

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Emily Archer is a student in her third year at Vanderbilt University. She is studying Spanish and Human & Organizational Development with an international concentration. Her primary interests include traveling and researching international development and vulnerable populations around the world. In the near future, she is moving to Australia to work for Opportunity International, a microfinance non-profit. After graduation from Vanderbilt, she hopes to pursue a career in non-profit work or to seek a graduate degree in international development.

Sandra L. Barnes is a joint-appointed Professor in the Department of Human and Organizational Development (HOD) and the Divinity School at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. Her research and teaching interests include: the Sociology of Religion; race, class, and gender inequality; religious and spiritual organizations; urban sociology; and, statistics and methods. In addition to her books, *Live Long and Prosper: How Black Megachurches Address HIV/AIDS and Poverty in the Age of Prosperity Theology* (Fordham University Press 2012), *Black Megachurch Culture: Models for Education and Empowerment* (Peter Lang Press 2010), and *The Cost of Being Poor: A Comparative Study of Life in Poor Urban Neighborhoods in Gary, Indiana* (SUNY Press 2005), her research has been published in *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, the *Journal of African American Studies*, and *Sociological Focus*.

Emily Blout is a 2012 graduate of the Dept. of Human and Organizational Development in Peabody College of Education and Human Development at Vanderbilt University. Some of her areas of interest include youth empowerment and educating vulnerable populations.

Kortnea Colbert is a Vanderbilt University alumnus and Nashville, TN native. After graduating from Vanderbilt in May of 2012 with a BA in Sociology, she moved to Atlanta, GA where she plans to attend the University of Georgia and work towards her MPA in Public Policy concentrating in Non-Profit organizations. Her interests include human relations, phenomenology, and film.

Cherie Dawson Edwards is an Associate Professor of Justice Administration at the University of Louisville. Dr. Edwards has a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University. In addition, she holds bachelor's degrees in Sociology and Journalism from Western Kentucky University and a MS in Justice Administration from the University of Louisville where her research concentration was racial profiling. She has taught a variety of criminal justice courses, but her research and teaching interests center on the intersection of public policy and criminal justice with a specific focus on the field of corrections. In addition to a career in teaching, Dr. Edwards has held positions in probation and victim services.

Preston Elrod is currently Professor and Division Chair, Undergraduate Studies, School of Justice Studies at Eastern Kentucky University. He has published articles on a variety of criminal and juvenile justice topics and he is the co-author of *Juvenile Justice: A Social, Historical and Legal Perspective*, 3rd edition. He is presently involved in writing projects focusing on social control and the threat to democratic decision making, developing a more humane juvenile justice process, and critical pedagogy.

Kirsten Floyd is a 2012 Vanderbilt University graduate . She had a double majored in Elementary Education and Human & Organizational Development with an emphasis in Community Leadership and Development. She is currently a 1st grade teacher at Buena Vista Elementary in Nashville, TN, and hopes to open a nonprofit organization in the future.

John F. Frana, received a M.A. in Criminology & Criminal Justice from Indiana State University. Having spent numerous years of incarceration he brings a unique and refreshing perspective to the studies of sociology and criminology. His research interests include desistance from criminal behavior, alternatives to incarceration, and employment opportunities of former prisoners.

George E. Higgins is an Associate Professor in the Department of Justice Administration at the University of Louisville. He received his Ph.D. in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2001. His most recent publications appear or are forthcoming in *Journal of Criminal Justice*, *Justice Quarterly*, *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, *Deviant Behavior*, and *Youth and Society*. His recent books include: *Cybercrime: An introduction to an emerging phenomenon*, New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Companies and *Race, crime and delinquency: A Criminological Theory Approach*, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall Publishers.

David C. May is an Associate Professor and Criminology Program Coordinator in the Department of Sociology and Social Work at Mississippi State University. He has published a number of articles and books in the areas of responses to school violence, perceptions of the severity of correctional punishments, fear of criminal victimization, and weapon possession and use among adolescents.

Ryan D. Schroeder is an associate professor of sociology at the University of Louisville. His research interests include desistance process, with a particular focus on the role of emotional development, family functioning, and religious process.

Samantha Winer received her Bachelor of Science from Vanderbilt University in 2012. She was a student in the Peabody College of Education and Human Development where she was a Human and Organizational Development major and Cognitive Studies minor. Samantha will attend the New York University Silver School of Social Work in fall 2013 to receive her master's degree. She plans to pursue clinical social work with a focus on children, adolescents and families with a sub-area of interest in mental health.