

Soo Ah Kwon

Assistant Professor
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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	University of California, Berkeley Social and Cultural Studies Graduate School of Education	2005
M.A.	Stanford University Education	1999
B.A.	University of California, Berkeley Anthropology	1995

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor

Asian American Studies and Human and Community Development
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 2006-present

Postdoctoral Fellow

Teacher's College at Columbia University, 2005-2006

PUBLICATIONS

- (in press) "Moving from Complaints to Action: Oppositional Consciousness and Collective Action in a Political Community." *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*
- 2006 "Youth of color organizing for juvenile justice." *Beyond Resistance: Youth Activism and Community Change: New Democratic Possibilities for Policy and Practice*. Shawn Ginwright, Pedro Noguera and Julio Cammarota (eds). New York: Routledge Press. 215-228.
- 2006 "Urban Youth Building Community: Social Change and Participatory Research in Schools, Homes, and Community-Based Organizations" with Kysa Nygreen and Patricia Sanchez, *Journal of Community Practice*, 14(1/2): 105-122.
- 2004 "Autoexoticizing: Asian American Youth and the Import Car Scene." *Journal of Asian American Studies*, February 7(1): 1-26.
- (under review) "The Politics of Culture and the Culture of Politics"

(In progress) *Untitled*, manuscript on youth organizing

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Instructor, UC Berkeley, Course: “Current Issues in Education”
spring 2000

Graduate Student Researcher, Diversity Project with Pedro Noguera, UC Berkeley,
spring 2000

Graduate Student Instructor, UC Berkeley, Course: “Race and Ethnicity in Schools,”
fall 1999

Graduate Student Researcher, Stanford University and Sequoia Unified School District, CA,
spring 1999

Teacher South Park Elementary, First Grade, Los Angeles Unified School District, CA
1995-1998

HONORS, AWARDS, and GRANTS

Center for Democracy in a Multiracial Society Institute Faculty Fellow, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2007-2008

Principal Investigator for USDA HATCH Illinois Experiment Station, “Immigrant and Second-Generation Youth Building Political Capital in their Families and Communities,” \$37,000, 2006-2011.

Incomplete List of Teachers Ranked as Outstanding, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Fall 2006

Awarded Harvard Graduate School of Education Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2005-2007

Bill and Melinda Gates Millennium Scholar Fellowship, 2000-2005

UC Berkeley, Regents Fellowship (Dean’s Normative Time Grant), 2004-2005

Chancellor’s University and Community Partnership Award, UC Berkeley, 2002

Spencer Research Training Fellowship, Center for Popular Education and Participatory Research, Graduate School of Education, UC Berkeley, 2002

Spencer Research Training Fellowship, Center for Urban Education, Graduate School of Education, UC Berkeley, 2001

Institute for Social Change Trainee Fellowship, UC Berkeley, January 2000

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Conference Co-Organizer South Korea's Education Exodus: Risk, Realities, and Challenges, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, March 28-29, 2008

Advisory Board Member Center for Democracy in a Multiracial Society Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2006-current

Reading Group Co-Organizer Asian American Studies Reading Group, Illinois Program for Research in Humanities (IPRH), 2007-2008

Founding Member of Research Center, The Center for Popular Education and Participatory Research (CPEPR), Funded by the James Irvine Foundation, 1999–2005

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS

Journal of Asian American Studies

American Journal of Community Psychology

PRESENTATIONS

Invited presentations

Feb 2008 "From Complaints to Action." Invited talk for University of Illinois Extension Youth Development Educators, Champaign, IL.

Nov 2007 Asian American and Pacific Islander Education Forum hosted by U.S. Senate and House Democratic Leadership including Nancy Pelosi, Harry Reid, Mike Honda, and Debbie Stabenow. Capitol Hill, Washington, DC.

Oct 2004 "Youth of color organizing movements for social change." Article presented for research roundtable on Youth, Communities, and Social Justice: Toward a National Strategy for Youth Development Project. Funded by the Ford Foundation, New York, NY

Sep 2004 "Ethnic community organizations: Fostering cultural identity and political participation among Cambodian and Mien youth." Article presented for research roundtable on Southeast Asian American Student Action and Visibility in Education (SAVE) Project hosted by Civil Rights Project (CRP) at Harvard University, Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC) and National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPLAC), Washington DC.

Invited University of Illinois presentations

Nov 2007 "The Middle Steps of Youth Political Development." Brown Bag presentation for Psychology department, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

- Fall 2006 "Asian American Youth Subcultures and the Import Scene." Invited Lecture for AAS 120: Asian American Popular Culture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- Spring 2007 "Community Based Organizations and Youth Political Development." Invited Lecture for ACES undergraduate honors James Scholars Program, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Select Conferences

- April 2008 "The Culture of Politics of Asian American Youth," Paper presented at Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) 24th Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Session Organizer and Chair: "New Frameworks for Community Organizing in Asian American Studies" Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) 24th Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- April 2008 Chair, "Diasporic Figures of War," Conference: Southeast Asians in the Diaspora, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- Nov 2007 "Moving from Complaints to Action." Paper presented at American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.
- May 2007 "Ethnography for Whom?" Paper presented at Third International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL.
- Nov 2006 "Politically-Engaged Anthropology in Education: Possibilities and Constraints of Participatory Research," Roundtable discussion at American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA
- Oct 2006 "A New Era of Second-Generation Youth of Color Organizing." Paper presented at American Studies Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, Oakland, CA.
- Nov 2005 "Practices of Scholar-Activism," Roundtable discussion at American Studies Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.
- May 2005 "Cultural Politics of Youth Ethnographies." Paper presented in panel: "Making Homes, Making Change: Honoring the Contributions of Carol Stack to Anthropology" at Society for the Anthropology of North America, Merida, Mexico.
- April 2005 "Are Asian and Pacific Islanders youth of color too?" Paper presented at Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) 21st Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.

- Nov 2004 Session Co-Organizer and Discussant: Urban Education and the Prison Industrial Complex. Panel presented at American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting. Invited session by Council of Anthropology of Education. San Francisco, CA.
- Nov 2004 “Stop the Super Jail! Second-generation Asian and Pacific Islander activist building youth movements.” Paper presented at American Studies Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- Session Organizer: “Youth at the Crossroads: Assembling Politicized Cultures from the Margins.” Panel presented at American Studies Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- Aug 2004 “Asian and Pacific Islander Youth Organize against Juvenile Injustice.” Paper presented at American Sociology Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Nov 2003 “The power of youth participation: How Asian and Pacific Islander youth are transforming the nature of democratic and civic engagement.” Refereed Poster session at American Anthropological Association (AAA) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- May 2003 “Asian and Pacific Islander youth activism: Examining pan-ethnic consciousness and inter-ethnic relationships among Asian and Pacific Islander youth organizers.” Paper presented at Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) 20th Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Session organizer: “ Exploring Asian American communities and community activism in the Bay Area.” Panel presentation at Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) 20th Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Mar 2002 “Breaking it Down: Conceptions of ‘Asian’ and ‘Pacific Islander’ Youth.” Paper presented at 23rd Annual Ethnography of Education, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.
- April 2001 “Asian and Pacific American Youth Take Charge of their Communities.” Paper presented in symposium at American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.
- May 2000 “Souped Up, Asian Style: An Exploration of Asian American Car Culture.” Paper presented at Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) 17th Annual Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Anthropological Association (AAA)

American Studies Association (ASA)

Association of Asian American Studies (AAAS)