

Roberto R. Aspholm

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

University of St. Thomas
Morrison Family College of Health
School of Social Work
2115 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105
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EDUCATION

2016 PhD, Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago
Dissertation: *"This Ain't the '90s": Chicago's Black Street Gangs in the Twenty-First Century*

2009 MSW, Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago

2008 BSW, Loyola University Chicago, *magna cum laude*
minor: Criminal Justice

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2020–Present Assistant Professor of Social Work
University of St. Thomas

2016–2020 Assistant Professor of Social Work
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

PUBLICATIONS

Book Manuscripts

2020 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2020). *Views from the streets: The transformation of gangs and violence on Chicago's South Side*. Columbia University Press.

Refereed Journal Articles

2019 **Aspholm, R. R.**, St. Vil, C., & Carter, K. (2019). Interpersonal gun violence research in the social work literature. *Health & Social Work, 44*(4), 224–231.

2016 Mattaini, M. A., & **Aspholm, R. R.** (2016). Contributions of behavioral systems science to leadership for a new progressive movement. *The Behavior Analyst, 39*(1), 109–121.

Book Chapters

- Forthcoming **Aspholm, R. R.** (forthcoming). Off the books and off the blocks: The dual economic marginalization of black gang members in Chicago. In D. C. Brotherton & R. Gude (Eds.), *International handbook of critical gang studies*. Routledge.
- 2017 **Aspholm, R. R.**, & Mattaini, M. A. (2017). Youth activism as violence prevention. In P. Sturmev (Ed.), *Wiley handbook of violence and aggression*. Wiley-Blackwell.

Reports

- 2019 Hagedorn, J., **Aspholm, R.**, Córdova, T., Papachristos, A., & Williams, L. (2019). *The fracturing of gangs and violence: A research based reorientation of violence prevention and intervention policy*. Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago.
- 2017 Gleeson, J. P., **Aspholm, R. R.**, & Agamah A. S. (2017). *Family Options IV (FOIV) project evaluation final report*. Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago.
- 2011 Strickland, J. A., & **Aspholm, R. R.** (2011). *Preventing recidivism of boot camp participants: Final report*. Jane Addams Center for Social Policy and Research, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Other Publications

- 2020 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2020, August 15). To talk about racial disparity and COVID-19, we need to talk about class. *Jacobin*.
<https://www.jacobinmag.com/2020/08/racial-disparity-covid-19-coronavirus>
- 2020 **Aspholm, R. R.**, & Hagedorn, J. M. (2020, April 30). How the coronavirus and Chicago's gun violence are related. *Chicago Sun-Times*.
<https://chicago.suntimes.com/2020/4/30/21243053/coronavirus-african-american-chicago-violent-crime-covid>
- 2019 Hagedorn, J. M., **Aspholm, R.**, Córdova, T., Papachristos, A., & Williams, L. (2019, April). Chicago's gangs have changed. Our violence intervention strategies should too. *Chicago Reporter*.
<https://www.chicagoreporter.com/chicagos-gangs-have-changed-our-violence-intervention-strategies-should-too/>

In Preparation

- Housing, gangs, and homicide in Chicago's third ghetto. *Urban Affairs Review*.
- The anatomy of contemporary gang violence on Chicago's South Side. *Criminology*.
- Paradoxes and constraints in community intervention. *Social Work*.
- Navigating roles and relationships in research on gangs and violence. *Qualitative Inquiry*.

RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 QSR-IIQM Research Grant for Early Career Researchers
International Institute for Qualitative Methodology
Under Review: \$25,000
- 2018 Seed Grants for Transitional and Exploratory Research
Graduate School, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Funded: \$12,310
- 2018 Community Based Crime Reduction – East Side Aligned
Principal Investigator
U.S. Department of Justice
Funded: \$1 million; Subcontract: \$59,042
- 2015–2016 Dean’s Scholar Award
Graduate College, University of Illinois at Chicago
Funded: \$35,754
- 2014 Provost’s Award for Graduate Research
Graduate College, University of Illinois at Chicago
Funded: \$1,168

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2019 Keynote Speaker, Illinois Association for Behavior Analysis
- 2018 Graduate School Research Award, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- 2017 Targeted Funding Initiative, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- 2014 Grace Holt Memorial Award, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2011–2013 Dean’s Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Conferences Organized

- 2018 The Fracturing of Gangs Conference. This one-day, invitation-only working conference convened Chicago’s top gang researchers, street-level experts, community service providers, and others to explore the current state of gangs in Chicago, the nature of violence in the city, and the implications of these realities for violence prevention policy. The conference was held at the Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois at Chicago in April 2018.

Peer-Reviewed Presentations

- 2020 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2020, November). Off the books and off the blocks: The dual economic marginalization of black gang members in Chicago. Paper accepted for the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Washington, DC (conference cancelled).

- 2019 **Aspholm, R. R.**, St. Vil, C., & Carter, K. A. E. (2019, October). Gun violence and social work: Current trends and future directions. Interactive workshop conducted at the Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.
- 2019 Carter, K. A. E., Schreiber, J., & **Aspholm, R. R.** (2019, October). Weaving diversity through the layers of explicit and implicit curriculum. Panel conducted at the Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting, Denver, CO.
- 2015 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2015, November). "This ain't the '90s": Chicago street gangs and gang violence in the twenty-first century. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Washington, DC.
- 2015 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2015, January). "No big I's and little you's": The structural breakdown of Chicago's black street gangs. Paper presented at the Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- 2014 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2014, October). Views from the streets: Chicago gang members' perspectives on violence reduction. Paper presented at the Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Tampa, FL.
- 2012 Strickland, J. A., & **Aspholm, R. R.** (2012, November). Preparing for community reentry: An exploration of a correctional boot camp. Poster presented at the Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting, Washington, DC.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2020, February). Making Sense of the Pruitt-Igoe Myth. Invited talk given to all student staff members at Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO.
- 2019 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2019, March). Deconstructing the black box: Making sense of gang violence in Chicago. Invited talk given at the Illinois Association for Behavior Analysis Annual Conference, Springfield, IL.
- 2019 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2019, March). Street gang research: Lessons from Chicago. Invited talk given to the St. Louis Metropolitan Research Exchange.
- 2017 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2017, September). Chicago's black street gangs: Historical roots and contemporary dynamics. Invited talk given to the Black Studies Department at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.
- 2014 **Aspholm, R. R.** (2014, October). Conducting research with Chicago street gangs. Invited talk given at University of Illinois at Chicago.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of St. Thomas

Social Policy and Program Development (F20)

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Diversity and Issues of Social and Economic Justice (F16, S17, F17, F18, Su19, F19)
Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities (F16, Su17, F17)
Social Welfare Policy Analysis (S17, S18)
Substance Abuse Services (S17, S18)
Applied Social Science Research (Su17)
Qualitative Research Methods (S18)
Street Gangs: Critical Perspectives (S18, S19, S20)
Understanding Violence in the Human Community (F18)

Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago

Social Work Research I (S15; S12—TA)
Community Violence (F13, F14)

Adler University

Collaborative Policy Making & Civic Engagement (Su14, Su15, Su16)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2018–Present	Principal Investigator, “Street Gangs and Violence in the St. Louis Area: An Ethnographic Exploration.” Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Funding: SIUE Seed Grants for Transitional and Exploratory Research – \$12,310.
2018–Present	Principal Investigator, “Community Based Crime Reduction – East Side Aligned.” East Side Aligned. Funding: Bureau of Justice Assistance – \$1 million (subcontract – \$59,042).
2013–2016	Principal Investigator, “Chicago’s Black Street Gangs in the Twenty-First Century.” Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago. Funding: Dean's Scholar Award – \$35,754; Provost’s Award for Graduate Research – \$1,168.
2013–2016	Research Assistant, “Family Options IV Project Evaluation.” Jane Addams College of Social Work, University of Illinois at Chicago. Funding: Children’s Bureau (AIA) – \$300,000.
2010–2011	Research Assistant, “Preventing Recidivism of Boot Camp Participants.” Jane Addams Center for Social Policy and Research, University of Illinois at Chicago.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

2019–2020	Bachelor of Social Work Program Director, SIUE
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SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Manuscript Reviewer

2019–Present	Routledge (Sociology and Social Work)
2019–Present	<i>The Behavior Analyst</i>
2013–2016	<i>Journal of Interpersonal Violence</i>
2013	<i>Journal of the Criminal Justice Policy Review</i>
2012	<i>Journal of Offender Rehabilitation</i>

Community Involvement

2019–Present	Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice, East St. Louis
2017–Present	East Side Aligned, Safe & Thriving Communities
2017	CEU Training for Social Work Practitioners in St. Louis Area
2012–2016	The Dovetail Project, Chairman, Board of Directors
2015	Perspectives of the Policed: A Forum on Building Community Justice

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2019–2020	College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee, SIUE
2019–2020	Student Social Work Association Faculty Mentor, SIUE
2019–2020	Operating Paper Committee, Member, SIUE
2018, 2019	Faculty Search Committee, Member, SIUE
2018	Student Behavioral Policy Committee, Chair, SIUE
2017	Race Dynamics & Racism on Today's Campus, Closing Remarks, SIUE
2012–2014	Doctoral Committee, Student Representative, UIC
2013–2014	Graduate Student Council, Department Representative, UIC
2013–2014	Jane Addams College of Social Work Admissions Office, Reviewer, UIC

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

2019	Supporting diverse needs through inclusive design and universal preference. (October 2019). Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.
2018	Faculty Book Club— <i>Whistling Vivaldi: How stereotypes affect us and what we can do</i> . (Fall 2018). Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.
2017	Faculty Book Club— <i>Between the world and me</i> . (Fall 2017). Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

QUOTED IN THE MEDIA

2020	Chavis, L. (2020, July 31). Q&A: An outdated understanding of Chicago gangs could be hampering gun violence prevention. <i>The Trace</i> . https://www.thetrace.org/2020/07/chicago-gang-gun-violence-law-enforcement/
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2020 Blumberg, N. (2020, July 27). Critics say Chicago police need to rethink tracking gang members, curbing violence. *WTTW*. <https://news.wttw.com/2020/07/27/critics-say-chicago-police-need-rethink-tracking-gang-members-curbing-violence>

2020 Sweeney, A. (2020, March 11). Fairness, usefulness of gang database questioned as Chicago police plan to overhaul controversial system. *Chicago Tribune*. <https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/criminal-justice/ct-chicago-police-gang-database-analysis-20200311-b5kc3aiamran5chtybzd2tmcam-story.html>

2019 Ali, S. S. (2019, September 29). Crossing a line in gang wars: Chicago gang members on trial in execution-style murder of 9-year-old. *NBC News*. <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/crossing-line-gang-wars-chicago-gang-members-trial-execution-style-n1059306>

2019 Egonmwan, K., & McGill, M. (2019, April 19). Interview on the Afternoon Drive radio show. WVON 1690 AM.

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

2012 Acclivus, Inc., Program Coordinator

2009–2011 Metropolitan Area Group for Igniting Civilization, Director of Youth Programs and Youth Organizer

2009–2010 Chicago Youth Centers, College and Career Readiness Specialist

2009 Walter H. Dyett High School, Head Coach, Varsity Track and Field Team

2008–2009 Grand Boulevard Federation, Graduate Student Intern

2007–2008 U.S. Probation Office – Northern District of Illinois, Student Intern

2006–2008 Youth Organization Umbrella, Youth Development Worker

2007 North Community YMCA, Lead Staff, Beacon’s Program

2006 Hennepin County Adolescent Services, Intern

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2019 Council on Social Work Education

2015–2017 American Society of Criminology

2014–2016 Society for Social Work and Research