

Seleeke Flingai, PhD, MPA

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Education

Princeton University, School of Public and International Affairs

MPA, Domestic Policy,
Certificate in Urban Policy and
Planning
May 2018

University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine

PhD, Cell and Molecular
Biology,
Certificate in Public Health
May 2016

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

SB, Brain and Cognitive
Sciences
June 2011

Skills

Project scoping
Research design and evaluation
Policy analysis
Descriptive analyses
Data manipulation and
modeling
Regression techniques
Clustering and classification
techniques

Programming and Software

R (tidyverse, ggplot2, sp/sf,
leaflet, e1701, tm, caret;
specific coursework in machine
learning, econometrics, and
advanced social statistics)
HTML/CSS/JavaScript
git (Git Bash, GitHub)
ArcGIS
Datawrapper
Microsoft Excel

Professional Experience

Senior Associate, PolicyLink, Oakland, CA (November 2022–Present)

- Leads research engagements with community partners as part of the National Equity Atlas team
- Develops rigorous analyses, reports, and other data tools to support community-led struggles for greater equity

Senior Research Associate, Vera Institute of Justice, Brooklyn, NY (January 2022–Present)

Research Associate II (May 2022–January 2022)

- Leads racial disparities quantitative research and data transparency efforts for three site partners as a member of the Reshaping Prosecution program
- Developed data pipelines in R (with some work in SQL) to clean and analyze prosecution administrative datasets; used Datawrapper, R, and Microsoft Excel for data visualization
- Authored public-facing written material and provided oral testimony for a public hearing to share policy-relevant research findings and advance local and national policy objectives

Research Analyst II, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Boston, MA

(June 2018–April 2020)

- Managed and led the data analysis work for over a half dozen research efforts, with a primary focus on social vulnerability, racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities, and residential displacement in the Metro Boston region
- Developed statistical clustering and classification models in R to classify housing submarkets and climate-vulnerable communities using multiple data sources, including administrative datasets; collaborated with web development team to produce online interactive maps
- Presented findings and authored policy memos and reports, research briefs, literature reviews, and technical documentation to disseminate research to various internal and external audiences

Public Health Intern, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Boston, MA

(June 2017–August 2017; January 2018)

- Authored three (3) policy memos and reports evaluating the regional planning agency's role in addressing various racial and socioeconomic health disparities in the Metro Boston region.

Project Consultant - Monitoring and Evaluation, Energize the Chain, Philadelphia, PA

(July 2014–October 2015)

- Developed a comprehensive evaluation framework to monitor and evaluate the health, economic, and social impacts of expanded vaccine access in Ghana.
- Communicated with global health and development stakeholders such as GAVI, USAID, and the Ghana Ministry of Health to determine how to implement the activities prescribed in the evaluation framework

Academic Research Experience

Ph.D. Candidate, University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA (August 2011–May 2016)

- *Dissertation: "Engineered DNA-Mediated Antibody Gene Transfer for Prophylaxis Against Infectious Diseases"* (Thesis advisor: David B. Weiner, Ph.D.)
- Developed an antibody delivery research program that led to multiple publications and the acquisition of grant funding totaling over \$10 million

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Academic Research Experience (continued)

- Led the Penn contingent of a multi-institution research collaboration funded by DARPA with the aim of developing novel antibody-based protective drugs against infectious diseases
- Lead author of 3 peer-reviewed research publications (co-author on 7 others)

Selected Publications and Projects

- 2022 **Flingai S**, Sahaf M, Battle N, Castaneda S. [An Analysis of Racial Disparities in Police Traffic Stops in Suffolk County, Massachusetts, from 2010 to 2019](#). Vera Institute of Justice, June 27. (Press: [The Boston Globe](#), [WCVB ABC 5 Boston](#))
- 2022 **Flingai S**. ["Racism in traffic stops is real, and the data backs it up"](#) Op-Ed. *Boston Herald*, February 25.
- 2021 Hodge J, **Flingai S**. [What Happened When Boston Stopped Prosecuting Nonviolent Crimes](#). Think Justice Blog, Vera Institute of Justice. April 2.
- 2021 **Flingai S**. [Framework for Residential Displacement Research at MAPC: Definitions and Approaches](#). MAPC MetroCommon 2050, Metropolitan Area Planning Council. March 4.
- 2021 [MAPC Housing Submarkets](#). (Lead Researcher). MAPC MetroCommon 2050, Metropolitan Area Planning Council. February 25.
- 2020 [The Diversity Deficit: Municipal Employees in Metro Boston](#). (Lead Researcher and Author). MAPC MetroCommon 2050, Metropolitan Area Planning Council. July 13. (Press: [The Boston Globe](#))
- 2019 [Climate Vulnerability in Greater Boston](#). (Lead Researcher and Co-Lead Author). MAPC MetroCommon 2050, Metropolitan Area Planning Council. December 10.
- 2018 **Flingai S**. [The Missegregation of the Twin Cities: How the Minnesota Land Use Planning Act of 1976 Failed to Stably Integrate the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area](#). *Journal of Public and International Affairs* 2018: 152-68.
- 2018 Blumauer C, Brown A, Castaldi M, **Flingai S**, Hernandez P, Mavronis S, Pierce K, Stanley-Becker T, Stockdale J. [Advancing Bail Reform in Maryland: Progress and Possibilities](#). School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University. February 27.

Selected Conference Presentations

- 2022 Remaking Justice: From Incremental Reforms to Real Accountability. Rage, Reckoning, and Remedy: Global Meeting on Law and Society. Lisbon, Portugal. (Session Chair).
- 2019 Mapping Climate Vulnerability in Greater Boston. National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership 2019 Meeting. Milwaukee, WI (oral presentation).
- 2019 Housing, Economic Hardship, and Maternal Depression: A Subgroup Analysis. Population Association of America 2019 Annual Meeting. Austin, TX (poster presentation).

Invited Talks

- 2021 Speaker, "Mapping Climate Vulnerability: A Regional, People-Centered Approach," University of Pennsylvania 2021 Summer Institute: GIS & Public Health, June 18.
- 2021 Speaker, "Gathering and managing data: The how and why," Middlesex County District Attorney's Office Data Summit, June 4.
- 2021 Panelist, "Transformative Justice," Princeton School of Public and International Affairs Students and Alumni of Color (SAOC) Symposium 2021. April 10.

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Invited Talks (continued)

- 2020 Speaker, "The Diversity Deficit: Municipal Employees in Metro Boston," MAPC MetroCommon 2050 Research Release, July 14.
- 2019 Speaker, "Social Vulnerability to Climate Change in Greater Boston," MAPC MetroCommon 2050 Speaker Series - Clean Energy Forum, December 11.
- 2019 Speaker, "Assessing Residential Displacement in Greater Boston: Initial Steps," MAPC presentation for the Healthy Neighborhood Study Research Consortium, May 17.
- 2018 Speaker, "MetroWest Health Foundation Trends and Projections," MAPC presentation for the MetroWest Health Foundation, November 16.
- 2018 Speaker, "MAPC Creative Economy Indicator Data Project," MAPC presentation for the Massachusetts Cultural Data Working Group, August 23.
- 2015 Guest Lecturer, "Light at the End of the Tunnel? The Path Toward a Dengue Vaccine." Drexel University, April 2.
- 2013 Panelist, "Dom Time" television program with Dom Giordano: panel discussion on vaccine safety and their importance in America's public health. August 5.

Teaching Positions

Lecturer, "Race and Public Health," graduate course, University of Pennsylvania Master of Public Health program (Fall 2022)
Penn Summer Biomedical Research Academy, Journal Club Leader (high school level), Philadelphia, PA (2016)
Science Education Academy, White Rock Baptist Church (elementary school level), Philadelphia, PA (2013–2014)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology STEM Summer Institute: Probability and Statistics (summer course, advanced junior high level), Cambridge, MA (2011)
Morse Elementary School Math and Reading Tutor, Cambridge, MA (2009)

Service to the Profession and Leadership

Member, Justice Counts prosecution subcommittee (2021)
Member, Black Verans Council, Vera Institute of Justice (2021)
Member, Equity Team, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (2019–2020)
Co-Chair, Students and Alumni of Color, Princeton University School of Public and International Affairs (2017–2018)
Student Co-Representative, Domestic Policy field, Princeton University Policy Student Government (2016–2017)
President, Ernest E. Just Biomedical Society, University of Pennsylvania (2015–2016)
Founding Board Member, Penn Science Diplomacy Group, University of Pennsylvania (2015–2016)
Webmaster, Penn Graduate Women in Science and Engineering, University of Pennsylvania (2015–2016)
Vice President, Ernest E. Just Biomedical Society, University of Pennsylvania (2014–2015)
Outreach Chair, Ernest E. Just Biomedical Society, University of Pennsylvania (2013–2014)

Honors and Awards

- 2016 American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy Underrepresented Minority Travel Award
- 2015 PEGS 2015 Student Fellowship Award
- 2009-2010 Massachusetts Institute of Technology Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences Honorable Mention for Outstanding Research
- 2007-2011 Canadian Pacific U.S. Scholarship