., Govind Persad, and Dominic Sisti. "The Tarasoff Rule: The Implications of Inter-State Variation & Gaps in Professional Training." *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law* 42 (4): 469-77.

5. Johnson, Rebecca A., Marion Danis, and Chris Hafner-Eaton. "U.S. State Variation in Autism Insurance Mandates: Balancing Access and Fairness." *Autism* (Autism and Society special theme issue).

4. Yeager, David S., Rebecca A. Johnson, Brian J. Spitzer, Kali Trzesniewksi, and Carol S. Dweck. 2014. "The Far-Reaching Effects of Believing People Can Change: Implicit Theories of Personality Shape Stress, Health, and Achievement during Adolescence." *Journal of Social and Personality Psychology.*

3. Johnson, Rebecca A., Lisa Block, and Marion Danis. "Optimizing the Involvement of Language Interpreters during the Clinical Encounter." *Journal of General Internal Medicine.* 29(2): 276-78.

2013   2. Johnson, Rebecca A., Marna Barrett, and Dominic Sisti. "The Ethical Boundaries of Patient and Advocate Influence on DSM-5." *Harvard Review of Psychiatry* 21(6): 334-44.

2012   1. Yeager, David S., Matthew J. Bundick, and **Rebecca Johnson**. "The Role of Future Work Goal Motives in Adolescent Identity Development: A Longitudinal Mixed-Methods Investigation." *Contemporary Educational Psychology* 37 (3): 206-17.

Revise and Resubmit

Hatzimasoura, Chrysanthi. **Rebecca A. Johnson**, Kevin H. Wilson, Robert P. Holman, Ryan T. Moore, David Yokum. "Equitable Diversion within the 911 system: A Field Experiment on Improving Care." Revise and Resubmit at *Nature Medicine*.

Working papers or under review

Education

Johnson, Rebecca A., Michael DiDomenico (government co-author), Rekha Balu (government co-author), Mary Clair Turner (government co-author). "Navigating to Opportunity? A Field Experiment of Placing Navigators in Public Housing."

- Pre-analysis plan
- Presented at: APPAM 2020; PAA 2021; ASA 2021

Johnson, Rebecca A. and Vicky Mei (government co-author). "Technology and Educational Triage: Pre and Post-COVID-19 Evidence from a Large-Scale Messaging Corpus."

- Pre-analysis plan
- Presented at: PAA 2020; Sociology of Education Association Meeting 2021; ASA 2022

Johnson, Rebecca A. "The Unequal Distribution of Discretion: Parent Monitoring and Rationing in K-12 Education."

- Presented at: ASA 2017

Distributive justice

Johnson, Rebecca A., Heather B. Kappes, Crystal Hall, Simone Zhang, Elizabeth Bell, Miles Williams. "How Local Discretion Shapes Racial and Gender Inequality: The Case of Small Business Relief Funding"

- Pre-analysis plan

Policy Reports

2021   Who Receives Access to Small Business Relief? A Simulation-Based Approach. Office of Evaluation Sciences Report (Collaboration with the federal Small Business Administration and three local economic development departments).

Does Family Outreach Increase Engagement with Community-based Organizations and Improve School Attendance? An RCT. The Lab @ DC (Collaboration with DC's Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants).

- Pre-analysis plan
- Policy report

Leveraging Training and Technology to Improve Parent Engagement: An RCT. The Lab @ DC (Collaboration with DC's Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education and an education technology firm).

- Pre-analysis plan
- Policy report

Conference Talks (selected)

- 2022: Sociology of education association; PAA; ASA

- 2021: ASA (Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility Causes and Consequences of Educational Inequality session); PAA (session on simulation and machine learning in demography; session on inequality in the transition to adulthood); Sociology of Education Association meeting

- 2020: APPAM (session on "Nudging Whom?"); Sociology of Education Association meeting; PAA (session on innovative approaches to childhood inequality); Law and Society Association; Advances with Field Experiments (virtual flash poster)

- 2019: APPAM (session on big data and housing inequality; Session on Machine Learning); PAA (session on big data and demography; session on inequality and sexual victimization); Northeastern Information Ethics Roundtable; Integrating Genetics and Social Science

- 2018: ASA; NBER Economics of Education Meeting; PAA (session on genetics in social science research)

Teaching

- Course developor/Instructor of record: Modern Statistical Computing (QSS20)

  - Developed new undergraduate course for QSS core curriculum covering Python for "big data" social science research

  - Course website: https://rebeccajohnson88.github.io/qss20/docs/index.html

  - Course GitHub repo: https://github.com/rebeccajohnson88/qss20_slides_activities

  - Topics covered: data manipulation with pandas; exact and fuzzy/probabilistic matching; regular expressions; basic text analysis (sentiment analysis; topic modeling; named entity recognition); acquiring data via APIs; acquiring data via web scraping; basic data manipulation with SQL; LaTeX/Beamer

  - Connections between computational social science and public policy: featured in *Dartmouth News* for student work on project that led to Department of Labor grant on equity and guestworker rights

- Teaching Assistant

  - "Sociological Research Methods"(undergraduate statistics). Fall 2015. Assistant in Instruction for Professor Margaret Frye, Princeton University

  - "Sociology Statistical Programming and Math Camp." One-week 20-hour course. Summer 2016. Primary Instructor. Supervised by Professor Brandon Stewart, Princeton University. Course website.

  - "Advanced Social Statistics" (graduate statistics). Spring 2017. Assistant in Instruction for Professor Brandon Stewart, Princeton University. Example resources: mixture models and the E-M algorithm; binary model diagnostics and k-fold cross validation

  - "Technology and Society." Spring 2017. Assistant in Instruction for Dr. Lauren Senesac.

Academic Service

- **Ad-hoc Reviewer Bioethics:** *Journal of Ethics and Mental Health; AJOB Empirical Bioethics; Journal of Law, Medicine, and Ethics; Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*

- **Ad-hoc Reviewer Social Science/Policy:** *Science Advances; Sociology of Education; Sociological Methods and Research; Demography; Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes; Journal of Behavioral Public Administration; Social Science and Medicine: Social Epidemiology*

- **To the Profession:**

  - 2022: Selection Committee for ASA Sociology of Education Section James Coleman Best Paper Award
  - 2022: Selection Committee for ASA Sociology of Law best graduate student paper award
  - 2022: Selection Committee for ASA Mathematical Sociology best graduate student paper award
  - 2022: Discussant, ASA Paper Session on Sociology of Education
  - 2021: Roundtable presider, Sociology of Law Section Roundtable on Civil Justice and Inequality.
  - 2020: Panel organizer, "Nudging Whom? How Targeting Help to Different Student Populations Impacts Inequality in Postsecondary Attainment?," APPAM 2020 Fall Research Conference
  - Interview Panelist/Hiring Committee. DC Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) Senior Data Scientist search.

- **Dartmouth**

  - 2021-2022: QSS Assistant Professor in Race and Racism Search Committee
  - 2020: QSS Postdoctoral Scholar Selection Committee
  - 2020 -2022: Program in Quantitative Social Science Steering Committee
  - **Undergraduate students mentored:**
    1. Shengrou (Rosy) Zhong (Winter and Spring 2021 UGAR Undergraduate Research Scholar)
    2. Jack Lauer (Winter and Spring 2021 UGAR Undergraduate Research Scholar)
    3. Rijul Garg
    4. Katherine Christie
    5. Yuchuan Ma
    6. Cameron Guage
    7. Grant Anapolle
    8. George Gerber (presidential scholar)
    9. Julia Hermans (presidential scholar)
    10. Molly McQuoid (presidential scholar)
    11. Bess Neiblum (Winter 2022 UGAR Undergraduate Research Scholar)
    12. Kevin Le (Winter 2022 UGAR Undergraduate Research Scholar)
    13. Dara Casey (Spring 2022 UGAR Undergraduate Research Scholar)
    14. Reilly Olinger (Senior thesis 2021-2022)

Technical Skills

- **Programming:** Python (advanced); SQL (Redshift; Postgres) (advanced); R (advanced); Unix (Bash) (intermediate); Javascript (basic); genetic data analysis tools (`plink`, `gcta`)(advanced)

- **Other:** Qualtrics and Mechanical Turk for web-based experiments; git/Github; AWS

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