

# ESRA BURAK HO

Department of Sociology and Social Policy, Lingnan University  
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## EMPLOYMENT

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**Lingnan University**, Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2014 – present.

## EDUCATION

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### **Stanford University**

PhD in Sociology, June 2014

Dissertation: "Is the Sky the Limit? Three Papers Examining American Attitudes Toward Extremely High Pay"

Reading Committee: David B. Grusky (chair), Michael J. Rosenfeld, Shelley J. Correll

Defense Committee: David B. Grusky (chair), Michael J. Rosenfeld, Shelley J. Correll, Cristobal Young, Karen S. Cook, Jesper B. Sørensen

### **Cornell University**, College of Arts and Sciences, Ithaca, NY

B.A. in Sociology and Economics, May 2006

Concentration in Inequality

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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Income Inequality, Social Stratification, Distributive Justice, Executive Compensation, Attitudes

## PUBLICATIONS

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2013      **Burak, Esra.** "The Social Maximum: American Attitudes toward Extremely High Incomes." *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* 31: 97 – 114.

2011      Smeeding, Timothy M., Jeffrey P. Thompson, Asaf Levanon and **Esra Burak.** "Poverty and Income Inequality in the Early Stages of the Great Recession" in *The Great Recession* by Grusky, David B., Bruce Western and Christopher Wimer (Eds.). Russell Sage.

- 2011 Wolff, Edward N., Lindsay Owens and **Esra Burak**. "How Much Wealth Was Destroyed in the Great Recession?" in *The Great Recession* by Grusky, David B., Bruce Western and Christopher Wimer (Eds.) Russell Sage.
- 2011 **Burak, Esra**. "Spotlight on Family Independence Initiative" *Pathways Magazine* Summer, Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality, Stanford University.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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Huerta-Wong, Enrique, **Esra Burak**, and David B. Grusky "Is Mexico the Limiting Case? Social Mobility in the New Gilded Age" in *Social Mobility in Mexico* by Velez, Roberto, Raymundo Campos, and Juan Enrique Huerta-Wong (Eds.). Centre for Studies Espinosa Yglesias.

## HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

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- 2016 Research Grants Council Early Career Scheme Grant (\$576,360 HKD)  
Project title: Attitudes toward Top Incomes in Hong Kong, Mainland China, and the United States
- 2011-2014 National Poverty Fellow, Stanford University Center on Poverty and Inequality
- 2012-2013 Stanford University Department of Political Science Laboratory for the Study of American Values (with Michael Tomz and Paul M. Sniderman), YouGov Survey Experiment Research Support
- 2012 Stanford Research Experience Program (REP), Survey Experiment Research Support
- 2012 Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality Small Grant Award
- 2012 Stanford Graduate Research Opportunity (GRO) (research funds)
- 2011-2012 Stanford Sociology Department Fellowship
- 2010 Barbara and Sandy Dornbusch Award for the Contribution to the Understanding of a Social Problem. Awarded by the Department of Sociology, Stanford University
- 2009 Sociology Research Opportunity (SRO) Award (research funds). Awarded by the Department of Sociology, Stanford University
- 2008 C. Wright Mills Scholar of poverty and inequality. Awarded by the Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality
- 2007-2008 Stanford Sociology Department Fellowship

## TEACHING

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### *Instructor:*

Lingnan University, Department of Sociology and Social Policy  
SOC4102            Public Opinion and Opinion Survey  
SOC2101            Introduction to Sociology  
SOC3101            Sociological Research Methods  
SOC324/4324        Work and Occupations

### *Teaching Assistant:*

Stanford University, Department of Sociology  
"Junior/Senior Writing Seminar" with Szonja Szelényi  
"Changing American Family" with Michael J. Rosenfeld  
"Sex and Love in Modern Society" with Paula England  
Cornell University, Department of Education  
"The Art of Teaching" with Betty Heath-Camp

### *Other:*

Preparing Future Professors Program Participant, Stanford University  
Course Reader and Grader, "Racial Identity" with Monica McDermott  
Assistant Teacher at South Hill Elementary School (5th grade) Ithaca, NY.

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

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- 2015            (Invited) Session Chair, Panel: Gender. Burma/Myanmar: Taking Transition to the Next Stage. Lingnan University.
- 2015            (Invited) "The Effects of Performance, Effort, and Employment Context on Fair Pay at the Top" International Symposium: Managing Rapid Social and Economic Changes: International Responses and Urban Governance. Guangzhou. People's Republic of China.
- 2015            "Is The Sky The Limit? Fair Executive Pay as Performance Rises" American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago IL, U.S.A.
- 2015            (Invited) "Is The Sky The Limit? Fair Executive Pay as Performance Rises" International Symposium on Globalization, Changing Labour

Market and Social Mobility: Challenges for Education and Urban Governance. Hong Kong.

- 2014 "The Functional Form of Fair Pay at Very High Levels of Pay"  
Hong Kong Sociological Association Annual Meeting
- 2013 "The Role of Performance, Effort, and Societal Contribution in  
Determining Fair CEO Pay in the United States" Research Committee  
on Social Stratification (RC 28) University of Queensland, Brisbane  
Australia.
- 2013 (*invited*) "Is \$5 Million Just too Much? The Legitimacy of Executive  
Pay in the United States in an Era of Rising Inequality" Department of  
Sociology, The University of Hong Kong.
- 2012 "American Attitudes toward Extremely High Incomes" Foothill  
College, California.
- 2011 "Income, Inequality, and Poverty over the Early Stages of the Great  
Recession" (co-authors Timothy Smeeding, Jeffrey Thompson and Asaf  
Levanon) Stanford University, California, Department of Sociology  
open house.
- 2010 "The Social Maximum: Do Americans Believe There Should Be a  
Ceiling to Earnings?" Gothenburg, Sweden. ISA World Congress of  
Sociology, Research Committee on Social Stratification (RC 28).
- 2010 "Housing and Wealth during the Great Recession" (co-authors Edward  
Wolff and Lindsay Owens) Stanford University, California, Recession  
Task Force authors' meeting.
- 2009 "The Social Maximum: Do Americans Believe There Should Be a  
Ceiling to Earnings?" Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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American Sociological Association

(*Section membership: Inequality, Poverty and Mobility*)

International Sociological Association

(*Section membership: Research Committee on Social Stratification (RC28)*)

Hong Kong Sociological Association

Asia Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies, Research Team on Education and Youth Transition (*Associate member*)

Reviewer for: *American Sociological Review*; *Social Forces*; *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*.