

MICHAEL BIGGS

Employment

- 2006- Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of Oxford
- 2005-06 Lecturer, School of Sociology and Social Policy, Queen's University Belfast
- 2003-05 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2000-02 Junior Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of Oxford

Education

- 2000 Doctor of Philosophy, Sociology, Harvard University: 'The Rise and Decline of a Mass Movement: American Workers and the Strike Wave of 1886' (Chair: Theda Skocpol)
- 1991 Bachelor of Arts—First Class Honours, History and Economic History, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Publications

- 'Explaining Membership in the British National Party: A Multilevel Analysis of Contact and Threat' (with Steven Knauss), *European Sociological Review*, forthcoming
- 'From Protest to Organization: The Impact of the 1960 Sit-Ins on Movement Organizations in the American South' (with Kenneth T. Andrews), *The Diffusion of Social Movements: Actors, Frames, and Political Effects*, ed. Rebecca Kolins Givan, Sarah A. Soule, and Kenneth M. Roberts, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010, pp. 187-203
- 'Self-Fulfilling Prophecies', *The Oxford Handbook of Analytical Sociology*, ed. Peter Bearman and Peter Hedström, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009, pp. 294-314
- 'Who Joined the Sit-ins and Why: Southern Black Students in the early 1960s', *Mobilization*, vol. 11, no. 3, 2006, pp. 241-56
- (with Kenneth T. Andrews) 'The Dynamics of Protest Diffusion: Movement Organizations, Social Networks, and News Media in the 1960 Sit-Ins', *American Sociological Review*, vol. 71, no. 5, 2006, pp. 752-77
- 'Dying without Killing: Self-Immolations, 1963-2002', *Making Sense of Suicide Missions*, ed. Diego Gambetta, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005 (revised paperback ed. 2006), pp. 173-208, 320-24; Spanish translation: 'Morir sin matar: las autoinmolaciones, 1963-2002', *El sentido de las misiones suicidas*, Mexico City: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2009
- 'Strikes as Forest Fires: Chicago and Paris in the Late 19th Century', *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 110, no. 6, 2005, pp. 1684-1714
- 'Positive Feedback in Collective Mobilization: The American Strike Wave of 1886', *Theory and Society*, vol. 32, no. 2, 2003, pp. 217-54

‘Strikes as Sequences of Interaction: The American Strike Wave of 1886’, *Social Science History*, vol. 26, no. 3, 2002, pp. 583-617—awarded biennial prize for the best article by a graduate student published in *Social Science History*

‘Putting the State on the Map: Cartography, Territory, and European State Formation’, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, vol. 41, no. 2, 1999, pp. 374-411

Under review

(with Raheel Dhattiwala) ‘Explaining Spatial Variation in Hindu-Muslim Violence in Gujarat, 2002’

‘How Suicide Protest Entered the Global Repertoire of Contention’

(with Kenneth T. Andrews) ‘Protest Campaigns and Movement Success: Desegregating the South, 1960-61’ (revise and resubmit, *American Sociological Review*)

Work in progress

‘When Costs are Beneficial: Protest as Communicative Suffering’ (*Sociology Working Papers*, University of Oxford, no. 2003/04)

Explaining the Dynamics of Collective Protest: The Strike Wave of 1886 in Chicago, Cambridge University Press

Recent presentations

(with Raheel Dhattiwala) ‘Explaining Spatial Variation in Hindu-Muslim Violence in Gujarat, 2002’, South Asia in Transition conference, University of Oxford, November 2011

‘Contingent Events and Enduring Legacies: Reassessing the Effect of the Haymarket Bomb’, invited paper to thematic session on the Legacies of 1886, annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, August 2011

‘Explaining Membership in the British National Party: A Multilevel Analysis of Contact and Threat’ (with Steven Knauss), annual meeting of the British Sociological Association, London, April 2011; Collegio Carlo Alberto, Turin, May 2011; Centro Dondena, Università Bocconi, Milan, May 2011

(with Kenneth T. Andrews) ‘Desegregating the South: The Impact of Movement, Political, and Economic Characteristics on Success’, annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Atlanta, August 2010

‘Representations of Forcible Feeding by Suffragettes and Irish Republicans, 1909-1917’, annual conference of the Women’s History Network, Oxford, September 2009; Gender and History forum, University of Oxford, February 2010

‘Why British Suffragettes Adopted the Hunger Strike’, annual conference of the Social History Society, Warwick University, April 2009; 29th Irish Conference of Historians: Power and History, Limerick, June 2009

‘Hunger strikes and State Legitimacy: The End of Forcible Feeding in 1917-18’, conference on Imprisonment and the Irish, Mater Dei Institute of Education, City University of Dublin, September 2009

‘Theorizing the Efficacy of Hunger Strikes’, annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, November 2005; Nuffield College, Oxford, February 2007; European Studies Center, University of Washington, April 2009

‘The Transnational Diffusion of Protest by Self-Immolation’, Crossing Borders conference, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung, October 2006; Department of Sociology, University of Kent at Canterbury, February 2008; Department of Sociology, Surrey University, February 2008; Department of History, Victoria University of Wellington, 28 March 2008; Nuffield College, Workshop on Analytical Sociology, April 2008; Juan March Institute, Madrid, May 2009; Institute for Social Change, University of Manchester, October 2009

‘From Event-History Analysis to Simulation: Replaying the Tape of History for the 1960 Sit-ins’, CabDyn seminar, Saïd Business School, Oxford, November 2006; Complexity Seminar, Brunel University, March 2007

Other publications

‘Prophecy (self-fulfilling/self-defeating)’, *Encyclopedia of Philosophy and the Social Sciences*, ed. Byron Kaldis, Sage, forthcoming

‘Storm in a Teacup? A Comment on Ullmann-Margalit’, *Norms and Values: The Role of Social Norms as Instruments of Value Realisation*, ed. Michael Baurmann, Geoffrey Brennan, Bob Goodin, and Nicholas Southwood, Baden-Baden: Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft, 2010, pp. 143-48

‘Dying for a Cause—Alone?’, *Contexts*, vol. 7, no. 2, 2008, pp. 22-27

Review of Matthias Reiss (ed.), *The Street as Stage: Protest Marches and Public Rallies since the Nineteenth Century*, *Cultural and Social History*, vol. 6, no. 2, 2009, pp. 250-52

Review of Stathis N. Kalyvas, *The Logic of Violence in Civil War*, *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 113, no. 2, 2007, pp. 558-60

Review of Marek M. Kaminski, *Games Prisoners Play: The Tragicomic Worlds of Polish Prison*, *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 110, no. 6, 2005, pp. 1820-22

Review of Maryjane Osa, *Solidarity and Contention: Networks of Polish Opposition*, *Social Forces*, vol. 83, no. 1, 2004, pp. 447-49

Review of Beverly J. Silver, *Forces of Labor: Workers’ Movements and Globalization since 1870*, *Contemporary Sociology*, vol. 33, no. 4, 2004, pp. 467-69

‘A Century of American Exceptionalism: Review Essay on Seymour Martin Lipset and Gary Marks, *It Didn’t Happen Here: Why Socialism Failed in The United States*,’ *Thesis 11*, no. 68, 2002, pp. 110-21

Review of James C. Scott, *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, vol. 44, no. 4, 2002, pp. 852-54

Review of Stephen K. Sanderson, *Social Transformations: A General Theory of Historical Development*, *Contemporary Sociology*, vol. 26, no. 1, 1997, pp. 47-48

Contributor to *New Zealand Historical Atlas*, ed. Malcolm McKinnon, Wellington: David Bateman in association with Historical Branch, Department of Internal Affairs, 1997

Kevin Hince, with Kerry Taylor, Jacqui Peace, and Michael Biggs, *Opening Hours: History of the Wellington Shop Employees Union*, Wellington: Wellington Shop Employees Union, 1990

Research grants

‘Student Protest and Digital Media: The Campaign Against Tuition Fees’, £6,914 awarded by the John Fell OUP Research Fund (102/671), 2011

‘Protest Demonstrations in London over Two Centuries’, £25,315 awarded by the John Fell OUP Research Fund (072/616), 2008-09

‘Hunger Strikes by Suffragettes and Irish Republicans, 1909-1923: Compiling a Database of Individuals and Events’, £71,873 awarded by the British Academy (LRG-45549), 2007-09

‘Hunger Strikes Against British Rule, 1909-1933: Campaigns for Women’s Suffrage, Irish Independence, and Indian Independence’, \$12,335 awarded by the University of Illinois Research Board, 2004-05

‘Self-immolation: A Global Dataset, 1963-2002’, £4,216, awarded by the Economic and Social Research Council (000-22-033), 2002

Media

Online and newswire interviews: BBC World News online; BBC News magazine; France 24 online; Inter Press Service news agency

Radio interviews: Outlook on BBC World Service; Newshour on BBC World Service; All Things Considered, The Takeaway, and Interfaith Voices on National Public Radio; Public Radio International; CBC Radio; The Wide Angle on Newstalk Radio Ireland

Newspaper interview: *Toronto Star*

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Board, *Mobilization*, 2007-

Reviewer for *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *British Journal of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Mobilization*, *Sociological Theory*, *World Politics*, *Social Science History*, *Organization Studies*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Qualitative Sociology*, *Social Movement Studies*, *Policy and Politics*, *Transcultural Psychology*

Reviewer for ESRC First Grant Scheme; Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research

Reviewer for Sage Publications, series on Quantitative Applications in the Social Sciences

Organizer, Sessions on Collective Behavior, annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, 2005

TEACHING

Completed doctoral students

Thomas Grund, ‘Antecedents and Consequences of Social Networks: Macro-Implications of Micro-Dynamics’, DPhil 2010 (with Peter Hedström); Postdoctoral Fellow at ETH Zurich

Sandra Gonzalez-Bailon, ‘Mapping Civil Society on the Web: Networks, Alliances and Informational Landscapes’, DPhil 2007; Research Fellow at Oxford Internet Institute and Fellow of Nuffield College, University of Oxford

Courses designed and taught

Social Movements: Illinois, undergraduate; Oxford, graduate

Introduction to Social Statistics: Illinois and Queen’s, undergraduate

Classical Sociological Theory: Illinois, graduate (*ranked excellent, fall 2004*); Queen’s, undergraduate

Analytical Sociological Theory: Oxford, graduate and undergraduate

Social Dynamics—Theories, Models, Methods: Illinois, graduate

Sociological Analysis: Oxford, graduate

Introduction to Sociology: Illinois, undergraduate

Explaining Knowledge: Harvard, undergraduate

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