

NAOMI MURAKAWA

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
University of Washington, Seattle (on leave)
Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Washington, 2005-present (on leave)
Adjunct Professor, Department of Law, Societies, and Justice, 2005-present
Adjunct Professor, Department of Women Studies, 2005-present
Acting Assistant Professor, 2004-2005

Visiting Scholar, Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Research, University of California, Berkeley,
2006-2008

Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Law and Culture, Columbia Law School, 2001-2002

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, Yale University, 2005

Dissertation: "Electing to Punish: Congress, Race, and the American Criminal Justice State"

* Awarded with Distinction from Department of Political Science, Yale University, 2005

* Dissertation Prize, Law and Society Association, 2006

* Best Dissertation Award, Race, Ethnicity and Politics Section of the American Political
Science Association, 2006

Committee: Rogers M. Smith (chair), Donald P. Green, Cathy J. Cohen

Qualifying Examination Fields: American Politics, Empirical Analysis and Research
Methodology, Contemporary Political Theory (with Distinction)

M.Sc., Population and Development, London School of Economics, 1997

B.A., *summa cum laude*, Women's Studies, with Departmental Honors, Columbia University, 1996

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

"The Racial Antecedents to Federal Sentencing Guidelines: How Congress Judged the Judges from
Brown to Booker." 2006. *Roger Williams University Law Review: Symposium on Sentencing Rhetoric*
11(2): 473-494.

Chapters in Edited Volumes

“The Origins of the Carceral Crisis: Racial Order as ‘Law and Order’ in Postwar American Politics.” In *Race and American Political Development*, eds. Joseph Lowndes, Julie Novkov, and Dorian Warren. New York: Routledge, 2008.

“Remaking Big Government: Immigration and Crime Control in the New American State.” 2005. With Rebecca Bohrman. In *Global Lockdown: Women of Color and the Global Prison Industrial Complex*, eds. Julia Sudbury and Asale Angel-Ajani. New York: Routledge.

“Elite Cues and Political Decision-Making.” 2002. With Martin Gilens. In *Research in Micropolitics: Political Decision-Making, Deliberation and Participation*, vol. 6, eds. Michael X. Delli Carpini, Leonie Huddy, and Robert Y. Shapiro. Greenwich: JAI Press.

Book Reviews

“The Political Causes and Consequences of Mass Incarceration.” 2007. *Perspectives on Politics* 5(3): 629-632.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Book Manuscript

The Criminalization of Race: Racial Order as “Law and Order” in Post-Civil Rights America

With the septupling of its prison population in the last third of the twentieth century, the United States incarcerates a greater proportion of its citizens than any nation in the world. My book explains why federal crime policy grew increasingly punitive from mid-century to present, despite the long tradition of crime control as the province of states and localities. I introduce an original theoretical framework of how crime policy develops in the *race-laden electoral connection*, in which crime problem framing and crime policy design are fundamentally structured by racial power arrangements. Based on detailed analysis of legislative histories, I identify the emergence of *punitive bidding wars*, illustrating that congressional crime policy develops as a punitive race-to-the-top rather than as a contested issue. Based on my original dataset of every federal mandatory minimum statute from 1790 to 2000, I also identify the emergence of a *mandatory minimum electoral cycle*, in which punitive legislation passes only in the weeks immediately preceding an election. Both punitive bidding wars and electoral cycles, I argue, are manifestations of how electoral incentives operate in the context of post-civil rights era racial politics.

Articles in Progress

“Toothless: Race, the War on Drugs, and the Methamphetamine Epidemic”

“Building the Security State: The Domestic Roots of the Global War on Terror” (with Dara Strolovitch, University of Minnesota)

“Legislative Activism, Populism, and Racial Politics: What Explains Variation in State Crime Policy?” (with Lisa Miller, Rutgers University)

HONORS AND AWARDS

2006-2008	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Health Policy Research Program
2006	Simpson Center for the Humanities Award for Speaker Series, University of Washington
2006	Letter of Commendation for Teaching from Divisional Dean, University of Washington
2006	Best Dissertation Award, Race, Ethnicity and Politics Section, American Political Science Association
2006	Dissertation Prize, Law and Society Association
2005	Dissertation awarded with Distinction, Yale University
2004	Junior Faculty Development Research Quarter, University of Washington
2002-2003	Yale University Dissertation Fellowship
2001-2002	Research Fellowship, Center for the Study of Law and Culture, Columbia Law School
2001-2002	Research Fellowship, Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia (declined)
2002	American Political Science Association Graduate Student Travel Grant
2001	John Perry Miller Research Grant, Yale University
2001	John F. Enders Research Grant, Yale University
2000	Newhouse Foundation Award, for excellence in teaching, Yale University
1999	Center for the Study of Race, Inequality, and Politics Research Grant, Yale University
1999	Distinction in contemporary political theory qualifying examination, Yale University
1997-2001	Yale University Fellowship
1997-1999	Falk Fellowship, Yale University
1996	Departmental Honors in Women's Studies, Columbia University

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“The Origins of the Carceral Crisis: Racial Order as ‘Law and Order’ in Post-Civil Rights America.” Presented at the Department of Politics at University of California, Santa Cruz, May 2008, and at the Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration, University of California, Berkeley, December 2007.

"Rethinking Crime and Punishment for the 21st Century." Presented at the Aspen Roundtable/Open Society Institute, Aspen, June 2007.

“Racialized Crime Policy Beyond Racial Threat.” Presented at the Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity and Politics, University of California, Los Angeles, February 2007.

“Racial Order as ‘Law and Order’: How Congress Made the National Crime Problem.” Presented at the University of California, Santa Cruz, February 2006.

“The Racial Antecedents to Federal Sentencing Guidelines.” Presented at the Symposium on Sentencing Rhetoric, Roger Williams University School of Law, October 2005.

“Punitive Race-to-the-Top: Elections, Race, and the Mandatory Minimum Electoral Staircase.” Presented at the Conference on Inequality and Representation in American Politics, University of Minnesota, May 2005.

“Electing to Punish: Mandatory Minimums and Capital Crimes in the Race-Laden Electoral Connection.” Presented at Wake Forest University, University of Colorado, University of Washington, Rutgers University, Tufts University, Temple University, Barnard College, University of Indiana, New York University, and the University of Chicago, November and December 2003.

“American Punishment Expansion as Racial Realignment.” Presented at the Center for the Study of Law and Culture, Columbia Law School, Columbia University, March 2002.

“Research in Action: Drug Policy and Prison Overcrowding in Connecticut.” Presented at the Conference to Address Prison Overcrowding and the War on Drugs, Yale University, December 2000.

“Symbolic Punitiveness: Why A Conservative Is Not A Liberal Who’s Been Mugged.” Presented at the Center for the Study of Race, Inequality and Politics, Yale University, March 2000.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Toothless: Race, the War on Drugs, and the Methamphetamine Epidemic.” Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Aspen, May 2007.

Discussant for “Race and Bureaucratic Influence.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2008.

Roundtable participant on “Women of Color: Experiences on Campus and in the Classroom.” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2008.

“What Explains Variation in State Crime Policy?” Paper presented, with Lisa Miller, at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, August 2007.

Discussant for “Lessons from the Great Society.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, August 2007.

“The Domestic Antecedents to the War on Terror.” Paper presented, with Dara Strolovitch, at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, August 2006, and at the Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Las Vegas, March 2007.

“Making the National Crime Problem: Law, Order, and Black Civil Rights.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2006, and the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, August 2006.

Discussant for “Asian American Politics, Diversity and Identity.” Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Albuquerque, March 2006.

“Punishment and Racial Orders.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Chicago, May 2004, and at the Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association, Hartford, October 2003.

“Legislative Interpretations of ‘The Crime Problem’ After Emancipation and The Civil Rights Movement.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, August 2002, and at the Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, Philadelphia, March 2002.

Discussant for “A Broken System, Part II: Why There Is So Much Error in Capital Cases, and What Can Be Done About It,” by James Liebman et. al. Center for the Study of Law and Culture, Columbia Law School, Columbia University, February 2002.

“Remaking Big Government: Immigration and Crime Control in the New American State.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, November 2001.

“Drug Felon Exclusions and Re-Creation of the American Criminal Class.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portsmouth, May 2001.

“Connecticut Legislative Reform and Prison Overcrowding.” Presentation at Critical Resistance East, Columbia University, March 2001.

“The Politics of Looking: Unveiling Medical Discourse on Asian Eyelid Surgery.” Paper presented at the National Women’s Studies Association, Albuquerque, June 1999.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Co-Director of Research, A Better Way Foundation, 2000-2001

Research Assistant, Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS, Yale School of Public Health, 2001

Research Assistant, Professor Cathy J. Cohen, 1998-2001

Research Assistant, Professor Martin Gilens, 1998-2000

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses

Introduction to American Politics, Winter 2006

The Politics of Punishment, Winter 2005 and Autumn 2005

The Politics of Race and Ethnicity in the United States, Spring 2005 and Autumn 2005

Graduate Courses

The American Racial State, Spring 2005

Women, Gender, and Feminism in American Politics, Winter 2006

Graduate Advising

Chair for Comprehensive Examination on Gender and the Politics of Motherhood

M.A. Thesis Advisor: Ali Waggenger Boyd, Timothy Deak, Ann Frost, Heather Pool, Charles Tanner

Ph.D. Dissertation Advisor: Rose Ernst, Emily Neff-Sharum

Other Teaching Experience and Training

Instructor, English Composition, Patten University, San Quentin, California, Autumn 2007 and Summer 2008

Faculty Fellows Teaching Workshop, University of Washington, Autumn 2004

Writing Intensive Teaching Workshop, Yale University, Autumn 1999

Teaching Fellow, Yale University, 1999-2003

Crime and Punishment, Professor Ian Shapiro, Autumn 2003

Racial Prejudice and Political Intolerance, Professor Donald P. Green, Spring 2001

Constitutional Law, Professor Michael Ebeid, Autumn 2000

Constitutional Law, Writing Intensive Section, Professor Rogers M. Smith, Autumn 1999

Case Manager and Community Educator, Tri-Valley Haven for Women Domestic Violence Shelter,

Livermore, 1996
GED Tutor, Reality House, New York City, 1991-1994

Teaching Awards

Letter of Commendation for Teaching from Divisional Dean, University of Washington, 2006
Newhouse Foundation Award, for excellence as teaching fellow, Yale University, 2000

SERVICE

Department Service

Search Committee, American Politics, Autumn 2005
Search Committee, Race and Ethnic Politics, Autumn 2005
Search Committee, Race and Ethnic Politics, Autumn 2004
Undergraduate Program Committee, 2004-2005 and 2005-2006
Undergraduate Honors Program Committee, Spring 2005

University Service

Advisory Committee, Graduate Opportunities and Minority Achievement Program, 2004-2005
Co-Organizer for Simpson Center Symposium, "Fictions of the Archive, Rumors of Insurrection," 2006
Core Founding Faculty, Washington Institute for the Study of Ethnicity, Race, and Sexuality, 2005

Professional Service

Section Chair, Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity, Western Political Science Association, San Diego, March 2008
Section Chair, Politics and History, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2008

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association
Law and Society Association
Midwest Political Science Association
Washington Institute for the Study of Ethnicity and Race
Western Political Science Association