

ESRA BURAK HO

Department of Sociology and Social Policy, Lingnan University
Room WYL201, 2/F, Dorothy Y.L. Wong Building
Tuen Mun, N.T., Hong Kong
esraburakho@LN.edu.hk

EMPLOYMENT

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

EDUCATION

Stanford University

PhD in Sociology, 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, 2006

Concentration in Inequality

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

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

PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 **Burak, Esra.** "Is The Sky the Limit? Fair Executive Pay as Performance Rises." *Social Problems*. 65: 211- 230.
- *Featured in Work in Progress: sociology on the economy, work and inequality*

- 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 FOR PUBLICATION

Burak, Esra and Erin M. Cumberworth. Explaining Attitudes toward Executive Pay: Evidence from a Survey Experiment (*under review*).

Burak, Esra. Attribution of Executive Pay: How Ordinary People Make Sense of Extremely High Pay (*under review*).

Burak, Esra and Jin Jiang. What Moves Evaluations of Executive Pay? Evidence from Survey Experiments in Mainland China and Hong Kong.

Burak, Esra, Katherine Weisshaar, and María Inés Martínez Echagüe. Attitudes toward a Gender Gap in CEO Pay.

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

- 2018 Outstanding Teaching Award for Early Career Faculty, Lingnan University
- 2018 Faculty Research Grant, Lingnan University (with Katherine Weisshaar) (HK \$49,140)
- 2016 Research Grants Council Early Career Scheme Grant (HK \$576,360)
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

Instructor:

Lingnan University, Department of Sociology and Social Policy

SOC3318	Economic Change and Social Stratification
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

- 2017 “Attitudes toward Executive Pay: Evidence from a Survey Experiment.” Research Committee on Social Stratification (RC 28) at Columbia University, New York U.S.A.
- 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

American Sociological Association

(Section membership: Inequality, Poverty and Mobility)

International Sociological Association

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

Hong Kong Sociological Association

(Secretary of the 10th Council)

Lingnan Centre for Social Policy and Social Change *(Centre fellow)*

Society for the Study of Social Problems

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

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