

Education

2026 **University of Chicago**

Master of Arts (MAPSS) in Sociology / Computational Social Sciences

Thesis: Quantitative Analysis of the AI 'Bubble'

IPSOS Micro Grant Award Recipient

2022 **DePaul University**

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

McNair Scholar, Healy Foundation Scholar, Dean's List Student

Skills

Programming R, Python, LaTeX, SQL

Data Science NLP BERTopic, FinBERT, Topic Modeling (LDA, Dynamic, Gamma/Beta Parameters), Granger Causality, Geo-spatial Analysis, Data Wrangling, Visualization, Model Evaluation (Coherence, Perplexity), Econometric Modeling, Multivariate Analysis

Statistics Bayesian Inference, Regression Discontinuity Design, Propensity Score Matching, Difference-in-Differences, Interrupted Time-Series

Research Mixed Methods (Qual/Quant), Ethnography, Focus Groups, Grant and Proposal Writing, Interviewing, IRB, Report Writing and Data Dissemination, Study Design, Study Recruitment, Surveys

Softwares MAXQDA, NVivo, Overleaf, SPSS, STATA, Survey Monkey, Qualtrics, Microsoft 365, Tableau, RShiny

Experience

2022–2025 **Research Associate**, NATIONAL OPINION RESEARCH CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

- Co-authored award-winning grant proposals, securing more than \$100,000 in funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institute of Justice (NIJ), and more.
- Screened 1,000+ potential participants and recruited, scheduled, and interviewed 100+ for the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) Traffic Safety focus groups.
- Co-designed the 50+ question survey for the the Growing-up with Guns (GWG) study that was administered yearly to 2,750 youths.
- Cleaned, recoded, and analyzed largescale qualitative and quantitative datasets in SPSS, NVivo, and MAXQDA.
- Founder and leader of the GWG Youth Advisory Group.
- Co-developed the National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards health care provider toolkit (authored the Mental Health, Rural, Long Term Care population settings portions) for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Office of Minority Health (CMS OMH).

2021–2022 **Undergraduate Researcher**, ICH UND DU LAB, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY, Chicago, IL.

- Researched hierarchy formation and its correlation with socioeconomic status.
- Assisted PhD candidates in the early development of an original study on the misattribution of arousal.

2021–2022 **Graduate Intern**, NATIONAL OPINION RESEARCH CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

- Interviewed 20 participants for the rehabilitation of previously incarcerated LGBTQ+IA individuals study.
- Quantitative data analysis using STATA for the National Social Life, Health and Aging Project (NSHAP) and the High School and Beyond (HSB) Project, both focused on aging and geriatric populations.

2021 **Research Intern**, FONSELP, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

- Conducted partnership outreach, recruiting international nongovernmental organizations and corporations to invest in local Latin American communities.

Publications

- Feb 2026 MacLean, K., Watson, L., O'Leary, M., Cotter, M., Lancaster, C., Pletsch, V., Mumford, E., (2026). Trauma-Informed Approaches to Campus Sexual Assault Response: A Mixed-Methods Study, (submitted for publication).
- Mar 2025 Sheridan-Johnson, J., Pletsch, V., Zalsha, S., Liu, W., Taylor, B. (2024). The Impact of Agency Policies on Level of Force Used by Officers, *Police Quarterly*, (submitted for publication).
- Nov 2024 Sheridan-Johnson, J., Pletsch, V. (2024). The Impact of Firearm Violence and Exposure on Youth Mental Health, (Journal TBD).
- Jan 2024 Golan, O., Pletsch, V., Park, D., Frank, M., Sheridan-Johnson, J., Liu, W., Nguyen, B.-T., Sawyer, H., Taylor, B. (Year). The Landscape of Data Recording and Reporting for Use of Force and Violence Against Officer Incidents: Insights from Command Staff and Officer Interviews and Focus Groups in the U.S. *The Police Journal: Theory, Practice and Principles.*, (submitted for publication).

Conference Presentations

- May 2024 Prevalence of Lifetime Indirect and Direct Firearm Violence Victimization and Perpetration: National Survey Results, Society for Prevention Research Conference, Washington, DC.
- May 2022 The Social Perspective and Personal Experience of Individuals in Poverty in the United States, Sharing Social Knowledge Conference, Chicago, IL.
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