

Paromita Sanyal

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Academic Appointments

2015 Associate Professor of Sociology, Florida State University
2011-2015 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Cornell University
2008-2011 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Wesleyan University

Consulting Appointments

2018-2022 American Institutes of Research (AIR), Women's
Empowerment Collectives (WEC) Research Consortium Project
(Gates Foundation funded), Washington, D. C.
2007-2018 The World Bank, Development Research Group (DECRG),
Washington, D. C.

Education

2008 PhD Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., Sociology
1999 MA Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, Sociology
1997 BA Presidency College, Kolkata, India, Sociology

Publications

Books

Sanyal, Paromita, and Vijayendra Rao. 2019. *Oral Democracy: Deliberation in Indian Village Assemblies*. Cambridge University Press.

Sanyal, Paromita. 2014. *Credit to Capabilities: A Sociological Study of Microcredit Groups in India*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press

Winner of the '**Outstanding Book Award**' from the American Sociological Association, Section on Sociology of Development, 2015.

Review: Naila Kabeer, "*Credit to Capabilities: A Sociological Study of Microcredit Groups in India* by Paromita Sanyal," *American Journal of Sociology* 121, no. 6 (May 2016): 1952-1954.

Articles and Chapters

- Sanyal, Paromita**, Vijayendra Rao, and Umang Prabhakar. 2019. "How Women Talk in Indian Democracy." *Qualitative Sociology* 42(1): 49-70.
- Davidson, Thomas R., and **Paromita Sanyal**. 2017. "Associational Participation and Network Expansion: Microcredit Self-Help Groups and Poor Women's Social Ties in Rural India." *Social Forces* 95(4): 1695-1724.
- Sanyal, Paromita**. 2015. "Group-based Microcredit and Emergent Inequality in Social Capital: Why Socio-Religious Composition Matters." *Qualitative Sociology* 38(2): 103-137.
- Sanyal, Paromita**. 2015. "The Role of Emotions in Deliberative Development." Pp. 167-191 in *Development and Deliberation: Rethinking the Role of Voice and Collective Action in Unequal Societies*, edited by Patrick Heller and Vijayendra Rao. World Bank Group: Washington D. C.
- Rao, Vijayendra, and **Paromita Sanyal***. 2010. "Dignity through Discourse: Poverty and the Culture of Deliberation in Indian Village Democracies." *The Annals of the American Association for Political and Social Sciences* 629: 146-172. *
Equal author
- Sanyal, Paromita**. 2009. "From Credit to Collective Action: The Role of Microfinance in Promoting Women's Social Capital and Normative Influence." *American Sociological Review* 74(4): 529-550.
- Sanyal, Paromita**. 2006. "Capacity Building through Partnerships: Intermediary Nongovernmental Organizations as Local and Global Actors." *Non-Profit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* 35(1): 66-82.

Policy Papers:

- Sanyal, Paromita**, Vijayendra Rao, and Umang Prabhakar. "Oral Democracy and Women's Oratory Competency in Indian Village Assemblies: A Qualitative Analysis." *Published as Policy Research working paper, no. WPS 7416. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group.*
- Sanyal, Paromita**, Vijayendra Rao, and Shruti Majumdar. "Recasting Culture to Undo Gender: An Analysis of the Jeevika Intervention in Rural Bihar, India." *Published as Policy Research working paper, no. WPS 7411. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group.*

Works in Progress

- Sanyal, Paromita**. "From Brides to Business Owners: Microfinance and Women's Entrepreneurship." *Journal of Business Anthropology* (Revise & resubmit)
- Jackson, Taylor, and **Paromita Sanyal**. "Not Becky or Bon Qui Qui: Black Women Business Owners' Struggles in the U.S." *Journal of Business Anthropology* (Revise & resubmit)

- Sanyal, Paromita.** "Oral competencies, citizens' performances, and State enactments in deliberative democracy." In *Assessing Deliberation: Methodological Approaches in Deliberative Democracy* edited by Hans Asenbaum, Nicole Curato, Selen A. Ercan, and Ricardo F. Mendonca (Under preparation)
- Sanyal, Paromita.** "Oral Democracy in Rural India." In *The Search for Deliberative Democracy in Asia* edited by Baogang He (Under preparation)
- Majumdar, Shruti, Vijayendra Rao, and **Paromita Sanyal.** "Scaling up on the Frontlines: A Qualitative Analysis of Implementation Challenges in the CDD Project in Rural India." (Under preparation)
- Das, Sabyasachi, Pushkar Maitra, and **Paromita Sanyal.** "Credit Groups, Women's Political Engagement and Public Goods Provision." (Under preparation)
- Valerio, Tayelor and Paromita Sanyal. "Women's Work Type and Childbearing Control: Implications for Women's Autonomy in India." (Under preparation)

Book Reviews

- Sanyal, Paromita.** 2014. Review of *Microfinance and Its Discontents: Women in Debt in Bangladesh* by Lamia Karim. Minnesota, University of Minnesota Press. *Contemporary Sociology* 43(1): 95-97.
- Sanyal, Paromita.** 2006. Review of *Brothers and Sisters in India: A Study of Urban Adult Siblings* by G.N. Ramu. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. *Canadian Review of Sociology*.

Invited Presentations

- 2017 **The Kauffman Foundation and Princeton University**, Expanding Understanding of Business Creation: Adding More Ethnography Into the Research Mix, Conference and Workshop.
- 2014 **University of Notre Dame**, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Title: Credit to Capabilities: Microcredit through a Sociological Lens
- 2013 **Brown University**, Watson Institute & the Dept. of Sociology, Title: Credit to Credibility: Microcredit's economic and associational impacts on Women in India
- 2013 **Cornell University**, 'Agrarian Crisis in India?' Annual Conference of the Cornell-Syracuse Title VI South Asia Consortium. Chaired session on 'Farmer Suicides'
- 2013 **Cornell University**, Young Social Scientists' Sustainability Research Forum (YSSRF)
Title: Microcredit Groups and Gram Sabhas: The Indian Civic Sphere (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OA_HY19W0B8)
- 2012 **Cornell University**, Department of Development Sociology
Research Presentation at Demography Proseminar
- 2012 **Northwestern University**, Department of Sociology

- Title: Credit to Credibility: Microcredit and the question of Women's Agency.
- 2012 **Cornell University**, Center for the Study of Economy and Society,
Department of Sociology
Title: Making Sense of Sentimental Economies: Microcredit, Women's Agency, and Social Capital.
- 2010 **The World Bank**: World Development Report on Gender Equity and Development, 2012
Invited by the Director of the WDR Committee to present my research and findings on microcredit and on key linkages between gender equity, culture, and development.
- 2010 **Universität Bayreuth**, Bayreuth, Germany
Public lecture: Institut für Afrikastudien
Title: Deliberative Democracy: Empirical Evidence from Gram Sabhas in South India
- 2010 **London School of Economics**, Department of Sociology
Title: Credit, Capital, or Coalition: Microfinance, Women's Agency, and Social Capital
- 2010 **Brown University**, Watson Institute
Conference: Six Decades of Indian Democracy: Achievements, Failures, Promises, and Challenges
- 2010 **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**, Washington, D.C.
Workshop on Decentralization – "Opening the Black Box"
Title: Dignity through Discourse: Poverty and the Culture of Deliberation in Indian Village Democracies
- 2010 **United Nations**, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division of Social Policy and Development
Title: Credit, Capital or Coalition: Microcredit and Women's Agency
- 2009 **Harvard University**, Kennedy School of Government,
Invited talk by co-author on joint research
Title: Deliberative Democracy in India
- 2009 **Universität Bayreuth**, Bayreuth, Germany
Department of Economics,
Program on International Development
Title: Development through Deliberation: Evidence from Gram Sabhas in South India
- 2008 **The University of Chicago**,
Conference: Culture and Poverty
Title: Poverty and the Culture of Deliberation: Village Meetings in Rural India
- 2007 **The World Bank**, Social Science and Policy Seminar Series
Social Development Department and Development Research Group
Title: Credit, Capital or Coalition: Accounting for Women's Agency and Group-based Collective Mobilizations of Microfinance Groups
- 2007 **Harvard University**, Dept. of Sociology
Course: Gender and Work

- 2006 Title: Microfinance in the context of gender and work in developing countries
Brown University, Department of Sociology
 Title: Credit, Capital, or Coalition: Microfinance & Pathways to Women's Agency
- 2006 **Princeton University**, Department of Sociology
 Title: Credit, Capital, or Coalition: Microfinance & and Pathways to Women's Agency
- 2006 **University of Massachusetts (Boston)**
 Title: Microfinance Groups as Vehicles of Human Rights

Conference Presentations & Sessions Organized

- 2019 Session Organizer: 'Development and Gender'
 Regular session
 American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, New York
- 2019 Paper presentation: "How Women Talk in Indian Democracy: Village Assemblies and the influence of Self-Help Groups."
 Session: The Everyday State: Power and Subjectivity
 Discussant: Session on Gender and Health
 Presider: Session on The State: From Center to Margins
 Eastern Sociological Society Miniconference: Contemporary South Asia, Boston
- 2018 Paper presentation: "Credit Groups, Women's Political Engagement, and Public Goods Provision."
 Session: Social Capital and Social Institutions
 Section: Social Capital
 American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Philadelphia
- 2018 Paper presentation: "Women's Talk-centered Political Participation in Indian Democracy and the Influence of Self-Help Group Membership."
 Session: Political Culture and Gender
 Section: Political Culture
 American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Philadelphia
- 2018 Session Organizer: Refereed Roundtable Session
 Section on Global and Transnational Sociology
 American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Philadelphia
- 2017 Book: *Credit to Capabilities: A Sociological Study of Microcredit Groups in India*, published by Cambridge University Press, 2014.
 Session: Author Meets Critics (with Bruce Carruthers, Karen Cook, and Patrick Heller)
 American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

- 2017 Paper presentation: "Recasting Culture to Undo Gender: A Sociological Analysis of Women's Self-Help Groups in India."
Session: Presidential Panel
Title: Poverty Eradication and Social Inclusion
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
- 2016 Paper presentation: "Microcredit Self-Help Groups and Social Networks: Expanding Poor Women's Personal Contacts."
Session: 'Roundtable'
Section: Sociology of Development
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Seattle
- 2015 Paper presentation: "Talking to the State: Women's 'Self Help Group (SHG)' Membership & Civic Participation in Rural India."
Session on 'Gender, Politics & Governance'
Sociology of Development Conference
Brown University
- 2015 'Author meets Critic' session: Commentator
For the book *Plastic Money: Constructing Markets for Credit Cards in Eight Postcommunist Countries* by Akos Rona-Tas and Alya Guseva, 2014. Stanford University Press.
Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) annual meeting, New York City
- 2014 Session Organizer (with co-organizer: Alya Guseva): 'Credit, Poverty and Inequality'
Section on Economic Sociology
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, San Francisco
- 2014 Paper presentation: "Microcredit Money: Converting Loans to Leverage."
Session: 'Money Advances: International Developments'
Section: Economic Sociology
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, San Francisco
- 2014 Paper presentation: "Microcredit Groups and Women's Social Capital: Why socio-religious composition matters?"
Session: 'Development and Gender'
Section: Sociology of Development
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, San Francisco
- 2012 Organizer & Panel Chair: 'Microcredit: (De)Constructing Capabilities in the Age of Capitalism.'
Network: States & Society
Social Science History Association (SSHA) meeting, Vancouver

- 2012 Paper presentation: "How religious composition matters for a capitalist welfare intervention: Collective Action and Sanctioning by Microcredit Groups in India."
Network: States & Society
Social Science History Association (SSHA) annual meeting, Vancouver
- 2012 Paper presentation: "Economic and Political Culture in the Indian Public Sphere: A study of 'Gram Sabha' Deliberations."
Session: Sociology of Culture & Economic Sociology
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Denver
- 2012 Paper presentation: "Hazards of Heterogeneity (and Homogeneity): Collective Action and Sanctioning in Microcredit Groups."
Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) annual meeting, New York City
- 2010 Paper presentation: "Dignity through Discourse: Poverty and the Culture of Deliberation in Indian Village Democracies."
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Atlanta
- 2009 Paper presentation: "From Credit to Collective Action: The Role of Microfinance in Women's Social Capital and Normative Influence."
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, San Francisco.
- 2009 Paper presentation: "From Credit to Collective Action: The Role of Microfinance in Women's Social Capital and Normative Influence."
Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) annual meeting, Baltimore
- 2007 Paper presentation: "Credit versus Coalition: Exploring the Influence of Microfinance Programs on Women's Agency."
Session: Development
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, New York City
- 2007 Paper presentation: "Microfinance and Beyond: Structural Interventions Promoting Economic Opportunity and HIV Risk Reduction."
Yale University, Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA), New Haven, Connecticut
- 2005 Paper presentation: "Contentious Collaborators: Research and Practice in the field of Microfinance"; "Capacity Building through Partnership: Intermediary Nongovernmental Organizations as Local and Global Actors."
Association for Research on Nonprofit and Voluntary Associations (ARNOVA) annual meeting, Washington D.C.
- 2005 Paper presentation: "Microfinance: Cultural consequences of an economic intervention."

American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Philadelphia

Awards & Honors

- 2019 Nomination for Teaching Award, Florida State University
2015 Outstanding Book Award, American Sociological Association, Section on Sociology of Development
2013 New Faculty Institute, Center for Teaching Excellence, Cornell University
2006 Pascucci Fellowship- for Dissertation Completion Harvard University
2005 Emerging Scholar Award, The Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA)
2005 Certificate of Distinction For Teaching Harvard University

Fellowships & Grants

- 2018-2022 American Institutes of Research (AIR)
Gates Foundation grant
Project Title: Women's Empowerment Collectives (WEC) Research Consortium.
Role: Consultant
Grant amount: **\$8,800**
- 2011-2017 International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) and Global Development Network (GDN) grant
Project Title: Poverty and Empowerment Impacts of the Bihar Rural Livelihoods Project
Role: Co-PI
Grant amount: **\$496,943**
3ie is a non-profit organization supporting evaluation research on development programs <<http://www.3ieimpact.org/>>
- 2013-2014 Affinito-Stewart Grant
President's Council of Cornell Women
Project Title: Talking to the State: Women's Participation in Deliberative Development.
Role: PI
Grant amount: **\$4,600**

Teaching

Graduate Courses

Gender, Work, and Family
Inequalities: Race, Class and Gender
Gender and Development
Readings in Economic Sociology *
Culture in Economic Sociology*
Gender in Global Capitalist Production*
[* Indicates taught at another institution.]

Undergraduate Courses

Introductory Sociology
Culture in Markets and Economies*
Gender, Work, and the Family (U.S. & Europe) *
Sociological Methods*
Introduction to Economic Sociology*
Gender and Development (Global South)*
Classical and Contemporary Sociological Theory*
[* Indicates taught at another institution.]

Student Advising

Graduate Students

Florida State University

2018 Katherine Tindell, Department of Sociology,
Member of Masters Thesis Committee
2017 Shawn Gaulden, Department of Sociology,
Member of Doctoral Committee
2017 Taylor Jackson, Department of Sociology,
Chair of Masters Thesis Committee
2016 Tayelor E. Valerio, Department of Sociology,
Chair of the Masters Thesis Committee
2016 Rachel Douglas, Department of Sociology,
Member of Masters Thesis Committee

Cornell University

2017 Yujin Oh, Department of Sociology,
Member of the Graduate Doctoral Thesis Committee
2016 Tara Agrawal, Division of Nutritional Sciences,
Member of the Graduate Doctoral Thesis Committee

- 2014 Jerry Benjamin, Asian Studies
Member of the Masters Thesis Committee
- 2013 Erin Lentz, Department of Sociology,
Member of the Graduate Doctoral Thesis Committee
- 2013 Jung mee Park, Department of Sociology,
Member of the Graduate Doctoral Thesis Committee
- 2013 Alexa P. Yesukevich, Department of Sociology,
Member of the Graduate Doctoral Thesis Committee

External Institutions

- 2013 Preeti Mudliar, University of Texas, Austin, Dept. of Communications,
Member of the Graduate Doctoral Thesis Committee
- 2011 ATM Jahiruddin, University of Queensland, Australia, Department of
Sociology,
External Reviewer for Ph.D. thesis

Undergraduate Students

- 2015 Jeong Hyun Oh, Cornell University, Department of Sociology
Thesis Title: "You Win or You Die": The Effect of Limited Resource on
Child Mortality
Undergraduate Thesis Committee (Advisor)
- 2013 Chloe Hart*, Cornell University, Department of Sociology
Thesis Title: Em'Body'ed Capital: The Pursuit and Ranking of
Attractiveness among Women at an Ivy League University
Undergraduate Thesis Committee (Advisor)

*currently pursuing graduate studies in Sociology at Stanford
University
- 2012 Adam Kahn, Cornell University, Institute of Labor Relations
Thesis Title: Microfinance in Andhra Pradesh: Perspectives on the
Causes and Impacts of the October 2010 Microfinance Crisis
Undergraduate Thesis Committee, Second Reader
- 2011 Anna Cash Waber, Wesleyan University, Department of Sociology
Thesis Title: Social Entrepreneurship and Processes of "Culture-
Making" in the World of Poverty Alleviation
Undergraduate Thesis Committee (Advisor)
- 2011 Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver*, Wesleyan University, Department of
Sociology,
Thesis Title: Women Waging Wars: Uncovering the Role, Significance,
and Lasting Effects of Women in Nepal's Peoples War, 1996-2006
Undergraduate Thesis Committee (Advisor)

**graduated* with Honors from the College of Social Studies, Wesleyan University

- 2009 Carlyn Wright-Eakes, Wesleyan University, Department of Sociology
Thesis Title: Women's Work in the Informal Garbage Collecting
Community in Guatemala City
Undergraduate Thesis Committee (Advisor)

Services to the Profession

Section Leadership, American Sociological Association:

- 2019 Regular Session, 'Development and Gender', Session Organizer
- 2018 *Section on Global and Transnational Sociology*, ASA Roundtable
Session, Session Organizer
- 2017 *Section on Global and Transnational Sociology*, Best Student Paper
Award Committee, Committee Member
- 2016 *Section on Economic Sociology*, Viviana Zelizer Book Award
Committee, Committee Member
- 2016 *Section on Comparative Historical Sociology*, Reinhard Bendix Best
Student Article Award Committee, Committee Chair

Conference Session Presider & Chair:

- 2012 Roundtable Session Presider: 'Sociology of Economic Behavior',
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Denver
- 2005 Session Chair: 'Organization Analysis in Comparative Perspective',
ARNOVA annual meeting, Washington D.C.
- 2005 Session Chair: 'Welfare and National Organizations',
American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting, Philadelphia

Reviewer for Grant Committees:

- 2014 Economic and Social Research Council, U.K. (ESRC-DFID Joint Fund for
Poverty Alleviation Research
- 2014 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)
- 2014 Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), Department
of Social Sciences, Research Talent

Guest Editor for Journal Special Issue

2016 *Studies in Comparative International Development, New Takes on Gender and Development*

Peer Reviewing:

Reviewer for the following Journals: *American Sociological Review; American Journal of Sociology; Sociological Theory; Mobilization; Non-Profit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly; Voluntas; Socio-Economic Review; Geoforum; Contemporary South Asia; The European Journal of Development Research; Oxford Development Studies; Journal of Asian and African Studies, World Development*

Services at Florida State University

2018-2021 Faculty Senate (member)
2018-2021 Library Committee (member)
2018 Boren Fellowship Committee
2017-2018 Inequalities and Social Justice Committee (chair)
2016-2017 Colloquium Committee (chair)
2016-2017 Graduate Program Committee (member)

Services at Cornell University

2014-2015 South Asia Program, Fulbright Committee (member)
2012-2015 Faculty Senate (member)
2014-2015 Graduate Admissions Committee (member)
2012-2013 Graduate Admissions Committee (member)
2011-2012 Mellon Post-doc Selection Committee (member)

Updated April, 2019