

Maria Ylcelis Rodriguez, MSW, PhD.

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Education

University of Washington, PhD Social Welfare August 2016

Dissertation: Foreclosure Counseling with Hispanic Households: Policy Assumptions in a Changing Demographic Landscape

Chairs: Jennifer Romich, PhD & Lynne Manzo, PhD

University of Pennsylvania, MSW Macro Social Work Practice June 2010

Alfred University, B.A. Clinical Counseling and Child Psychology December 2005

Academic Appointments

Silberman School of Social Work, Hunter College, City University of New York

Assistant Professor 2016-present

Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University

Faculty Associate September 2019-August 2020

CUNY Graduate Center

Doctoral Faculty January 2019-present

CUNY Institute for Demographic Research

Faculty Affiliate 2016-present

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Storer, H.L. & **Rodriguez, M.** (In Press). "The largest & most public discussion I've ever seen about domestic violence": Social Movements, Social Media, and Social Work. (Journal of Community Practice)

Wilson, A., Mahadevan, T., Villodas, M., **Rodriguez, M.Y.**, Billiard, A., & Cuddeback, G. (In Press). Tiny Homes are Huge for People with Mental Illnesses. (Research on Social Work Practice)

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2020). The National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program (NFMC) and Spanish-Speaking Immigrants: A Case Study. *Journal of Poverty*. DOI: 10.1080/10875549.2020.1731048

Rodriguez, M. Y., DePanfilis, D. & Lanier, P. (2019). Bridging the Gap: Social Work Insights for Ethical Algorithmic Decision-Making in Human Services. *IBM Journal of Research and Development*. 10.1147/JRD.2019.2934047.

Lanier, P., **Rodriguez, M.**, Verbiest, S., Bryant, K., Guan, T., & Zolotor, A. (2019). Preventing Infant Maltreatment with Predictive Analytics: Applying Ethical Principles to Evidence-Based Child Welfare Policy. *Journal of Family Violence*, 1-13.

Rodriguez, M. Y., & Storer, H. (2019). A computational social science perspective on qualitative data exploration: Using topic models for the descriptive analysis of social media data. *Journal of Technology in Human Services*, 1-32.

Storer, H. L., **Rodriguez, M.**, & Franklin, R. (2018). "Leaving Was a Process, Not an Event": The Lived Experience of Dating and Domestic Violence in 140 Characters. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, DOI:0886260518816325.

Rodriguez, M. Y., Ostrow, L., & Kemp, S. P. (2016). Scaling Up Social Problems: Strategies for Solving Social Work's Grand Challenges. *Research on Social Work Practice*, DOI: 1049731516658352.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

Rodriguez, M., & Shelton, J. (2019). Social media. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Social Work*. Oxford University Press. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199975839.013.1327>

Peer-Reviewed White Papers

Rodriguez, M. Y., De Candia, T. & Pree, L.. (2017, December) "Evaluating Predictive Algorithms for Racial Equity: A Case Study of the NYC Administration for Children's Services". White paper for the Workshop on Trustworthy Algorithmic Decision-Making, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA. [Link](#)

Other Peer Reviewed Publications

Rodriguez, Maria Y. (2014). "¿Podemos Darnos el Lujo del Sueño Americano? Can we afford the American Dream?" University of Minnesota: Hubert Project. <http://www.hubertproject.org/hubert-material/354/>

Publications Under Review

italics denote students

Than, N., Yoong, D., Windel, F., & Rodriguez, M.Y. What is the alt-right thinking? Insights from the Gab Social Media platform.

Rodriguez, M.Y., Bates, G., Hoyos-Torres, S., & Than, N. Protective Factors and Service Outcomes: Examining Alternative Applications of Predictive Analytics in Child Welfare. (Ethics of Data Science Conference)

Rodriguez, M.Y. A Spatial Analysis of Foreclosure in Washington State: The Importance of Demographics in Understanding the Foreclosure Crisis. (Demographic Research)

Rodriguez, M.Y. Can We Afford the American Dream? The Social Construction of Homeowners during the 2007 Foreclosure Crisis.(*Journal of Community Practice*)

Publications In Preparation

Rodriguez, M.Y. & DePanfilis, D. Towards a strengths-based predictive analytics model for child welfare-involved teens and young adults: Investigating protective factors with random forest machine learning models.

Rodriguez, M.Y. Wei, K., Bates, G. Defining Social Problems: Understanding Public Response to #NoBanNoWall and #UniteTheRight.

Rodriguez, M.Y. & Albrecht, K. Foreclosure and Crime: The Effect of Data Distortions on Housing Decisions.

Rodriguez, M.Y., Bates, G., Hoyos-Torres, S., & Lewis, M. Machine Learning: A New Hope for Causal Inference in Social Work Research?

Rodriguez, M.Y. Decision-making in Human Services: An Experiment

Rodriguez, M. Y., & Shelton, J. Incorporating Digital Organizing Tools into the Macro Classroom

Rodriguez, M. Y., Bates, G., Hoyos-Torres, S., & Storer, H.. Community Organizing in the Digital Age: An Exploratory Analysis of the 2017 #WomensMarch using Deep Neural Networks (DNNs)

Shelton, J. & **Rodriguez, M. Y.** #TrueColorsDay: Analyzing Social Media Participation in a Multi-Platform Advocacy Event

Bates, G., Hoyos-Torres, S., & **Rodriguez, M.Y.** #Youknowme: Examining Digital Narratives In a Discussion of Abortion on Twitter.

Professional Reports

Rodriguez, M.Y.(2015) WA State Foreclosures: Rates, Numbers, and Demographic Characteristics at the Zip Code Level, [Link](#). Produced for the Northwest Justice Project. Dissemination by HUD region IX.

Rodriguez, M.Y.(2015) WA State Foreclosures: Rates, Numbers, and Demographic Characteristics at the Neighborhood Level. Produced for the Northwest Justice Project.

Grants

Grants Funded

Funder: The President's Initiative for Faculty Innovations in Teaching and Technology (Hunter College/CUNY)

Project Title: Preparing Community Organizing students for their Digital Soapbox

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

Amount: \$5,300

Summer 2019

Funder: Administration for Children's Services (NYC).

Project Title: Building capacity to use predictive analytic modeling to inform key child welfare decisions

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

Amount: \$68,062

2017-2018

Funder: Russell Sage Foundation and The Sloane Foundation

Project Title: Sumer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS) Partner Site.

Role: Site Organizer

Amount: \$30,000

Summer 2018, Summer 2019

Grants Under Review

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Project Title: R25 - Short Course on Innovative Behavioral and Social Science Methods

Role: Consultant

Grants Not Funded

Funder: National Institutes of Health (Big Data to Knowledge Program (BD2K))

Project Title: #BlackLivesMatter: Understanding the effects of structural racism on health and well-being using Twitter

Application number: 1 SC2 GM127229-01

Applied: April 2017

Funder: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Project Title: Ending Teen Dating Violence: Integrating Technology and Infrastructure to Realize a Culture of Health

Application Number: 77391

Applied: October 2018

Presentations

Peer Reviewed Presentations

italics denote students

Rodriguez, M.Y., *Than, N., Yoong, D., _Windel, F.* (2020, July) Examining the flow of Disinformation in the Alt-Right: Towards intervention development. Paper presentation at the International Society for Political Psychology (ISPP). Berlin, Germany.

Nga, T., Rodriguez, M.Y., Yoong, D., Windel, F. (2020, June) Welcome to Gab'': Exploring Alt-Right Discourses via Structural Topic Model. Lightning talk presentation at the Digital Humanities Summer Institute. Victoria, BC.

Bates, G., Rodriguez, M.Y., Hoyos-Torres, S. (2020, April). Examining the Association of Hospital Proximity and Foreclosed Homes in Bronx County New York on Acute Myocardial Infarction (Heart Attack) Hospital Visits. Poster Presentation accepted at the Population Association of America. Washington, D.C. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

Rodriguez, M. Y., *Bates, G., Hoyos-Torres, S., & Storer, H.* (2020, January) Community Organizing in the Digital Age: An Exploratory Analysis of the 2017 #WomensMarch using Deep Neural Networks (DNNs). Paper Presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, D.C.

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2019, January) "Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency: Decision-Making Algorithms and the Provision of Human Services". Paper Presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, San Francisco, CA.

Shelton, J. & **Rodriguez, M. Y.** (2019, January) "#TrueColorsDay: Analyzing Social Media Participation in a Multi-Platform Advocacy Event". Paper Presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, San Francisco, CA.

Rodriguez, M. Y., & Shelton, J. (2018, November) "Incorporating Digital Organizing Tools into the Macro Classroom: A Hands-on Approach". Interactive Workshop at the Council for Social Work Education APM, Orlando, FL.

Chor, B., De Candia, T., DePanfilis, D., **Rodriguez, M.Y.,** Shrof, R., Weiner, D., & Yaroni, A. (2018, January) "Opening the Black Box: Ethically Responsible Use of Big Data". PreConference workshop at the Society for Social Work Research. Washington, D.C.

Rodriguez, M. Y., Storer, H., Mienko, J. (2018, January) "The Perils and Promises of Unsupervised Machine Learning in Social Work Research: Comparing Human Coders to Computer-Led Topic Modeling". Paper presentation at the Society for Social Work Research, Washington D.C.

Storer, H., **Rodriguez, M. Y.,** & Bagneris, J. (2017, October) "#WhyIStayed: A Micro-Primer for Understanding the Barriers for Leaving Abusive Relationships". Paper presentation at the Council for Social Work Education APM, Dallas, TX.

Rodriguez, M.Y.(2017, April). "A Spatial Analysis of Foreclosure in Washington State: The Importance of Nativity in Understanding the Foreclosure Crisis". Poster presentation at the Population Association of America. Chicago, IL.

Storer-Smith, H.,**Rodriguez, M. Y.,** Mienko, J., & Franklin, R. (2017, January) "#WhyIStayed & #WhyILeft; Mapping the Landscape of a Social Movement". Paper presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Baker-Castro, A. & **Rodriguez, M. Y.** (2015, November) From Epistemology to Public Policy: Checks and Balances on the Use of Big Data in Policy Analysis. Paper presentation at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference, Miami, FL

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2015, April) Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling in Low-Income Latino Communities: Household Trajectories in Seattle, WA. Paper presentation at the Urban Affairs Association Conference, Miami, FL.

Rodriguez, M. Y.(2015, January) "The National Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007: Using Supervised Machine Learning to Test Policy Process Theory in a Social Welfare Context". Poster presentation at the Society for Social Work and Research, New Orleans, LA.

Rodriguez, M. Y.(2013, April) "The National Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007: Inter-coalitional Conflict and the use of Evidence in Federal Housing Policy Development". Poster presentation Translating Social Justice through Public Scholarship: Policy and Practice for Social Change Research Symposium, University of Washington School of Social Work Seattle, WA.

Invited Talks and Presentations

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2020, April). "Applied Ethics in Computer Science: Contextualizing Data". Lecture presented at Ethics in Computer Science Speaker Series, Computer Science and Engineering. Universty at Buffalo (SUNY). Buffalo, NY.

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2020, February). Invited guest panelist, "Emerging Technologies and the Future of Social Work". Columbia University School of Social Work, New York, NY.

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2020, February). "A Computational Social Science Perspective on Qualitative Data Exploration: The Implications of Descriptive Text Analysis for Demographic Research". Paper presentation at the University of Pennsylvania's Social Impact, Innovation, and Justice Speaker Series, Philadelphia, PA.

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2019, December). "Protective Factors and Service Outcomes: Examining Applications of Machine Learning in Child Welfare". Paper presentation at Applied Math Department, Hunter College, New York, NY.

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2019, November). "A Computational Social Science Perspective on Qualitative Data Exploration: The Implications of Descriptive Text Analysis for Demographic Research". Paper Presentation at Columbia University School of Social Work's Critical Media and Digital Studies Workshop. New York, NY.

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2018, July). "A Computational Social Science Perspective on Qualitative Data Exploration: The Implications of Descriptive Text Analysis for Demographic Research". Paper presentation at Pew Research Center. Washington, D.C.

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2018, May). "Topic Modeling for Qualitative Data Exploration: The Implications of Quantitative Text Analysis for Health Practitioners". Paper presentation at Weill Cornell Medicine Research Methodology Conference, Division of Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluative Sciences Research. New York, NY.

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2018, April). "A Computational Social Science Perspective on Qualitative Data Exploration: Using Topic Models for the Descriptive Analysis of Text". Paper presentation at the University of North Carolina's School of Social Work "Tate Talks" series. Chapel, Hill, NC.

Rodriguez, M. Y., De Candia, T. & Pree, L. (2017, December). "Evaluating Predictive Algorithms for Racial Equity: A Case Study of the NYC Administration for Children's Services". Paper presentation at the Workshop on Trustworthy Algorithmic Decision-Making, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA. [Peer Reviewed]

Storer, H.L. & **Rodriguez, M.Y.** (2017, November). "The most public discussion I have ever seen about Domestic Violence": The potential, limitations, and utility of Twitter data in Domestic Violence research". Tulane University's School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine's Research Seminar Series. New Orleans, LA.

Rodriguez, M. Y. (2017, April). "Why Social Work Needs Big Data". Paper presentation at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice "Control Societies" speaker series. Philadelphia, PA. [link](#)

Courses Taught

Course Title: Social Welfare Policy & Services (SW 701)

Course Description: Generalist intro course for all 1st year MSW students, review historical development of U.S. Social Policy from English Poor Laws thru PRWORA.

Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019

Course Title: Community Organizing I (SW 741)

Course Description: Substantive intro course for 1st year community organizing students surveying general U.S. community organizing history, major theories, and frameworks. Led major course redesign in Fall 2018.

Fall 2018, Fall 2019

Course Title: Community Organizing II (SW 742)

Course Description: Substantive course for 1st year community organizing students applying foundational community organizing skills (e.g. Public Speaking, Power Analysis, Digital Organizing). Led major course re-design in Fall 2017.

Spring 2017

Dissertation Exam Committees

Glennara Elizabeth Bates-Pappas, MSW (Chair) Scheduled Proposal Defense date: December 2019

Sarah Bussey, LCSW Dissertation Proposal Defense Date: May 21st, 2019

Professional Experience

Cultures of Resistance *Web and Outreach Team*, (Philadelphia PA):

Coordinated volunteer opportunities with organizational network members, updated social justice-oriented film screenings on network website 2011 - 2013

Training for Change *Consultant*, (Philadelphia PA):

Developed and facilitated trainings/workshops with organizations and groups engaging in social justice through direct action and community organizing. Completed 200 hour Super-Training for Social Action Trainers 2010 - 2012

Women's Community Revitalization Project *Community Organizer*, (Philadelphia, PA): Engaged community residents in a grassroots campaign to convert vacant, city-owned land into an affordable community land trust in North Philadelphia, attended community meetings with elected officials, facilitated inter-organizational coalition building 2009 - 2011

Episcopal Community Services *Vocational Advantage Program Intern*, (Philadelphia PA):

Responsible for implementing grant-funded program utilizing vocational assessment measures and Cognitive Therapy techniques to facilitate gainful employment initiatives with homeless women. 2008 - 2009

Bethesda Project (Our Brother's Place) *Life Skills Counselor*, (Philadelphia PA): Provided ongoing case management for 10-20 men in large, urban homeless shelter for single men. 2007-2009

Service to Academic Institutions

University Service

School Service

Chair, Faculty Development Committee, Silberman School of Social Work 2017-2018

Member, COPD Committee, Silberman School of Social Work 2016-present

Member, Policy Faculty Committee, Silberman School of Social Work 2016-present

Silberman Representative, NYC Latino Social Work Coalition 2016-2017

Professional and Civic Activities

<i>Editorial Board Member, Journal of Community Practice</i>	2018-present
<i>Editorial Board Member, Journal of Technology in Human Services</i>	2019-present
<i>Editorial Board Member, Journal of Policy Practice and Research</i>	2019-present
<i>Ad Hoc Reviewer, Housing Policy Debate</i>	2017-present
<i>Ad Hoc Reviewer, Journal of the Society for Social Work Research</i>	2017-present
<i>Ad Hoc Reviewer, Journal of Community Practice</i>	2015-present
<i>President, Board of Directors, Casino Free Philadelphia</i>	2011-2012
<i>Member, Organizing and Advocacy Committee, Casino Free Philadelphia</i>	2010-2011

Professional Affiliations

<i>Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society Faculty Affiliate</i>	2019-present
<i>CUNY Institute for Demographic Research-Faculty Affiliate</i>	2016-present
<i>Population Association of America</i>	2016-present
<i>Association for Public Policy and Management</i>	2015-present
<i>Urban Affairs Association</i>	2015-present
<i>Society for Social Work and Research</i>	2015-present
<i>Association for Community Organization and Social Administration</i>	2014-present

Honors and Awards

UW Graduate School Presidential Dissertation Fellowship	Spring 2016
UW GO-MAP Dissertation Fellowship	2015-2016
Population Reference Bureau, Policy Communication Fellowship	Summer 2015
Hubert Project Fellowship, University of Minnesota	Spring 2015
Institute of Translational Health Sciences (NIH TL1)	Summer 2014
University of Washington, West Coast Poverty Center Social Policy Research Fellowship	2012-2014
University of Washington, Graduate School Fund for Excellence and Innovation Fellowship	2011-2012

Specialized Trainings and Certifications

Summer Institute in Computation Social Science [SICSS] (https://compsocialscience.github.io/summer-institute/2017/)	Summer 2017
Center for the Study of Ecology and Demography (University of Washington) Demographic Methods Certificate	June 2016