

## Natalie A. Pifer

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Department of Criminology, Law & Society  
University of California, Irvine

### EDUCATION

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**Ph.D.**, Criminology, Law & Society, University of California, Irvine expected 2017  
Comprehensive Exam Fields: Criminology, Law & Society (emphasis in Legal Consciousness and Punishment)

**M.A.**, Social Ecology, University of California, Irvine 2014  
Thesis Title: Implementing *Atkins*: Reconstructing and Reinforcing Intellectual Disability through Capital Punishment  
Committee: Elliott Currie (Chair), Mona Lynch, Keramet Reiter

**J.D.**, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, CA 2011  
*Cum Laude & Order of the Coif* / Class Rank - Top 5%

**B.A.** Journalism and Politics, New York University, New York, NY 2008  
*Cum Laude*

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

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the carceral net, inequality, injustice, extreme punishments, legal consciousness, legal implementation, qualitative methods, mental disabilities and illness, sociology of punishment, social construction

### PUBLICATIONS AND WORKING PAPERS

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#### Publications

Pifer, Natalie A. 2013. Review of the book *Life without Parole: America's New Death Penalty?* [edited by Charles J. Ogletree, Jr. and Austin Sarat] *Punishment and Society*, 15(5): 583-585.

Pifer, Natalie A. 2011. "*Berghuis v. Smith*: Continuing Ambiguity in Fair-Cross Section Claims" *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review* 44(3): 1035-1048.

Pifer, Natalie A. 2010. "Is Life the Same As Death?: Implications of *Graham v. Florida*, *Roper v. Simmons*, and *Atkins v. Virginia* on Life Without Parole Sentences for Juvenile and Mentally Retarded Offenders." *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review* 43(4): 1495-1532 (2010).

#### Manuscripts in Preparation

"Implementing *Atkins*: Reconstructing and Reinforcing Intellectual Disability through Capital Punishment."

"The *Atkins* Category: Competing Constructions of the Executable Subject and Intellectual Disability in *Atkins* Claims."

#### **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

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"A Qualitative Understanding of LA's Illegal Gun Market."

#### **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

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##### Conferences and Symposia

"Implementing *Atkins*: Reconstructing and Reinforcing Intellectual Disability through Capital Punishment." Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Minneapolis, 2014

"A Space Between: Capital Defendants Alleging Intellectual Disability and Constructions of the Penal Subject." Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, 2013.

"Targeting Los Angeles's Underground Gun Market: An Exploratory Multi-Method Approach." Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, with Keramet Reiter, 2013.

"Implementing *Atkins*: Interrogating the National Consensus." Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Boston, 2013.

##### Campus & Departmental Talks

"Implementing *Atkins*: Reconstructing and Reinforcing Intellectual Disability through Capital Punishment." Socio-Legal Workshop, Irvine, CA May 2, 2014.

"Implementing *Atkins*: Reconstructing and Reinforcing Intellectual Disability through Capital Punishment." Dep't of Criminology, Law & Society Recruitment Colloquium, Irvine, CA March 3, 2014.

"Foreshadowing *Atkins*: National Consensus Contradictions in Capital Cases Involving Intellectual Disability." Dep't of Criminology, Law & Society Graduate Student Colloquium, Irvine, CA, May 21, 2013.

"Is Life the Same as Death?: What's Next for Juvenile and Mentally Retarded Life Without Parole Sentences." Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review Annual Student Symposium, Los Angeles, CA, April 2010.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Social Science

#### **"Gun Violence in America: Understanding Illegal Gun Markets, A Multi-City Multi-Method Study"**

Graduate Student Researcher, Spring 2013-Present

Principle Investigators: George Tita UC Irvine & Keramet Reiter, UC Irvine

Selected Duties: Collaborating on interview instruments; Conducting semi-structured interview with detainees in Los Angeles County Jails; Coding and Analyzing Interview Data; Drafting IRB Documents; Drafting Grant Applications (including California Wellness Foundation, Haynes Foundation, NIJ, and NSF); Managing aggregate public health data; Managing sampling data

### Legal

Research Assistant to Professor Karl Manheim, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles  
May 2010-May 2011.

Selected Projects:

- Manheim, Karl, et. al. 2011. "Rebooting California: Initiatives, Conventions, & Government Reform." *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review* 44(2): 393-434.
- Organizer, Rebooting California: Initiatives, Conventions, & Government Reform Symposium, Los Angeles, CA, September 2010.

Research Assistant to Professor Samuel Pillsbury, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles  
May 2009-May 2010.

Selected Projects:

- Samuel H. Pillsbury. *How Criminal Law Works*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2009.
- Pillsbury, Samuel H. 2010. "Fear and Trembling in Criminal Judgment." *Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law* 7(2):827-848.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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#### **Teaching Assistantships, University of California, Irvine**

- "Ethics and Politics of Justice" (Undergraduate)

- "Extreme Punishments" (Undergraduate)
- "Naturalistic Field Research" (Undergraduate)
- "Research Methods" (Undergraduate)
- "White Collar Crime" (Undergraduate)

## GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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Peterson Fellowship, UCI Center for Law, Society & Culture <i>One of four fellowships awarded campus wide for interdisciplinary research</i>	2013-2014
Interdisciplinarity & Collaboration Grant, UCI Center for Law, Society & Culture <i>Provides financial support for the Critical Justice Group</i>	2013-2014
Faculty Academic Honors Scholarship, Loyola Law School	2009- 2011

## SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

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Alpha Sigma Nu Honor Society	2011-present
St. Thomas More Law Honor Society	2011-present
Dean's Honor List, Loyola Law School	2008- 2011
Loyola Law School First Honors Award (highest class grade) in:	
Advanced Topics in Criminal Justice	2011
Election Law & Law of the Political Process	2011
Habeas Corpus & Prisoner Civil Rights Litigation	2011
Administrative Law	2010
Dean's Academic Honor Roll, New York University	2006-2007

## SELECTED LAW SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

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Note & Comment Editor, LOYOLA OF LOS ANGELES LAW REVIEW	2010-2011
Staff Member, LOYOLA OF LOS ANGELES LAW REVIEW	2009-2010
Youth Education Advocacy Clinic, Center for Juvenile Law and Policy <i>Represented juvenile delinquents and their educational rights holders at school disciplinary and expulsion hearings and during actions related to special education rights, including Individual Education Plan meetings and due process hearings.</i>	2010-2011

## **SERVICE**

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Co-Organizer, Critical Justice Group, UCI Center in Law, Society & Culture	2013-present
Peer Mentoring Program, Dep't of Criminology, and Law & Society	2013-present
Social Committee, Dep't of Criminology, Law & Society	2012-present
<i>Co-Chair</i>	2013-present

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Law and Society Association	2013-present
American Society of Criminology	2013-present