

## Chloe Silverman

Center for Science, Technology & Society  
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### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Department of Politics and Center for STS, Drexel University (2013-present)

Director, Center for Science, Technology, & Society (July 2018-present)

Associate Professor, English Department, Penn State University (2012-2013)

Assistant Professor, Science, Technology and Society Program, Penn State University (2006-2012)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Science & Technology Studies, Cornell University (Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2004-2006)

### EDUCATION

#### University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

**PhD**, Department of History and Sociology of Science, August 2004.

**Dissertation Topic: "A Disorder of Affect: Love, Tragedy, Biomedicine, and Citizenship in American Autism Research, 1943-2003"**

Primary Dissertation Advisor: Prof. M. Susan Lindee; Secondary Advisors: Prof. Robert Kohler (University of Pennsylvania), and Prof. Joseph Dumit, (MIT).

**M.A.** in History and Sociology of Science, May 2001.

#### Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, USA.

**B.A. with Departmental Honors** in Multidisciplinary Program in Science, Technology and Society, May 1999.

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

With Michael Yudell and Amy Carroll-Scott, National Science Foundation CCE-STEM Award, "Cultivating Ethical Cultures of Autism Research via Community Engagement." (Award Amount: \$399,635). Grant No. 1737149.

National Science Foundation Scholar's Award, "A Social Scientific Study of How Stakeholders Produce Knowledge About Colony Collapse Disorder." August 2011-July 2014. (Award Amount: \$166,286). Grant No. 1058933.

With Paul Shattuck and Collette Sosnowy. Organization for Autism Research (OAR). 2015-2016. "Measuring What Matters: Understanding the Meaning of Outcomes for Young Adults on the Autism Spectrum." (Award Amount: \$25,000).

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Department of Science and Technology Studies (S&TS), Cornell University, August 2004-2006.

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, September 2000-August 2004.

## BOOK

*Understanding Autism: Parents, Doctors, and the History of a Disorder.* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2011).

Reviewed in: *American Journal of Sociology*, *BioSocieties*, *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, *Choice*, *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*, *Disability Studies Quarterly*, *Ethos*, *History of the Human Sciences*, *H-Net Reviews*, *London Review of Books*, *The Oral History Review*, *Nature*, *Psychoanalysis and History*, *Science*, *Science as Culture*, and *Sociology of Health and Illness*.

## ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

Sosnowy, C., **Silverman**, C., Shattuck, P. 2018. "Parents' and Young Adults' Perspectives on Transition Outcomes for Young Adults." *Autism* 22 (1): 29-39.

Sosnowy, C., **Silverman**, C., Shattuck, P., and Garfield, T. 2018. "Setbacks and Successes: How Young Adults on the Autism Spectrum Seek Friendship." *Autism in Adulthood* 1 (1) <https://doi.org/10.1089/aut.2018.0009>

"'Birdwatching and Baby-Watching': Niko and Elisabeth Tinbergen's Ethological Approach to Autism." *History of Psychiatry*. 21, 2 (2010): 176-189.

"Fieldwork on Another Planet: Social Science Perspectives on the Autism Spectrum Disorders." *BioSocieties*. 3, 3 (2008): 325-341.

"Understanding Autism: Parents and Pediatricians in Historical Perspective." (with Jeffrey Brosco). *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*. 161, 4 (2007): 392-398.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

"Autism, Nerds, and Insecurity," Invited submission for Eburne, Jonathan, and Schreier, Benjamin, Eds., *The Year's Work in Nerds, Wonks, and Neocons*. (Indiana University Press, 2017).

"Desperate and Rational: Of Love, Biomedicine, and Experimental Community," in Sunder Rajan, Kaushik ed. *Lively Capital: Biotechnologies, Ethics and Governance in Global Markets*. (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2012). 354-384.

Entries on "Leo Kanner," "Asperger's Syndrome," and "Autism Society of America," in Susan Burch, ed. *Encyclopedia of American Disability History*. New York: Facts on File, 2009.

"Brains, Pedigrees and Promises: Lessons from the Politics of Autism Genetics," in Gibbon, Sahra and Novas, Carlos, eds. *Biosocialities, Genetics and the Social Sciences: Making Biologies and Identities*. (London: Routledge, 2008): 38-55.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2020. “When the City Comes to Life,” in “Lockdown Texts,” *BioSocieties*, <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41292-020-00199-0>.

2019. “Commentary on Jaswal and Akhtar (2018): What Do Autistic People Want from Autism Research?,” *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 42 e111. Invited Commentary.

2018. “All of the Other Brains.” Invited Contribution to Books Forum on Fernando Vidal and Francisco Ortega, *Being Brains: Making the Cerebral Subject*. In Somatosphere, <http://somatosphere.net/forumpost/all-of-the-other-brains> February 21, 2018.

2017. “From Paranoia to (Cautious) Partnership.” Essay Review of *Tracing Autism* by Des Fitzgerald. *BioSocieties* 12 (4): 641-645. November 2017.

Essay Review of Silberman, Steve. 2015. *Neurotribes: the Legacy of Autism and the Future of Neurodiversity*. New York: Penguin. *Anthropological Quarterly*. 80 no. 3 (2015): 1111-1121.

“Robot Zombies and Therapeutic Playmates,” *Trans-Scripts: An Interdisciplinary Online Journal in the Social Sciences and Humanities at UC Irvine*. (June 2014).

“Disease in History, History in Disease: An interview with Charles Rosenberg.” *BioSocieties*, 8 no. 3 (2013): 360-368.

“How Do You Spot a Healthy Honey Bee?” *LIMN* no. 3. (July 2013). Online at <http://limn.it/how-do-you-spot-a-healthy-honey-bee/>

“Autism and Genetics.” (with Martha Herbert). *GeneWatch*. 16, 1 (2003).

Review of O’Connor, Candace. *Hope and Healing: St. Louis Children’s Hospital: the First 125 Years*. St. Louis Children’s Hospital, 2006. *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*. 161 (2007): 620-621.

“The Hope, Hype and Promise of Biotechnology.” Essay review of Charles, D. 2001. *Lords of the Harvest: Biotech, Big Money and the Future of Food*. Cambridge, MA: Perseus, and Robbins-Roth, C. 2002. *From Alchemy to IPO: The Business of Biotechnology*. Cambridge, MA: Perseus. In *Journal of the Chemical Heritage Foundation*, (2002).

“Molecular Stories.” 2001. Essay Review of Gottweis, H. 1998. *Governing Molecules: the Discursive Politics of Genetic Engineering in Europe and the United States*. Cambridge: MIT Press. In *Science as Culture*, 10, 2 (2001): 255-263.

## IN PROGRESS

With Michael Yudell. “The Place of Ethics in Autism Research.” For submission to *Hastings Center Report*.

“The Apian Pharmacopeia.” For submission to *Nature and Culture*.

## INVITED TALKS

**Columbia University, Invitational Workshop on “Autism, Genetics, and Identity: Exploring the Complexities of Autism Genetics Research.” June 12, 2019.** “Autism Research, Stakeholder Engagement, and the Ethics of Study Design.”

With Michael Yudell. **NSF, PIs Meeting for the NSF CCE-STEM Program. Washington, DC, September 2019.** “Cultivating Cultures of Ethical Autism Research.”

**University of Exeter. December 11, 2017.** “What is an Ethical Autism Research Culture?”

**University of North Texas. April 2017.** “Keeping Honey Bees: On the Making of Bee Health.”

**Drexel University, BEES Department Seminar. March 2017.** “Keeping Honey Bees: On the Making of Bee Health.”

**University of Chicago, Department of Anthropology, “Medicine and Its Objects” Series. March 10, 2016.** Invited Workshop Presentation: “Honey Bee Health and Ordinary Illnesses.”

**Drexel University, October 1, 2014.**  
Dean’s Seminar: “Honey Bee Health, Uncertain Illnesses, and Medical Care.”

**Vassar College, May 5, 2013.**  
Invited Talk: “Love is a Technique: Autism Research and Science Studies.”

**Center for American Literary Studies Symposium on “Nerds, Wonks, and Neocons,” Penn State University, April 29, 2013.**  
Invited Talk: “Autism, Security, and the Unruliness of Special Interests.”

**University of Michigan Disability Studies Initiative (UMInDS), March 2013.**  
Invited Roundtable Participant, Symposium on Neurodiversity and Autism.

**Pennsylvania Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (PARF) Annual Conference, September, 2012.**  
Invited Talk: “Disability Rights, Neurodiversity, and Rehabilitation: Finding Common Ground.”

**Institute for the Arts and Humanities “Robot Weekend,” Penn State University, University Park, PA. April 2012.**  
Invited Talk: “Robot Zombies and Therapeutic Playmates.”

**Critical Autism Studies Workshop, University of Ottawa, Canada. September 2010.**  
Invited Talk: “Autism’s Prosaic Technologies.”

**State University of New York, Stony Brook, NY, May 2010.**  
Invited Talk: “Parents Speak: Autism and the Ethics of Treatment.”

**Vital Politics III, London, UK, September 2009.**  
Keynote: “Parents Speak: Autism and the Ethics of Treatment.”

**Untangling Selfhood: The History and Experience of Alzheimer’s Disease. Penn State University, State College, PA. March 2007.** “Childhood, Parenthood, Love and Disability” (Discussant for “Unrecognized

States: Autism and the Many Republics of Consciousness” by Ralph Savarese as part of panel on “Cognitive Disability and Normalization”)

**Pennsylvania Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (PARF) Annual Conference, September, 2006.**  
Keynote: “Representing People With Disabilities.”

**The Hastings Center, Cold Spring, NY, July 2006.**  
Invited Talk: “Ethical Questions in Autism Treatment”

**Bioethics Society of Cornell, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006.**  
“Ethics and the Autism Spectrum: Neurodiversity, Treatment, and Accommodation.”

**BIOS Program, London School of Economics, June 2005.**  
“Social Studies of Autism Spectrum Disorders” (Workshop Presentation)

**Autism One 2004 Conference, Chicago, IL, May 2004.**  
“Medical Authority in American History: Notes Toward Possible Interventions.”

**Science, Technology and Society Program, Vassar College (Workshop Presentation), April, 2003.** “Parent Advocacy Groups in Autism Research: Partiality, Biosociality and Social Movements.”

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL, November 2019.** Paper: “Abandoned Apiaries.”

**American Public Health Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 2019.** Roundtable Presentation with Michael Yudell and Suzanne Grossman: “Producing Ethical Autism Research.”

**Society for Social Studies of Science, New Orleans, LA, September 2019.** Paper: “Species Panics.”

**Society for Social Studies of Science, Boston, MA, August 2017.** “The Apian Pharmacopeia.”

**Drexel University, STS Brown Bag Series, April 6, 2016.**  
Workshop Presentation: “Bioethical versus Biomedical Practice for Autism Spectrum Disorders.”

**American Anthropological Association, November 2014.** “Honey Bee Health, Uncertain Illnesses, and Medical Care.”

**Center for STS Works in Progress Series, November 2014.** “Domesticating Bees.”

**Roundtable on Social Science Approaches to Translational Medicine, Drexel University, March 2014.**  
“Managing Honey Bees and Beekeepers as a Case Study in Translational Medicine.”

**Drexel University, January 2013.**  
“Uncertain Illnesses and the Practical Implications of Care.”

**Center for Pollinator Research Symposium, Penn State University, University Park, PA, May 2012.**  
“Pollinator Health Problems as Contested Illnesses: A Social Study of Knowledge Production.”

**Society for Social Studies of Science, Cleveland, OH, Nov. 2011.**  
Participant: “Author Meets Critics Session on *The Autism Matrix* by Gil Eyal.”

**English Department, Penn State University, University Park, PA. October 2011.**

Invited Talk: "Autism, Love, and Labor."

**American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, PA, Dec. 2009.**

Paper: "Autism's Prosaic Technologies."

**Vital Politics III, London, UK, September 2009.**

Paper: "Making Neurodiversity Self-Evident," Contribution to Neuro Panel, "Neurodiversity as an Existential Value."

**Cheiron: the International Society for the History of Social and Behavioral Sciences, State College, PA, June 2009.**

Paper: "Partial and Whole Persons: Disability Studies and the History of the Behavioral Sciences," A Contribution to the Roundtable Discussion, "Disability Studies and the Human Sciences"

**American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, November 2007.**

Paper: "Making Autism a Chronic Illness."

**Society for Social Studies of Science, Montreal, Quebec, October 2007.**

Paper: "Changelings, Cousins, Aliens and the Search for Autism Genes."

**Society for Social Studies of Science, Vancouver, BC, November 2006.**

Panel Co-Organizer with Gabriella Coleman and Alex Choby: "Contested Illnesses: Ambivalence and Advocacy in the Age of Technology."

Paper: "Love is a Technique as Well as an Emotion: Parents as Experts in Autism Research."

**Science Studies Research Group, Cornell University. January 2006.**

"Desperate and Rational: Parents and Professionals in Autism Research."

**Autism and Representation: Writing, Cognition, and Disability (Hosted by the Society for Critical Exchange), Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, October 28-30, 2005.**

"From Disorders of Affect to Mindblindness: Framing the History of Autism Spectrum Disorders."

**Lively Politics: Biotechnologies, Ethics, and Governance in Global Markets, Irvine, CA, November 2004.**

"Interest Groups, Social Movements, or Corporations?: Strategies for Collective Action as Biological Citizens."

**Society for Social Studies of Science/EASST, Paris, France, August 2004.**

"Epidemiologists and Angry Moms: the Vaccine/Autism Controversy as Public Science,"

**"Clinical Trials and Tribulations" Workshop, MIT, January 2004.**

"Economies of Credibility and Hope in Clinical Trials for Autism Therapeutics."

**Society for Social Studies of Science, Atlanta, GA, October 2003.**

Panel Co-Organizer: "Biologies of Multiplicity: Lively Bodies, Life Histories and Livable Lives."

Paper: "Of Signs and Symptoms: Theorizing Variety in Mental Personhood for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." (Co-Presented with Jeanette Simmonds).

**Science Studies Research Group, Cornell STS, September, 2003.**

"Symbioses: Coevolution and Cooperation in Theory and Practice." (Joint Workshop Presentation with Jeanette Simmonds).

**“Vital Politics: Health, Medicine and Bioeconomics into the Twenty-First Century” Conference, London School of Economics and Political Science, September 2003.**

“Brains, Pedigrees, and Promises: the Material Politics of Autism Research.”

**Society for Social Studies of Science, Milwaukee, WI, November 2002.**

Panel Co-Organizer: “Biotechnology in the Public Sphere: Information, Advocacy and Critique.”

Paper: “Chronicity and Contestation: Biomedicine as Critique.”

**“Sex Norms/Sex Agents,” Center for Gender Studies, University of Chicago. May, 2001.**

“Genitals, Cells, and Other Biotechnical Things: Making Use of the Legal Subjects of Biology.”

**Society for Social Studies of Science/EASST, Vienna, Austria, September, 2000.**

“Ethical Pharmaceuticals?: Patent Medicines, Prescription Drugs, and the Social Mechanisms of Pharmaceutical Manufacture from the Turn of the Century.”

**University of Pennsylvania Ethnohistory Workshop, September 2000.**

“Mnemonic Devices”: Commentary on “Darwin’s Savage Mnemonics” by Cannon Schmitt.

**European Social Sciences History Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, April 2000.**

“Deciphering Sex and Fixing Gender: Technology and the Construction of Sex Chromosome Anomalies, 1950 to the Present.”

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**Associate Editor,** *BioSocieties*, April 2009-present.

**Editorial Board,** *BioSocieties*, September 2008-present.

**Participant.** Book manuscript workshop for Claire Decouteau, *The Western Disease: Contesting Autism in the Somali Diaspora*, Chicago, IL, February 2019.

**Panelist.** “Reviewing Mixed Methods Grants & Manuscripts Panel.” Writing Mixed Methods/Multi-Methods Grant Proposals Workshop, Drexel University, January 12, 2018.

**Co-Organizer (with Jennifer Singh and Martine Lappé) and Discussant. Panels on “Sensitizing Autism Spectrum Disorders.” Society for Social Studies of Science. Boston, MA. August 2017 (Upcoming).**

**Drexel University, April 2016. “Creature Comforts: the Balance of Human and Wildlife Co-Habitation.” Drexel Alumni Event. April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

Invited Talk: “Domesticating Bees: the Delicate Human-Honey Bee Relationship.”

**American Philosophical Society, January 28, 2016.**

Invited Talk (with Englewoods Ensemble): “The Plight of the Honey Bee.”

**Society for Social Studies of Science, Denver, CO, November 2016.**

Chair, Session on “Psychology of Science and Technology.”

**Presenter.** Huck Co-Hire Seminar. December 2011.

**Roundtable Participant. “Bad Futures” Film Festival, Penn State University, October 2010.**

Event sponsored by the Institute for the Arts and Humanities.

**Film Introduction. “Bad Futures” Film Festival, Penn State University, October 2010.**

Event sponsored by the Institute for the Arts and Humanities. Introduced *Code 46* (2003).

**Participant. “Inside the Scientist’s Studio.” Penn State University, January 2010.**

Interview series produced by the Women in the Sciences and Engineering Institute.

**“Bodies and Boundaries” Graduate Conference, Penn State University, University Park, PA. October 2009.** Closing Remarks.

**Roundtable Participant, “Understanding Autism: Childhood to Adulthood,” March 2009.**

Part of the WPSU TV Common Ground Lobby Talks series.

**Discussant, American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, November 2007.**

Panel on “Autism and Intersubjectivity Across Life-Worlds.”

**Participant, “Cognitive Science, Disability, and Selfhood: A Conversation with Novelist Richard Powers,” Penn State University, April 2007.**

**Participant, “Teaching the Self: Ways of Defining and Constituting ‘Personhood,’” Penn State University, April, 2007.**

Interdisciplinary Panel Discussion for Instructors

**Discussant, Society for Social Studies of Science, Vancouver, BC, November 2006.**

Panel on "The Silent Treatment – How patients, parents and practitioners are selectively silenced in mental health encounters."

**Young Scholar Conference, Cornell University, April 2006.**

Commentator for “Human Genomics as Identity Politics,” by Christine Hauskeller.

**Media Appearance.** Appeared in BBC “Horizon” documentary on Temple Grandin, Broadcast on BBC in 2006. (Filmed October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004, New York City).

**Invited Workshop Participant.** Mini-seminar on Autism and ADHD, Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholars Program, Columbia University. November 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

**Journal Referee**

*Sociology of Health and Illness, Social Studies of Science, BioSocieties, Cultural Anthropology, Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, Social Science & Medicine, Qualitative Sociology, Ethos, American Ethnologist, Insects, Public Culture, Science, Technology, and Human Values, History of the Human Sciences, Journal of Contemporary Ethnography, M-A-T (Medicine, Anthropology, Theory), American Journal of Sociology, Configurations, Social Problems, Social Epistemology, Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry, Policy Studies Journal, Perspectives in Biology and Medicine, Autism.*

**External Reviewer**

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (2013)

National Science Foundation (2011, 2012, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018)

University of Minnesota Press (2012)

University of Washington Press (2014, 2016)



Penn State University Press (2017)  
Israeli Science Foundation (2015)  
University of Chicago Press (2020)

Participant in NSF Panel, May 2018 and May 2019.

### **Dissertation and Thesis Committee Memberships (with Date of Graduation and Placement)**

Rachel Moran, Penn State University, History Department. “Bread and Butter Politics: Federal Policy on Fitness and Figure, 1880-1969.” (2013, University of North Texas)

Martine Lappé, University of California, San Francisco, Sociology Department. “Complexity and Cause: Genes, Environment, and “Enriched Risk” in Research on Autism Spectrum Disorders.” (2012, Postdoctoral Fellow at Columbia)

Katherine Johnson, Penn State University, Sociology Department. “Complex Reproduction: Gamete Donation in the Contemporary U.S.” (2012, Tulane University)

Sarah Birge, Penn State University, English Department. “Neurofictions: Narrative, Selfhood, and Cognitive Disability in Neuroscience and Contemporary Literature.” (2012, Rice University)

Jennifer Wagner, Penn State University, Anthropology Department. “Implications of DNA Ancestry Tests.” (2010, Geisinger Health System)

Jennifer Singh, University of California, San Francisco, Sociology Department. Member of Dissertation Committee, 2008-2010. “Autism Spectrum Disorders: Parents, Scientists, and the Interpretations of Genetic Knowledge.” (2010, Georgia Institute of Technology)

Chrystal Honsaker, Penn State University, Youth and Family Education. Member of M.A. Thesis Committee. “Review of the Literature of Animal-Assisted Interventions: Benefits of Service Dogs for Children with Autism.” (2009)

### **Other Advising**

Elina Lastro Niño, Penn State University, Entomology Department. Postdoctoral Co-Mentor. “Breeding Honey Bees: from Evolutionary and Functional Genomics to Sociology.” AFRI NIFA Fellowships Grant Program (2012-2013).