

# Heather R. Hlavka

Department of Sociology  
University of Minnesota  
909 Social Science Building  
267 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Direct. 612.963.6412  
Fax. 612.624.7020  
E-mail. [hlavka@socsci.umn.edu](mailto:hlavka@socsci.umn.edu)  
E-mail. [h.hlavka@hotmail.com](mailto:h.hlavka@hotmail.com)

---

Doctoral Candidate – Department of Sociology/ Law, Criminology and Deviance  
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities

**Dissertation:** When Disclosure Becomes Discourse: Children’s Meaning Making of Sexual Abuse  
Chris Uggen (co-advisor), Ross Macmillan (co-advisor), Candace Kruttschnitt (chair), and  
Jane Gilgun (committee member)

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology/ Law, Criminology and Deviance (major) and Women’s Studies  
(minor) University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

**Senior thesis:** The Relationship of Childhood Sexual Abuse with Later Sexual Assault Offending:  
Gender and Background Considerations

## Dissertation Abstract.

*Over the past three decades, the cultural and legal meaning of sexual violence has changed dramatically. While it is commonly acknowledged that child sexual abuse is a pervasive problem, children’s interpretations of abuse are generally ignored in academic, legal, and policy research. This study examines children’s linguistic descriptions and interpretations of sexual abuse through an experiential and constructivist lens. Using 100 semi-structured videotaped interviews of children’s disclosures of sexual abuse from 1995-2004, the study focuses on how memory construction is negotiated through interactional conversation, and more broadly, on the culturally collective ideologies embraced and rejected by children. Included in this work are the social, historical, and cultural factors that contribute not only to how children describe abuse, but to how institutions interpret and decide, collectively and legally, what constitutes child sexual abuse. Analyses focus on how similarities and differences in meaning and interpretation are patterned discursively by children and professionals in an interview setting according to demographic (e.g., gender, age, race) and case characteristics (e.g., abuse type, perpetrator relationship). This study contributes to an understanding of how children assign different meanings to sexual abuse, and as such, how language provides the link between personal and collective experience.*

## Research and Teaching Interests.

Criminology, Gender and Sexuality, Criminal Justice, Mental Health, Research Methods

## Publications.

Hlavka, Heather, Candace Kruttschnitt and Kristin Carbone-López. Forthcoming. “Revictimizing the Victims? Interviewing Women About Interpersonal Violence.” *The Journal of Interpersonal Violence*

Hlavka, Heather R. 2005. “Perspectives on Female Sex Offending: A Culture of Denial - Review of Myriam Denov.” *The Howard Journal of Criminal Justice* 44:333-334.

## Manuscripts in Progress.

- Justice for All? Children’s Dilemma of Deciding Whether to Disclose Sexual Abuse
- Exploring the Use of Anatomical Dolls By Sexual Abuse Forensic Interviewers
- Collective Conscious or Moral Panic? The Public Response to Sexual Predators

---

## Awards and Honors.

**Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship • 2007**

University of Minnesota Graduate School, Amount: \$21,500

**Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award • 2007**

Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota

**Invited Program Committee Member**

American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, Georgia • 2007

**Professional Development Travel Award**

Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota, Amount: \$400 • 2006

**Anna Welsch Bright Research Fellowship**

Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota, Amount: \$3,000 • 2005

**Graduate Research Partnership Program**

College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota, Amount: \$5,500 • 2004

**Life Course Center Travel Award**

Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota Amount: \$400 • 2004

## Professional Presentations.

Heather R. Hlavka\*. “Beyond Disclosure of Sexual Victimization: How and Why Children Tell”  
American Society of Criminology, Annual Meeting, November 14<sup>th</sup>, Atlanta, GA • 2007

Heather R. Hlavka\*. “To Tell or Not to Tell: How Do Child Attributions and Perpetrator Framing  
Impact Children’s Disclosures of Sexual Assault?”  
American Society of Criminology, Annual Meeting, November 4<sup>th</sup>, Los Angeles, CA • 2006

Heather R. Hlavka\*, Candace Kruttschnitt, and Kristin Carbone-López. “Effects of Victimization  
Research on Women Experiencing Violence”  
American Society of Criminology, Annual Meeting, November 17<sup>th</sup>, Nashville, TN • 2004

Heather R. Hlavka\* “Rape Trauma Experts in the Courtroom: The Construction of Knowledge and  
Memory” Annual Sociological Research Institute, University of Minnesota • 2003

## Community Presentations.

Heather R. Hlavka\*. “Child Sexual Abuse: Re-conceptualizing Power and Resistance”  
Neighborhood Involvement Program, Rape and Sexual Abuse Center, Minneapolis, MN • 2005

Heather R. Hlavka\* and Timothy Clark. “Being a Successful Teaching Assistant”  
Center for Teaching and Learning Enrichment Workshops, University of Minnesota • 2004

## Research Experience.

### **Minnesota Exits and Entries Project**

#### *Research Assistant and Interviewer*

Research project design, development and in-depth interviewing. The focus is on vulnerable young adults entering the general population after exiting from one of six different institutional settings including: (1) foster care; (2) mental health treatment; (3) chemical health treatment; (4) the armed forces; (5) the juvenile justice system; and (6) the prison system.

Co-PIs: Chris Uggen, Candace Kruttschnitt, Ross Macmillan, Jeylan Mortimer, Teresa Gowan, Teresa Swartz, and Carl Malmquist, University of Minnesota • 2006-present

### **Women's Experiences of Violence: Victimization and Offending in Women's Lives**

#### *Research Assistant and Interviewer*

In-depth interviewing, management and analysis of interview data on women's experiences of violence sponsored by The National Consortium on Violence Research (NCOVR)

Co-PIs: Candace Kruttschnitt, University of Minnesota, Julie Horney, Sally Simpson, and Rosemary Gartner • 2002-2004

### **The Use of Anatomical Dolls in Forensic Interviewing**

#### *Research Assistant and Consultant*

Research assistant and survey construction consultant for Anatomical Doll Project.

With Ross Macmillan, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota

CornerHouse, Interagency Child Abuse Evaluation Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota • 2004

### **McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enersen, LLP**

#### *Paralegal*

Research assistant, document analysis and trial preparation for environmental and healthcare litigation firm. Training and supervision of legal assistants.

Los Angeles, California • 1999-2001

### **Minnesota House of Representatives**

#### *Research Assistant and Public Policy Intern*

Analysis and tracking of bills in action regarding marriage dissolution and child support during 1997 legislative session. Committee/Senate Conference documentation and final research report.

With Jacquelyn Zita, Department of Women's Studies, University of Minnesota • 1997

## Teaching Experience.

### **Instructor Appointments**

Domestic Criminal Violence, Summer 2007

Sex Crimes and Moral Panic (Instructor-designed incorporating Service Learning), Fall 2006

Criminal Behavior and Social Control, Fall 2005, Spring 2006

Sociological Research Methods, Summer 2005

Introduction to the American Criminal Justice System, Fall 2004, Spring 2005, Summer 2006

Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota • 2004 – current

### **Administrative Fellow, Graduate Teaching Assistant Mentor**

Co-facilitator, Teaching Assistant Mentorship Program, Fall 2004

Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota • 2004

**Laboratory Instructor Appointments**

Sociological Research Methods, Professor Erin Kelly, Fall 2003, Summer 2002  
Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota • 2002-2003

**Teaching Assistant Appointments**

Killing, Carl Malmquist, Spring 2007  
Senior Major Projects Seminar, Ross Macmillan, Spring 2004, Spring 2007  
Senior Major Projects Seminar, Candace Kruttschnitt, Spring 2003  
Social Theory, Yakov Shchukin, Fall 2003  
Domestic Criminal Violence, Candace Kruttschnitt, Fall 2002  
Sociology of Law, Elizabeth H. Boyle, Spring 2002  
Crime and Criminal Justice, Joel Samaha, Fall 2001, Spring 2002, Summer 2002  
Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota • 2001-2004

**Educational Development**

*Community Project: Community Learning and Activism in the Classroom*

*Take Back The News* undergraduate student and service agency collaborative project publicizing the voices of victims of sexual violence on and around the University of Minnesota campus.

Media: “Take Back Minnesota News” – *Minnesota Daily*, Monday April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Media: “Project Lets Rape Victims Speak Out” - *Minnesota Daily*, Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007

*Teaching Resource Center Project: Community Service Learning in the Classroom*

Compiled comprehensive case histories of community partners and developed (with Jennifer Lee) a guide to incorporating service learning into coursework.

Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota • 2003

**Teaching Training**

ASA Pre-conference Workshop: “Teachers Are Made, Not Born,” August, 2007

American Sociological Association Pre-conference Teaching Workshop • 2007

Teaching Through Interactive Lectures, Fall 2006

Maximizing the Value of Group Work, Fall 2006

Powerpoint Reconsidered, Fall 2006

Speaking Frankly in the Classroom, Fall 2005

Community Service Learning in the Classroom, Spring 2004

Ten Learning Assessment Tools, Spring 2003

Reducing Anonymity in Large Lectures, Fall 2002

Teaching Assistant Orientation and Training, Fall 2001, Fall 2002

Center for Teaching and Learning Enrichment Workshops, University of Minnesota • 2001-2006

**Community Service.****The Neighborhood Involvement Program, Rape and Sexual Abuse Center**

*Crisis Intervention, Group Facilitator, and Counselor/Advocate*

On-call crisis intervention and advocacy. Women’s Rape Survivor Support Group facilitator.

Minneapolis, Minnesota • 2002-current

**WATCH Court Monitoring**

*Court Monitor and Systems Advocate*

Systematically observed criminal and civil court and compiled data on victims’ safety and offender accountability. Edited reports to judges, prosecutors, and probation officers.

Minneapolis, Minnesota • 2004-2006

**The Aurora Center, Program Against Sexual Violence*****Crisis Intervention, Advocate and Educator***

On-call crisis intervention and peer advocacy including emergency hospital and court accompaniment. Focus group facilitation and educational seminars in area high schools/colleges. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota • 1996-1998

**Departmental Service.****Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota**

Guest Lecturer, Introduction to Sociology, 2005-2007

Graduate Student Representative, Department Service Award Committee, 2006

Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Mentoring-Service Award Committee, 2005

Graduate Student Facilitator, Teaching Assistant Mentorship Program, 2004

Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Student Committee, 2004

Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Mentoring-Service Award Committee, 2004

Graduate Student Representative, Sociological Research Institute Committee, 2001

**Reviewer.**

Violence Against Women

Roxbury Publishing

The Journal of Interpersonal Violence

The Howard Journal of Criminal Justice

**Professional Memberships.**

American Sociological Association

American Society of Criminology

Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Violence

Society for the Study of Social Problems

**References.*****Candace Kruttschnitt***

Professor, Department of Sociology

909 Social Science Building

267 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

P. 612.624.4300

F. 612.624.7020

[kruttsch@atlas.socsci.umn.edu](mailto:kruttsch@atlas.socsci.umn.edu)

***Chris Uggen***

Professor, Department of Sociology

909 Social Science Building

267 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

P. 612.624.4300

F. 612.624.7020

[uggen@atlas.socsci.umn.edu](mailto:uggen@atlas.socsci.umn.edu)

***Jane Gilgum***

Professor, School of Social Work

105 Peters Hall

1404 Gortner Avenue

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108

P. 612.625.1220

[jgilgum@tc.umn.edu](mailto:jgilgum@tc.umn.edu)

***Ross Macmillan***

Professor, Department of Sociology

909 Social Science Building

267 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

P. 612.624.4300

F. 612.624.7020

[macmilla@atlas.socsci.umn.edu](mailto:macmilla@atlas.socsci.umn.edu)