

# Ray Block Jr.

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## Academic Appointments

Department of Political Science and African American and Africana Studies Program, University of Kentucky (Associate Professor, 2017–present)

Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse (Assistant Professor, 2010–2014; Associate Professor, 2014–2017)

Department of Political Science, Florida State University (Assistant Professor, 2006–2010)

Department of Political Science, Middle Tennessee State University (Pre-Doctoral Fellow, 2005–2006)

## Education

PhD, Political Science, The Ohio State University, June 2006

*Dissertation:* “Racial Cleavages in Political Interest”

*Committee:* Herb Weisberg and Harwood McClerking (Co-Chairs), Paul Beck, and Tom Nelson

MA, Political Science, The Ohio State University, June 2002

BA, Philosophy; BA, Political Science, Howard University, May 1999

## Areas of Interest

*Research:* Racial, ethnic, and gender differences in civic involvement, The formation and mutability of social identity, Campaigns and elections, Racial attitudes and stereotypes, Survey research, Political institutions, and The scholarship of teaching and learning

*Teaching:* Introduction to American national government, Congressional politics, Interest groups, Political behavior, Social identity, Political science research methods, Presidency studies, Public opinion, Racial attitudes, and State and local politics

# Publications

## Books:

Sekou M. Franklin and Ray Block Jr. *Losing Power: African Americans and Racial Polarization in Tennessee Politics* (under contract with University of Georgia Press).

Ray Block Jr. *Race, Gender, Police Violence, and Public Opinion: How Polling Practices Reflect (and Contribute to) Contemporary Debates* (in preparation).

## Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

Harwood K. McClerking, Chryl Laird and Ray Block Jr. “The Fragility of Racial Transcendence: An Analysis of Oprah Winfrey’s Endorsement of the Barack Obama 2008 Presidential Campaign.” *American Politics Research* 47(January 2019): 304–328.

Christina S. Haynes and Ray Block Jr. “Role-Model-In-Chief: Understanding a Michelle Obama Effect.” Forthcoming in *Politics & Gender*.

Lakeyta M. Bonnette-Bailey, Ray Block Jr., and Harwood K. McClerking. “Imagining a Better World: Rap-Music Skepticism and the Civic Activism of Young African Americans.” Forthcoming in *Du Bois Review*.

Daniel Tope, Daniel Lanford, and Ray Block Jr. “Racial Attitudes and Health Insurance Policy Opinion: An Anglo-Latinx Comparison.” *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics* (first published November 9, 2018). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/rep.2018.22>.

Laurie Cooper Stoll, Terry Glenn Lilley, and Ray Block Jr. “Gender-Blind Sexism and Rape Myth Acceptance: Results from a Nationally Representative Study.” Accepted for publication at the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* (first published October 25, 2018). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260518807912>.

Jonathan E. Collins and Ray Block Jr. “Fired Up, Ready to Go! The Impact of Campaign Enthusiasm, Civic Duty, and Age Differences on African American Voting.” *Political Behavior* (first published August 9, 2018). DOI: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11109-018-9488-y>.

Maruice Mangum and Ray Block Jr. “Social Identity Theory and Public Opinion towards Immigration.” *Social Sciences* 7 (March 2018). DOI: <http://www.mdpi.com/2076-0760/7/3/41>.

Ray Block, Jr., “Race, Gender, and Media Coverage of Michelle Obama.” *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 5 (April 2017): 161–165.

Harwood K. McClerking and Ray Block Jr., “Say Our Name (and Say It Right)! Extending Walton et al. on the Evolution of Race in Political Science Scholarship,” *Research & Politics* 3 (April-June 2016): 1–8.

Laurie Cooper Stoll and Ray Block Jr. “Intersectionality and Cyberbullying: A Study of Cybervictimization in a Midwestern High School,” *Computers in Human Behavior* 52 (November 2015): 387–397.

Ray Block Jr. and Christina S. Haynes, “Taking to the Airwaves: Using Content Analyses of Survey Toplines and Filmographies to Test the ‘Michelle Obama Image Transformation’ (MOIT) Hypothesis,” *National Political Science Review* 16 (September 2014): 97–114.

Ray Block Jr., Ruth Cronje, and Daniel Henke, “Writing to Do Democracy: An Investigation of Political Science Undergraduate Writing Performance,” *Global Education Review* 1 (March 2013): 1–13.

Ray Block Jr. and Richard Seltzer, “Understanding the Complex Influence of Religiosity on the Race Gap in Support for Proposition 8,” *Review of European Studies* 4 (August 2012): 84–94.

Ray Block Jr. and David A. Siegel, “Identity, Bargaining, and Third-Party Mediation,” *International Theory* 3 (September 2011): 416–417.

Ray Block Jr., “Backing Barack Because He’s Black: Racially-Motivated Voting in the 2008 Presidential Election,” *Social Science Quarterly* 92 (June 2011): 423–446.

Ray Block Jr., “What about Disillusionment? Exploring the Determinants of Black Nationalism,” *Political Behavior* 33 (March 2011): 27–51.

Ray Block Jr. and Chinonye Onwunli, “Managing Monikers: The Role of Name Presentation in the 2008 Presidential Election,” *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 40 (September 2010): 464–481.

## **Book Chapters:**

Christopher J. Clark and Ray Block Jr., “Descriptive Representation and Black Political Involvement,” in *Gaining Voice: Causes and Consequences of Black Representation in the American States*, by Christopher J. Clark (forthcoming in Oxford University Press in February 2019).

Ray Block Jr. and Angela K. Lewis, “The ‘Obama Effect,’ Revisited: A Macro-Level and Longitudinal Exploration of the Influence of Barack Obama’s Media Presence on Racialized Political Party Polarization,” forthcoming in *After Obama: African American Politics in the Post-Obama America*, ed. Todd C. Shaw, Robert A. Brown, and Joseph P. McCormick II (New York, NY: NYU Press, 2018).

Ray Block Jr. and Christina S. Haynes, “‘Mom-In-Chief’ Rhetoric as a Lens for Understanding Policy Advocacy: A Thematic Analysis of Video Footage from Michelle Obama’s Speeches,” in *The C-SPAN Archives, 2015: Advancing the Research Agenda*, ed. Robert X. Browning (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press, 2015), 165–190.

Ray Block Jr., “Some Like It Hot: Toward A Political Climate Explanation of Racial Differences in Political Interest,” in *African-American Political Psychology: Identity, Opinion, and Action in the Post-Civil Rights Era*, ed. Tasha Philpot and Ismail K. White (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), 147–156.

## **Encyclopedia Entries:**

Ray Block Jr., “Racial Stereotyping,” forthcoming in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Political Decision Making*, by Zoe Oxley and David Redlawsk, eds. (New York, NY: Oxford University Press).

Ray Block Jr., “Urban Politics,” in *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, 2nd ed. (Farmington Hills, MI: Thomson Gale, 2007).

## **Book Reviews:**

Ray Block Jr., Review of *The Obama Victory: How Media, Money, and Message Shaped the 2008 Election*, by Kate Kenski, Bruce W. Hardy, and Kathleen Hall Jamieson. *American Review of Politics* 32 (Spring–Summer 2011): 158–160.

Harwood K. McClerking and Ray Block Jr., Review of *The New White Nationalism in America: Its Challenge to Integration*, by Carol M. Swain. *National Political Science Review* 10 (2005): 205–207.

## Other, Non-Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts:

Ray Block Jr., *Ethnically Polarized Voting in Medina County, Texas*. 2011. Expert witness report to the Southwest Workers Union and Advancement Project.

Ray Block Jr., 2007. “‘Usually, But Not Always’: A Report on the Race Gap in Political Interest, 1952–2004,” in “NAACP Special Edition,” special issue, *The Crisis*, January/February 2007, 13–17.

## Manuscripts Under Review

“Set in Stone? Investigating the Determining Factors of Confederate Monument Removal” (with Andrea Benjamin, Jared Clemons, Chryl Laird, and Julian Wamble)

“Gluttons for Punishment? African American Celebrities and the Delimma of Signaling Pro-Black Political Stances (with Harwood K. McClerking). Revise and resubmit at *Perspectives on Politics*.

“What Polling Evidence Teaches Us about the Race and Gender Gaps in Attitudes about Minimum Wage Reform” (with Stephanie A. Pink-Harper). Revise and resubmit at *Politics, Groups, and Identities*.

## Work in Progress

“Blacks for Trump: Partisanship, Racial Identity, and the Gender Gap” (with Melynda J. Price and Patrick L. Mason)

“Politics to Protest: Explaining African-American Political Interest in the 2016 Presidential Election” (with Jonathan E. Collins)

“The Complementary Forces of Group Threat and Political Empowerment: An Integrated Theory of the Racial Presence and Political Involvement”

## Invited Talks

**2018** “Voter Suppression of Voter Fraud? The Current Dynamics of Electoral Politics.” University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH.

**2018** “Using Dedoose to Explore the Oral Histories of African Americans who Support Trump” (with Christina S. Haynes). Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.

**2018** “African Americans who Support Donald Trump” (with Melynda J. Price and Patrick Mason). UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

**2018** “Americanness of the ‘Other’ Americans: An Examination of Political Behavior of Minorities in the United States (with Niambi Carter, Gabrielle Gray, and Stacey Green). UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

**2017** “Fired Up or Ready to Go? The Impact of Declining Enthusiasm on African American Political Participation in the Post-Obama Era” (with Jonathan Collins). UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

**2016** “Race, Law Enforcement, and Public Opinion.” Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA.

**2015** “Rap Music, Black Youth, and Political Participation.” Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL.

- 2014** (With Christina Haynes) “Black-Women Stereotypes, Policy Rhetoric, and the Politics of Media Depiction: A Content Analysis of Video Footage from Michelle Obama’s Speeches.” C-SPAN Archives: Advancing the Research Agenda, conference at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.
- 2013** (With Christina Haynes). “Taking to the Airwaves: Using Content Analyses of Survey Toplines and Filmographies to Test the ‘Michelle Obama Image Transformation’ (MOIT) Hypothesis.” Gender and Political Psychology Research Workshop, Northern Illinois University, Naperville, IL.
- 2012** (With Christina Haynes). “The Women of Contemporary Presidential Politics: A Panorama of Survey Reports from the iPoll Databank.” WGSS events for the Fall, sponsored by UW-L Provost’s Office Visiting Scholar of Color Grant; Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department; Violence Prevention Office; and Viterbo University, La Crosse, WI.
- 2010** “The Obama Synthesis Project: Mastering the Literature on the 2008 Presidential Election.” Politics of Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Consortium, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2008** “Managing Monikers: Name Presentation and Its Potential Impact in the 2008 Presidential Election.” “Obama Effect” conference, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2007** “A Political Climate Model of the Race Gap in Political Interest.” Toward a Transformative Agenda Around Race, a national conference and film festival sponsored by The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.
- 2006** “Race and Political Interest.” Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA.
- 2005** “The Racial Gap in Political Interest.” Paper presented at the Conference in African American Political Psychology, Austin, TX.

## Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

- June 2018** Research Grant (\$2,500), C-SPAN Education Foundation Grant program. Project: “Using Dedoose to Explore the Oral Histories of African Americans who Support Trump.”
- June 2015** Nominee, Provost’s Teaching Excellence Award, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse
- May 2014–April 2015** Research Grant (\$2,500), C-SPAN Education Foundation Grant program. Project: “Black-Woman Stereotypes, Policy Rhetoric, and the Politics of Media Depiction: A Content Analysis of Video Footage from Michelle Obama’s Speeches.”
- April 2013–present** Faculty Grant (\$15,075; with Cecilia Manrique), College of Liberal Studies Technology & Equipment Grant, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. Purpose: To fund the purchase of NVivo for students seeking to conduct qualitative research.
- 2013–2014** Professional Development Grant (\$3,750), College of Liberal Studies Inclusive Excellence Grant, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. Project: “Winning Tenure without Losing Your Soul: Enhancing Professional Development by Participating in the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity’s Faculty Success Program.
- Research Grant (\$1,500), College of Liberal Studies Small Grant, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. Project: “The FLOTUS Project: A Database of Public Perceptions of Contemporary First Ladies.”
- 2012–2013** Research Grant (\$7,500; with Christina S. Haynes), Faculty Research Grant, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. Project: “The ‘Sapphire,’ the ‘Jezebel,’ the ‘Mammy,’ and ‘Michelle O’: Issues of Race, Femininity, and the (Gendered) Politics of Media Depiction.”
- Research Grant (\$4,000), College of Liberal Studies Grant Writing Stipend. Project: “The Obama Synthesis Project (OSP): Phase 1 (Search-Related Data).”
- Recipient, 2012 Faculty Recognition of Excellence Award for Scholarship/Research, College of Liberal Studies, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse.

**2011–2012** Research Grant (\$3,750), College of Liberal Studies Small Grant. Project: “The Obama Books Boom, Revisited: Understanding America’s Fascination with Books Written by, Related to, or Endorsed by Its 44th President.”

**Sept. 2011–Aug. 2012** Teaching Grant (\$11,400; with Jo Arney, Jeremy Arney, Stephen McDougal, Adam Van Liere, Cecilia Manrique, Christina Haynes, and Bryan Kopp), University of Wisconsin System Grant. Project: “Blind Peer Review: An Investigation of Student Learning.”

**2010–2011** Certificate (\$5,352), Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars Award.

**2008–2009** Research Grant (12,000; with Betsy Jane Becker and Ariel M. Aloe), Council on Research and Creativity, Planning Grant, Florida State University. Project: “The Impact of Survey Artifacts on the (Mis)Interpretation of Political Interest Trends.”

**2006** Faculty Grant (\$4,000), Committee on Black Faculty Support, Office of Graduate Studies, Florida State University. Purpose: general research support and travel.

**2006–2007** Research Grant (\$16,000), First Year Assistant Professor (FYAP) Summer Award, Council on Research and Creativity, Florida State University. Project: “Understanding Interest in Politics and Political Participation as Mutually-Reinforcing Concepts.”

**Fall 2005–Spring 2006** Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (\$30,000), Middle Tennessee State University.

## **Department Service, University of Kentucky**

**July 2017–present** Undergraduate Committee, Political Science Department

**August 2017–present** Research Colloquium Series Coordinator, Political Science Department

**October 2018–present** Member, Committee for the Development of an Online Certificate on Diversity and Inclusion, Political Science Department and African American and Africana Studies Program

## **Department Service, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse**

**October 2012–December 2012** Chair, By-Laws Subcommittee, Political Science and Public Administration Department

**September 2012–present** Faculty Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha Honors Society, Iota Beta Chapter

**January–September 2012** Chair, Search and Screen Committee (for an Assistant Professor of Political Theory), Political Science and Public Administration Department

**March 2011–present** Reviewer, Scholarship Committee, Political Science and Public Administration Department

**September 2010–present** Member, General Education Assessment Committee, College of Liberal Studies

**August 2010–May 2011** Member, Search and Screen Committee (for an Assistant Professor of American Politics), Political Science and Public Administration Department

## **College Service, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse**

**August 2010–present** Co-Founder: The “Confluence of Four” (C4) research writing group

**April 2013** Keynote Speaker: “Politics, Ethics, and Citizenship: (Re)Envisioning America’s Future,” Composition Committee, English Department

Panelist: “Men Who Support Feminism, Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

**January 2013** Discussant, National Conference of Undergraduate Research

**November 2012** Guest Lecturer: Multicultural Visit Day Luncheon, sponsored by the Admissions Office

**December 2012** Reviewer, National Conference of Undergraduate Research

**October 2010** Department Representative, College of Liberal Studies Graduate School Night

## **University Service, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse**

**September 2014–present** Faculty Fellow, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

**September 2012–May 2013** Member, Undergraduate Research and Creativity Committee, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

**November 2012** Faculty participant, Multicultural Men Leadership Summit, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

**Fall 2011** Panelist, New Faculty Orientation, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

**Fall 2007, Fall 2008** Guest speaker, Black Graduate Student Orientation Program, Florida State University

**March 2008** Panelist: “Understanding Black Republicans and Politically Conservative African Americans,” roundtable hosted by the Black Graduate Student Association, Florida State University

## **Community Service**

**May 2017–present** Professional consultant, Latino Decisions and African American Research Collaborative

**May 2016–2017** Professional consultant, Planned Parenthood Federation of America

Professional consultant, Black Civic Engagement Action Fund

**September 2012–June 2013** Professional consultant, Sparta Police Department Community Satisfaction Survey

**August 2012–2017** Professional consultant, Houston County Protectors, Caledonia, MN

**September 2011–January 2012** Expert witness, Advancement Project, Southwest Workers Union, Medina, TX

**April 2011–May 2011** Expert witness, Southern Coalition of Social Justice, Durham, NC

## **Public Education**

**November 2018** 2018 American Election Eve Poll webinar, Sponsored by the Advancement Project, the African American Research Collaborative Asian American Decisions, Latino Decisions, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

**July 2018** NAACP Mid-Term Election Survey webinar, Sponsored by Latino Decisions, the African American Research Collaborative, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

**November 2017** Virginia 2017 Election Eve Poll Briefing, Sponsored by Latino Decisions and the African American Research Collaborative

**November 2016** 2016 African American Voter Poll (with Jonathan E. Collins), Sponsored by Latino Decisions and the African American Research Collaborative

**January 2011** Guest discussant on *Newsmakers*, Wisconsin Public Radio/WHLA-FM/La Crosse. Topic: congressional redistricting

**January 2009** Guest discussant on *Perspectives*, Florida Public Radio/WFSU-FM. Topic: Inauguration Day 2009

**November 2008** Guest appearance on *ABC 27 News*, WTXL, Tallahassee. Topic: Outcome of 2008 Presidential Election

**May 2008** Guest appearance on *ABC 27 News*, WTXL, Tallahassee. Topic: North Carolina Democratic Primary

## Professional Service

Co-Chair: Public Opinion and Political Participation Section for The National Conference of Black Political Scientists (October 2017 - Present)

Newsletter Editor: American Political Science Association's Race, Ethnicity and Politics organized section (August 2017 - Present)

Analyst: African American Research Collaborative (August 2016 - Present)

Analyst: Latino Decisions (August 2016 - Present)

Faculty Coach: The National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity (December 2013 - Present)

Referee: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Politics Research*, *American Political Science Review*, *Geopolitics*, *International Journal of Press-Politics*, *Journal of Black Studies*, *Journal of Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *Politics and Gender*, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *Publius*, *Social Problems*, *Sociological Perspectives*

Book Reviewer: *National Political Science Review*, *American Review of Politics*

## Membership in Professional Organizations

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

Southern Political Science Association

National Conference of Black Political Scientists

Society for Political Methodology

Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society (inducted in 1999)

Golden Key International Honour Society (inducted in 1998)



## References

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