

The [Sexuality | Relationships | Gender] Research Collective's



Fall 2026
Job Market Book



Jackie Cosse, LMSW | they/she



I am a first-generation Latine PhD candidate at NYU's Silver School of Social Work and a licensed social worker with 15 years of gender-based violence work spanning advocacy, organizing, and seven years of clinical practice. Grounded in Black abolition feminist traditions and queer crip epistemologies, my research interrogates how carceral logics shape institutional responses to harm, tracing how coercion and control operate across systems to criminalize women, queer, and transgender/gender-expansive survivors of color. My dissertation examines how policies framed as protective, such as mandatory arrest, often function instead as mechanisms of racialized, gendered, and sexuality-based punishment.

Across my broader scholarship, I draw on quantitative, qualitative, and critical theoretical approaches to: (1) render visible the experiences of multiplicatively marginalized communities systematically excluded from research; (2) situate those experiences within the historical and structural conditions from which they emerge; and (3) reimagine systems of care and accountability beyond punishment. My published work includes first-authors in *Schizophrenia Bulletin* and *SSM—Qualitative Research in Health* (the latter recognized by APHA's Walter J. Lear Outstanding Student Research Award), and co-authored publications in journals such as *Nature Human Behaviour*. In both research and praxis, my work ultimately aims to center the lived wisdom of those whose experiences the academy has largely written out of the knowledge base.

Dissertation Title: *A Model of Intra-Systemic Coercion and Control: Race, Gender, Sexuality, and the Criminalization of Survival Under Mandatory IPV Arrest*

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jackie-cosse>

Web page: jackiecosse.com



Cecil McGhee, PhD (they/he)



I study how queer and trans/gender diverse (TGD) people flourish and care for themselves in the face of sociopolitical and ecological constraint. Operating from a critical-ideological research paradigm, I see research as a tool to disrupt the status quo and aim to empower queer/TGD people in their own lives. I have three, intertwining lines of work: 1) wellness and community care; 2) humor, joy, and thriving; and 3) identity development and embodiment. I explore each of these facets of queer/TGD life through a combination of qualitative, quantitative, intervention-focused, and community-based approaches.

Dissertation title: *The Trans Humor Project: Exploring How Trans/gender Diverse People Use Humor in Their Everyday Lives*

Email: cmmcghee@umich.edu

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/c-mcghee



Rose Velez-Miggins, LGMFT, MEd, RT | she/her



Rose Velez-Miggins is an executive leader, organizational development consultant, clinician, sexuality educator, and PhD student (ABD) in Human Sexuality Studies at Widener University. Her research focuses on provider preparedness to address sexuality and sexual health among people with disabilities, with particular emphasis on strengths-based, pleasure-inclusive approaches to care. She brings more than 15 years of experience leading operations, developing programs, and driving organizational growth across healthcare, government, human services, and private industry. Her expertise spans executive strategy, financial oversight, organizational development, and workforce education, with a demonstrated ability to build high-performing teams, strengthen complex systems, and develop sustainable programs and enterprises. Her interdisciplinary background in marriage and family therapy, recreational therapy, and human sexuality brings a distinctive clinical and human-centered perspective to her leadership. A self-described MacGyver, Rose thrives on solving complicated problems, finding creative solutions, and turning ambitious ideas into reality. She is also the founder of the National Council on Relationships and Disability, Inc. (NCORAD), where she works to advance sexual health education, provider preparedness, and disability-inclusive care. Open to full-time, part-time, fractional leadership, consulting, and project-based opportunities. Would love to find work where she can build programs, improve how organizations operate, develop people, or create educational initiatives. Must be in D.C. Metro area, ideally remote.

Email: rose@ncorad.org

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/rosevelez>



Kelsey G Reeder, LCSW-R, MPhil | they/she



Kelsey G Reeder is a clinical social worker, advanced practice PhD candidate, and teaching fellow at Columbia University School of Social Work, and senior teaching consultant in Columbia's Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL). They are also completing a CTL Fellowship in Critical AI Literacy and Teaching, examining access, environmental justice, and the implications of emerging technologies for learning, critical thinking, and knowledge production. Kelsey has worked in therapeutic foster care, school social work, and community mental health. With post-graduate training from the Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy, they maintain a therapy and supervision practice focused on relationship challenges, family conflict, religious trauma, and the expansiveness of queer and trans experience. Kelsey spent six years providing clinical supervision to Lifeline counselors supporting LGBTQ+ youth experiencing crisis or suicidality.

Their research aims to subvert social work education and practice through queer irreverence and mess, examining care, social work, and institutional power through queer and trans, abolitionist, disability justice, and anti-colonial lenses. Kelsey's work explores how community-based and institutional forms of care contribute to or disrupt collective queer and trans liberation, and how social work is taught and practiced in ways that position social workers as sites of social control within their own communities. As a recipient of Disability, Columbia Presidential, and GADE Teaching Awards, teaching is among Kelsey's greatest passions. Her aforementioned practice experience and research inform her classroom pedagogy, which centers care, multidirectional learning (and healing), and wisdom birthed in the margins. As a 2026-2027 Incite Institute Dissertation Fellow working in co-researchship with queer and trans care workers across LGBTQIA+-specific organizations in New York City, Kelsey explores how they navigate enduring contradictions, including how they draw on community-based care values to negotiate, resist, and reimagine institutional care.

Dissertation Title: *Conceptualizing & Queering Care within and Beyond (Social Work) Institutions*

Email address: kgr2116@columbia.edu

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kelseyreeder>

Webpage link: <https://kelseyreeder.com/>



Emil K. Smith, PhD, MSW, LCSW | they/them



Emil is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and an instructor in the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work. Their mixed-methods research aims to transform primary care to be better equipped to support marginalized adults experiencing stigmatized mental health concerns such as eating disorders and suicidality. Their work is informed by nearly a decade of clinical practice experience in interprofessional primary care settings as well as in outpatient and intensive outpatient mental health care. Emil is deeply invested in participatory methods and has trained in multiple collaborative design modalities which they use to engage communities and clinicians throughout their research agenda. They are also an experienced teacher and facilitator, with experience teaching in both clinical and university settings (both undergraduate and graduate).

Dissertation Title: *“This broken medical system is not making this any easier”: Primary care providers’ perspectives on addressing eating disorders*

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/emil-smith-phd-msw-lcsw-5923a5332/>

Webpage: <https://www.socialwork.pitt.edu/people/emil-smith>



Anthony P. Verdino, PhD, LCSW | He/him



Anthony P. Verdino is a White, Queer dual practitioner. He is a long-time clinical social worker whose current practice focuses on helping Queer, kink, and poly individuals and relationship units. He has also recently completed a PhD in Social Work at University of Chicago focused on experiences of Queerness and Queer people's pursuits of joy, pleasure, healing, and resistance. He believes that expansive forms of gender, sex, and sexuality reveal great knowledge and always already do the work of world-making and thrivance. Anthony enjoys consulting and teaching at the graduate level, including courses on generalist and clinical practice, sexuality and relationships, and micro topics within inequity and justice. Additionally, Anthony deploys with animal welfare organizations to support the rescue and recovery of animals from disaster and cruelty situations. He is also a partner, a best friend, a dog and human parent, and a dual citizen of Italy/Europe.

Dissertation Title: *Queer imaginings: An ethnographical-phenomenological exploration of Queer obscurity, imagination, and joy*

Email: anthonypaulverdino@gmail.com

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/anthony-p-verdino-53009536/>