

MALEAH FEKETE

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CURRENT POSITION

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Irsay Institute, Indiana University

EDUCATION

Harvard University

- M.A. Sociology, 2020
- Secondary Field. Computational Science and Engineering, 2021
- Ph.D. Sociology, 2024

University of California, Berkeley

- B.A. Interdisciplinary Studies, Minor in German, 2017
- High Distinction in General Scholarship, Highest Honors in Interdisciplinary Studies*

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Mental Health, Gender, Epigenetics, Social Networks, Culture

PUBLICATIONS

Rosenfield, Sarah, Dawne Mouzon, and **Maleah Fekete**. Forthcoming. “Gender and Mental Health.” *The Sociological Study of Mental Health: Theories, Contexts and Systems* (4th ed.).

Small, Mario, Kristina Brant, and **Maleah Fekete**. 2024. “The Avoidance of Strong Ties.” *American Sociological Review*.

Fekete, Maleah. 2024. “Updating A Social Cognitive Model of PTSD: Implications for Cross-Group PTSD Research.” *Current Psychology*.

Fekete, Maleah. 2022. “Confluent Love and the Evolution of Ideal Intimacy: Romance Reading in 1980 and 2016.” *Journal of Popular Romance Studies*.

- Marsden, Peter V., **Maleah Fekete**, and Derek S. Baum. 2021. "Contributions of the General Social Survey to Egocentric Network Research." in *Personal Networks: Classic Readings and New Directions*.
- Small, Mario and **Maleah Fekete**. 2019. "Social Networks." In "State of the Union: The Poverty and Inequality Report," ed. Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality, special issue, *Pathways Magazine*.
- Fekete, Maleah**. 2016. "Social Differences in Taste: Investigating Romance Reading." *2016 SURF Conference Proceedings Journal*.

UNDER REVIEW

- Fekete, Maleah** and Gabriele Ciciurkaite. Revise and Resubmit. "The Role of Stress Proliferation in Linking Childhood Stressors to Accelerated Biological Aging." *Social Science and Medicine*.
- Fekete, Maleah**. Revise and Resubmit. "Beyond 'Deaths of Despair': Narratives of Distress and Risk-Taking Behaviors Among Rural Working-Class Men." *Rural Sociology*.
- Fekete, Maleah**, Tianyao Qu, Siyun Peng, Brea Perry, and Adam Roth. Under Review. "Later Life Social Interactions in Community Spaces."
- Fekete, Maleah**. Under Review. "Classed Closeness: How Social Class Shapes the Meaning and Use of Close Ties."
- Ciciurkaite, Gabriele, Byungkyu Lee, Siyun Peng, **Maleah Fekete**, Colter Mitchell, and Brea Perry. Under Review. "Psychosocial Stressors Across the Life Course, Accelerated Biological Aging, and Morbidities."
- Qu, Tianyao, **Maleah Fekete**, Siyun Peng, Brea Perry, and Adam Roth. Under Review. "Hidden Gendered Costs: Cognitive Effort in Real-Time Interactions."
- Finkelstein-Fox, Lucy, Isabelle L. Miranda, Lorraine C. Drapek, Annika Toivonen, Sharon L. Borber, Areej R. El-Jawahri, Christina Psaros, Maria Lopes, Jenna Flaherty, **Maleah Fekete**, and Elyse R. Park. Under Review. "Initial Development of a Brief Mind-Body Sexual Well-Being Program for Female Colorectal and Anal Cancer Survivors: A Mixed Methods Study of Survivor Needs and Treatment Preferences."
- Serota, Michael, Alexander Sarch, **Maleah Fekete**, and Daniel McCarthy. Under Review. "Criminal Minds and Community Views."

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

2025 Genomics for Social Scientists - Epigenomics Workshop, Travel Grant
 2021 Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Graduate Student
 Affiliate Dissertation Research Grant
 2021 GSAS Emergency Support Initiative, Academic Progress Award
 2020 Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Travel Grant
 2019 Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Research Grant
 2019 Graduate Student Travel Funding, Department of Sociology, Harvard
 University
 2017 Institute of International Studies Junior Scholarship, University of
 California, Berkeley
 2016-2017 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, University of California,
 Berkeley

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

2025 American Sociological Association, Living with Intersecting Inequalities: Accessing
 Health, Services, Education, and Housing in Rural USA - Regular Session
 2025 American Sociological Association, New Applications of Social Network Analysis -
 Regular Session
 2024 Culture and Social Analysis Workshop at Harvard University, Research Presenta-
 tion
 2023 American Sociological Association, Health and Well-Being - Regular Session
 2021 27th International Conference of Europeanists, Culture and Health Policy Paper
 Panel
 2021 Harvard Institute for Applied Computational Science, CSE Secondary Field Pre-
 sentation
 2020 Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Friday Lunch Seminar
 2019 American Sociological Association, Gender and Sexuality Roundtable
 2019 Personal Networks: Frontiers of Ego-Network Analysis Conference at Northwestern
 University
 2019 Culture and Social Analysis Workshop at Harvard University
 2016 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Conference at University of California,
 Berkeley

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Indiana University, Irsay Institute, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, (August 2024 –
 Present)

- NIA projects on social networks, stress, and biological aging.

Loyola Marymount University, Criminal Justice Reform Lab, Research Fellow, (September 2023 – July 2025)

- National survey on public attitudes toward mens rea.

Massachusetts General Hospital, Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatric Oncology, Research Intern, (Summer 2023 – July 2024)

- Natural language processing-based study of sexual health discussions in oncology care.

Harvard University, Research Assistant, (Summer 2017 – Summer 2022)

- Research assistant to Gary King, Michele Lamont, Peter Marsden, and Mario Small. Performed social network, survey data, and computational analysis.

Facebook Inc., Social Science Researcher, (Summer 2021)

- Longitudinal survey of user survivorship and sentiment. Received return offer.

University of California, Berkeley, Research Assistant, (Fall 2015 – Spring 2016)

- Research assistant to Niklaus Lagier and Winnie Wong.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND ADVISING

Harvard University, Department of Sociology, *Senior Thesis Advisor*

2023-24: Devine Bauman, To Be Titled Project on Race Differences in Plus-Sized Women's Understanding of Their Body Image Development

2022-23: Margaret Comentale, Pandora's Pill Box: Gendered ADHD Patienthood, Past and Present

Harvard University, Harvard College Writing Program, *Preceptor in Expository Writing*

2022 EXPOS 20: The Social Construction of Gender

Harvard University, Department of Sociology, *Teaching Fellow*

2021 SOC 1127: Media and Society

2020 SOC 1067: Sociology of Law

2020 SOC 1025: Introduction to the Sociology of Organizations

2019 SOC 1046: Death by Design, Health Inequalities from a Global Perspective

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND INTERNSHIPS

2023	Lee Kum Sheung Center for Health and Happiness Summer Internship, Massachusetts General Hospital Dept. of Psychiatric Oncology, <i>Research Intern</i>
2021	Pennsylvania State University, <i>Visiting Scholar</i>
2021	Facebook, Inc., <i>Research Scientist Intern (return offer)</i>
2020-2021	Council for European Studies, <i>Member</i>
2019-2020	American Sociological Association Section on Comparative-Historical Sociology, <i>Member</i>
2018-2024	Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University, <i>Graduate Student Affiliate</i>
2018-2024	Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, <i>Graduate Student Affiliate</i>
2017-Present	American Sociological Association, <i>Member</i>

UNIVERSITY SERVICES

2023-2024	Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Student Center, <i>Public Service Fellow</i>
2023	Harvard Sociology Department, <i>Senior Faculty Search Committee Student Representative</i>
2018, 2023	National Collegiate Research Conference, <i>Judge</i>
2022-2023	Harvard LGBTQ@Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, <i>Volunteer</i>
2020-2021	Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Student Center, <i>Athletics Fellow</i>
2017-2020	Culture and Social Analysis Workshop, Harvard University, <i>Co-Coordinator</i>

REFERENCES

Peter Marsden, peter_marsden@harvard.edu
 Brea Perry, blperry@iu.edu
 Mario Small, mario.small@columbia.edu

SKILLS

Advanced survey data analysis using R, STATA.
 Advanced computational data analysis using PYTHON.
 Advanced epigenetic data analysis.
 Proficient in German.