

BETH LEAH SONDEL, PH.D.

608.772.2095

4138B Posvar Hall/230 S. Bouquet St./Pittsburgh, PA/15213

bsondel@pitt.edu

EDUCATION:

- 2013 **University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI**
Ph.D. in Curriculum Studies; Minor in Education Policy Studies
Dissertation Title: Raising Citizens or Raising Test Scores? Teach For America and
“No Excuses” Charter Schools in Post-Katrina New Orleans
PhD Advisor: Michael Apple
- 2005 **Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA**
M.Ed. in Education Policy Studies
M.Ed. Advisor: Jon Diamond
- 2004 **The New Teacher Project, Baton Rouge, LA**
English/Language Arts Teaching Certificate 7-12
- 2001 **University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI**
B.A. in Cultural Anthropology

RESEARCH FOCUS:

socio-political contexts of teaching, urban education, social justice and anti-racist pedagogy, critical theory, critical whiteness studies, critical civic education, privatization and charter school reform, teacher resistance, ethnography, qualitative case study

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

- 2016-present **Research Assistant Professor**
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
Center for Urban Education, Department of Instruction and Learning
Masters Course: Introduction to Urban Education; Social Studies Supervision
Doctoral Courses: Foundations—Social Context of Schooling
- 2014-2016 **Assistant Professor of Social Justice and Social Studies-Tenure Track**
North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
Department of Teacher Education and Learning Science
Undergraduate Courses: Diversity and Equity in Education; Social Studies Methods for
Elementary Educators
Doctoral Courses: Educational Equity and Neoliberal Reform; Critical Pedagogies

PUBLICATIONS:

PEER REVIEWED MANUSCRIPTS:

Hadley-Dunn, A.*, **Sondel, B.***, Carson-Baggett, H.*, (forthcoming). “I Don't want to come off as pushing an agenda.” Conditions that shaped teachers’ pedagogy in the days after the 2016 U.S. presidential election. *American Educational Research Journal*.

*These authors contributed equally to this project.

Sondel, B., Hadley Dunn, A., & Carson-Baggett, H., (2018). Toward a pedagogy of political trauma: teaching in the wake of the 2016 presidential election. *Teaching and Teacher Education*.

Sondel, B.*, Kretchmar, K.*, Ferrare, J. (forthcoming). Teach For America, the education entrepreneur network, and the reshaping of teacher preparation. In Lubienski, D & Brewer, J. (in press). *Becoming a teacher in an age of reform. Teachers College Press.*

Sondel, B. (2017). The New Teachers' Roundtable: A case study of critical resistance. *Critical Education, 8(4)*

Sondel, B., Koch, J., Carrier, S., Walkowiak, T. (2017). Toward a theory of teacher education for justice-oriented STEM education. *Catalyst*

Brewer, J., Kretchmar, K., **Sondel, B.,** Ishmael, S., & Manfra, M., (2016). Teach For America's preferential treatment: School district contracts, hiring decisions, and employment practices. *Educational Policy Analysis Archives, 24(2016)*

Kretchmar, K.*, **Sondel, B.*,** & Ferrare, J. (2016). The Power of the network: Teach For America's impact on the deregulation of teacher education. *Educational Policy.*

Sondel, B. (2016). "No excuses" in New Orleans: The silent passivity of neoliberal schooling. *The Educational Forum-Kappa Delta Pi, 80(2), 171-188*

Sondel, B. (2015) Raising citizens or raising test scores: The development of the neoliberal citizen in "no excuses" charter schools. *Theory and Research in Social Education. 43(3), 289-313.*

Sondel, B. (2015). Market based pedagogies: Assessment, instruction, and purpose at a "no excuses" charter school. In Miron, L., Beabout, B., and Boselovic, J., *Only in New Orleans: School Choice and Equity Post Hurricane Katrina.* Sense Publications. 109-128.

Kretchmar, K.*, **Sondel, B.*,** & Ferrare, J. (2015). Mapping the education entrepreneurial network: Teach For America, charter school reform, and corporate sponsorship. In Au, W., and Ferrare, J., *Mapping Corporate Education Reform: Power and Policy Networks in the Neoliberal State.* NY: Routledge. 65-85.

Kretchmar, K.*, **Sondel, B.*,** & Ferrare, J. (2014). Mapping the terrain: Teach For America, charter school reform, and corporate sponsorship. *Journal of Education Policy. 29(6), 742-759.*

Anders, S., Bigard, A., Idakula, R., Kretchmar, K., Price, H., Radding, R., Sadtler, H., & **Sondel, B.,** (2014). Critical resistance to Teach For America: Challenging power, privilege, and white supremacy. In B.L. Smith, K. Becker, L. Miller, N. Reid, & M. Sorenson. *Collective unravelings of the hegemonic web. The Curriculum and Pedagogy Group.*

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW:

Sondel, B. & Kretchmar, K. (under review). "Who do these people want teaching their children?" White saviorism, colorblind racism, and anti-blackness in "no excuses" charter schools. *Urban Education.*

MANUSCRIPTS IN DEVELOPMENT:

Sondel, B. & Hope, E. (in preparation). Love and vulnerability as key tenets of social justice pedagogy: Learning from youth.

Carson-Baggett H., Hadley-Dunn, A., **Sondel, B.** (in preparation). Ideology and identity as contributing factors to pedagogy after the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

Sondel, B., & Brewer, J. (2016). Teach for America: Lies, damned lies, and special contracts. *Huffington Post*. Retrieved from: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/t-jameson-brewer/teach-for-america-lies-da_b_9195600.html

Sztajn, P., **Sondel, B.**, Scherrer, J., & Manfra, M., (2015). Value-added modeling a poor way to assess, train teachers. *News and Observer-OpEd*. Retrieved from: <http://www.newsobserver.com/opinion/op-ed/article10883741.html>

Sondel, B.* & Kretchmar, K.* (2014). Organizing resistance to Teach For America. *Rethinking Schools*. 28(3). Retrieved from: http://www.rethinkingschools.org/archive/28_03/28_03_kretchsond.shtml

Sondel, B. & Boselovic, J. (2014). “No Excuses” in New Orleans. *Jacobin*. Retrieved from: <https://www.jacobinmag.com/2014/07/no-excuses-in-new-orleans>

Sondel, B. (2014). My Many Voices. *Educators for Social Justice: A Special interest group of the American Educational Research Association Blog*. Retrieved from: <http://www.cesjsig.org/blog/my-many-voices-by-beth-sondel>

RESEARCH PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT & PROCESS:

Sondel, B. & Swalwell, K. Against Neutrality: Justice-oriented teaching of current events in the age of the Trump Administration.

Hope, E. & **Sondel, B.** Critical civic education among racially and economically marginalized youth.

Sondel, B. & Gatti, L. Andover Bread Loaf Teacher Network: Preparing and supporting teachers for social justice education in urban contexts.

GRANTS AND AWARDS:

2017 The Spencer Foundation New Civics Small Grant, Andover Bread Loaf Youth Programs: Justice-oriented civic education programs and civic identity development among racially and socio-economically marginalized youth, \$50,000 (Co-PI)

2016 NCSU Chancellor’s Creating Community Outstanding Faculty Award Nominee

2014 NCSU Chancellor’s Creating Community Outstanding Faculty Award Nominee

- 2014 Outstanding Dissertation Award from the American Educational Research Association Special Interest Group: Critical Educators for Social Justice
- 2014 North Carolina State University School of Education Research and Graduate Studies—Research Development Grant, \$10,000
- 2012 University of Wisconsin Dissertator Conference Grant, \$650
- 2011 Tashia F. Morgridge Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship, \$20,000
- 2011 University of Wisconsin Vilas Dissertation Travel Grant, \$1,000
- 2011 Department of Curriculum & Instruction Travel Grant, \$1,000

RELEVANT PRESENTATIONS:

INVITED TALKS:

Sondel, B. (April, 2016). Teach For America and the threat to public education. *Network for Public Education*. Raleigh, NC.

Sondel, B. (April, 2016). Creating the new professional (and the new student): Privatizing subjectivities in schools. *Symposium: The Politics of privatization in education: New governance, new policy networks, new knowledge brokers*. New York University, New York, NY.

Sondel, B. (August, 2015). “No excuses in New Orleans:” What happens when compliance and discipline count as innovative pedagogy? *New Orleans Education Conference*. New Orleans, LA

Sondel, B. (April, 2015). Privatization and the deregulation of teacher education. *Forum on the Future of Public Education*. University of Champagne-Urbana, IL.

Helig-Vasquez, J., Kretchmar, K. Royal K., & **Sondel, B.** (March, 2014) Teach For America. *Network for Public Education*. Austin, TX.

Kretchmar, K. & **Sondel, B.** (November, 2013) A Critical Analysis of Teach for America’s Impact on PK-21 Education. *Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Postsecondary Education*. Madison, WI

Sondel, B. (November, 2013). Corporate reform in the classroom: Culture and curriculum in “no excuses” charter schools. *Zoom In/ Zoom Out: Culture and Power in Our Schools and City*. New Orleans, LA.

Sondel, B. (March, 2013). Raising citizens or raising test scores? Curriculum and instruction in “no excuses” charter schools. *North Carolina State University*. Raleigh, NC.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

Sondel, B., Foster-Shaner, L., King, M. (October, 2018). Theater of the Oppressed as a tool for educators. *Regional Arts Education Day*. Pittsburgh, PA

- Sondel, B.**, Hadley-Dunn, A., & Carson-Baggett, H., (November, 2018). Pedagogy of political trauma. *National Association for Multicultural Education*. Memphis, TN
- Sondel, B.**, Foster-Shaner, L., & Generett, G., (June, 2018). Disrupting the politics of place: Building inclusive communities for the future. *Pedagogy and Theater of the Oppressed Annual Conference*. Indiana, PA.
- Sondel, B.** & Kretchmar, K. (April, 2018). The Culture of consent and compliance among teachers at “No Excuses” charters. *American Educational Research Association Annual Conference*. New York, NY.
- Sondel, B.**, Hadley Dunn, A., & Carson-Baggett, H., (April, 2018). Toward a pedagogy of political trauma: Teaching in the wake of the 2016 presidential election. *American Educational Research Association Annual Conference*. New York, NY.
- Sondel, B.** (April, 2018). The New Teachers’ Roundtable: A Case study of collective resistance. *American Educational Research Association Annual Conference*. New York, NY.
- Bauml, M., Payne, K., **Sondel, B.**, & Swalwell, K., (November, 2016). Towards justice-oriented elementary social studies curricula. *National Council for the Social Studies College and University Faculty Assembly Annual Meeting*. Washington D.C.
- Sondel B.**, & Manfra, M. (April, 2015). The Expansion of Teach For America in North Carolina: A case study on teacher education policy changes. *American Educational Research Association Annual Conference*. Chicago, IL.
- Sondel, B.** & Manfra, M. (April 2015). Teach For America: Local hiring practices and privileges. *American Educational Research Association Annual Conference*. Chicago, IL.
- Sondel, B.** (November, 2014). Teach For America and the development of the neoliberal citizen. *National Council for the Social Studies College and University Faculty Assembly Annual Meeting*. Boston, MA.
- Manfra, M. **Sondel, B.** & Scherrer, J. (September, 2014). Teach For America and North Carolina Teaching Fellows: A Case study of current trends in teacher education. *North Carolina Association of College and Teacher Educators Annual Meeting*. Raleigh, NC.
- Gatti, L. & **Sondel, B.** (April, 2014). Neoliberal pedagogies: Enacting Doug Lemov in urban schools. *American Educational Research Association Annual Conference*. Philadelphia, PA.
- Kretchmar, K. & **Sondel, B.** (April, 2014). Teach For America, corporate Sponsorship, and teacher deregulation. *American Educational Research Association Annual Conference*. Philadelphia, PA.
- Anders, S. & **Sondel, B.** (November, 2013). Critical resistance to Teach For America—Challenging power, privilege, and white supremacy. *Curriculum and Pedagogy Annual Meeting*. New Orleans, LA
- Sondel, B.** (April, 2013). Teaching to the test: Inside “no excuses” charter schools and Teach For America classrooms. *American Educational Research Association Annual Conference*, San Francisco, CA.
- Sondel, B.** (November, 2012). Curriculum and control: Teacher beliefs and practice in post-Katrina charter schools. *Curriculum and Pedagogy Annual Conference*. New Orleans, LA

Kretchmar, K., **Sondel, B.**, & Ferrare, J., (April, 2012). Teach for America, charter school reform, and corporate sponsorship. *American Educational Research Association Annual Conference*. Vancouver, BC.

CHAired CONFERENCE PANELS:

Sondel, B. (November, 2015). Counter-narratives of reform and resistance: Ten years since Hurricane Katrina. *National Council for the Social Studies College and University Faculty Assembly Annual Meeting*, New Orleans, LA.

Anders, S., Bigard, A., Idakula, R., Kretchmar, K., Price, H., Radding, R., Sadtler H., & **Sondel, B.**, (June, 2013) Organizing resistance against Teach For America and its role in privatization. *Free Minds Free People Bi-Annual Conference*. Chicago, IL

UNIVERSITY GUEST LECTURES:

Sondel, B. (September, 2018). Equity and justice and the social foundations of teaching. *University of Pittsburgh pre-service teacher symposium*. Pittsburgh, PA

Sondel, B. (October, 2017). Tending to political trauma as an element of social justice education. *University of Pittsburgh Center for Health Equity Journal Club*. Pittsburgh, PA

Sondel, B. (September, 2017). Building a research agenda: Centralizing social justice. *University of Pittsburgh Doctoral Seminar in Language, Literacy, and Culture*. Pittsburgh, PA

Sondel, B. (July, 2017). What is social justice education? *University of Pittsburgh Center for Urban Education Heinz Fellowship Training*. Pittsburgh, PA

Sondel, B. (February, 2017). “No excuses” pedagogy and ideology. *Michigan State University Doctoral Seminar in Teachers and Teaching in Urban Contexts*. East Lansing, MI

Sondel, B. (March, 2017). Democracy, civics, and the purpose of schooling in a neoliberal context. *University of Georgia Doctoral Seminar in Theory and Curriculum in Early Childhood Social Studies*. Athens, GA

Sondel, B. (September, 2016). Neoliberal reform and urban education, *University of Pittsburgh Center for Urban Education Doctoral Seminar-Introduction to Urban Education*. Pittsburgh, PA.

Sondel, B. (February, 2016). Constructions of citizenship in the context of privatization. *University of Nebraska Doctoral Seminar on Democratic Education*. Lincoln, Nebraska-video conference.

Sondel, B. (February, 2016). The privatization of teaching and learning. *Lewis and Clark College Graduate Seminar-Reimagining Teaching and Learning*. Portland, OR—video conference.

Sondel, B. (December, 2015). What is the relationship between schooling, democracy, and citizenship? How do we study this? *University of Texas-Austin Graduate Seminar—Issues in Democratic and Citizenship Education*. Austin, TX—video conference.

Sondel, B. (March, 2014). Ethnographic Research. *North Carolina State University Doctoral Seminar on Qualitative Research*. Raleigh, NC.

Sondel, B. (March, 2013). Corporate sponsored school reform and the [lack of] potential for multicultural education. *University of Wisconsin Doctoral Research Program on Qualitative Research*. Madison, WI.

Sondel, B. (February, 2013). Alternative credentialing teacher education program in urban school reform. *University of Nebraska Doctoral Seminar on Teacher Education*. Lincoln, Nebraska—video conference.

Sondel, B. (October, 2012). Corporate sponsorship, neoliberalism, and Teach For America. *University of Wisconsin Graduate Seminar on Urban Education*. Madison, Wisconsin.

Sondel, B. (July, 2012). Qualitative research: Access and implementation. *University of Wisconsin Graduate Level Qualitative Methods Course*. Madison, Wisconsin.

Sondel, B. (October, 2011). Charter schools and urban education. *University of Wisconsin Undergraduate Social Studies Methods Course*. Madison, WI.

RELEVANT CONSULTANT WORK:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2018-2019 | Co-develop and co-facilitate anti-racist/anti-bias training for Woodland Hills School District, Woodland Hills, PA |
| 2018-2019 | Co-develop and co-facilitate anti-racist/anti-bias training for Urban Pathways K-5 College Charter School, Pittsburgh, PA |
| 2017-2019 | Curriculum Development for Alliance for Refugee Youth Support and Education (pro-bono), Pittsburgh, PA |

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2011-2013 | Instructor of Record
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Madison, WI
Undergraduate course: Social Studies Methods for Elementary and Middle School |
| 2010-2013 | Field Placement Supervisor
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Madison, WI
Supervised student teachers in elementary and middle school field placements |
| 2009-2010 | Academic Dean
PEOPLE Program at University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Madison, WI
Supervised pre-service teachers; managed after-school literacy program developed for low-income students and students of color at the elementary school level |
| 2008-2009 | Program Director/Educator
Thinking Beyond Borders |

Led college freshman on yearlong service learning, study abroad course on international development in collaboration with NGOs across Asia and South Africa

- 2005-2008 **Academic Program Director**
Galileo Educational Services, Oakland, CA
Managed staff of 35 educators, curriculum, and programs for over 350 elementary school aged youth in summer art and science program
- 2007-2008 **School Improvement Fellow**
Partners in School Innovation, San Francisco, CA
Coached elementary school teachers through observation and feedback, developed professional development sessions, and facilitated professional learning communities
- 2005-2006 **Language Arts and Social Studies Teacher**
Westlake Middle School, Oakland, CA
- 2002-2004 **Language Arts and Social Studies Teacher**
Capital Middle School/Teach For America, Baton Rouge, LA

SERVICE TO PROFESSION:

Professional Service:

- 2017-2018 AERA-SIG Critical Educators for Social Justice (CESJ) Dissertation Award Chair
2016-2018 AERA-SIG Critical Educators for Social Justice (CESJ) Fiscal Co-Chair
2016-2017 AERA-SIG CESJ Revolutionary Mentorship Award Chair
2015-present Critical Education Editorial Board
2013-2015 Free Minds Free People Conference Planning Committee
2011-present Urban South Grassroots Research Collective
2012 AERA-SIG CESJ Graduate Student Forum Co-Chair
2005-2010 Breakarts: International Arts and Education Collaborative-Advisor

Professional Membership:

- 2013-present College and University Faculty Assembly of National Council for the Social Studies
2012-present Critical Educators for Social Justice Special Interest Group

Ad-hoc Manuscript Reviewing:

American Education Research Journal, Berkeley Review of Education, Critical Education, Critical Studies in Education, Education Policy Analysis Archives, Journal of Teacher Education, Routledge, Rowman & Littlefield, Theory and Research in Social Education, Urban Education, Multicultural Education

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

University of Pittsburgh:

- 2018-present Serve on Diversity Scholars Committee (nominated)
2018-present Serve on dissertation committees for Christina Ashwin, Tiffany Lumpkins, Stephen Walker

- 2017-present Collaboratively Planned Teaching for Social Justice Workshops
- 2017-present Serve on School of Education Social Justice Committee (nominated)
- 2017-present Faculty Fellow-Center for Urban Education
- 2016-present Serve on Department of Instruction and Learning MEd Committee
- 2016-2017 Served on School of Education EdD Curriculum Committee

North Carolina State University:

- 2015-2016 Organized and facilitated series of Issues of Social Justice in Education workshops and panels for faculty and students
- 2015-2016 Served on School of Education Diversity & Equity Course Development Committee
- 2015-2016 Served on School of Education Poverty & Education Event Development Committee
- 2014-present Served as co-chair for two doctoral students: Elizabeth Saylor, Drew Tonnissen
- 2014-present Served on doctoral committees for six students: Brian Brinkley, Seth Brown, Sonny Harris, Evan Long, Rebecca Kimble, and Angela White
- 2014-2016 Served as advisor to fifteen undergraduate students
- 2014-2016 Served on staff awards committee
- 2015 Organized campus-wide film screenings of documentaries that address race, class, and educational inequity, 2015
- 2015 Served as departmental point person for Building Future Faculty, program to recruit promising scholars of color to campus
- 2014 Developed department wide “diversity dispositions”

SELECTED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH:

- 2018-present Alliance for Refugee Youth Support and Education (ARYSE) Board of Directors Member
- 2018 Organized and facilitated Theater of the Oppressed Workshops for Educators, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2016-present Active Participant with Education Rights Network, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2016-present What’s Up Pittsburgh Study Group Facilitator—Anti-racist training for White people, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2015-2016 Active Participant in Organize2020, Social Justice Caucus of North Carolina Education Association, Raleigh, NC
- 2015 Guest Educator at Renew High School, New Orleans, LA
- 2014 Served on panel for policy review at Raleigh Charter High School, Raleigh, NC
- 2012 Coordinated and facilitated film screening and community conversation of “Inconvenient Truth Behind Waiting for Superman” in collaboration with United Teachers of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA
- 2011 Coordinated and facilitated film screening and campus wide conversation of “Inconvenient Truth Behind Waiting for Superman” and “Teacher,” Madison, WI
- 2010 Coordinated city wide film screening and moderated panel of scholars in response to “Waiting for Superman,” Madison, WI

ADDITIONAL TRAINING:

- 2017 Andover Bread Loaf Writing Workshop for Urban Educators, Andover, MA
- 2017 Theater of the Oppressed-Facilitator Training, Queens, NY

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE:

Ravitch, D. (August 6, 2014). What Really Happened in New Orleans? Diane Ravitch's blog. <http://dianeravitch.net/2014/08/06/what-really-happened-in-new-orleans-and-detroit/>

Kamenetz, A. (September 2, 2014). The End of Neighborhood Schools. *National Public Radio*. <http://apps.npr.org/the-end-of-neighborhood-schools/>

Kamenetz, A. (December 1, 2014). Teach For America at 25: With maturity comes pressure to change. *National Public Radio*. <http://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2014/12/01/366343324/teach-for-america-at-25-with-maturity-new-pressure-to-change>

Cersonsky, J. (July 9, 2013). Teach For America's civil war. *The American Prospect*. Retrieved from: <http://prospect.org/article/teach-americas-civil-war>

Strauss, V. (April 1, 2013). Teach For America critics organizing 'resistance' at summit. *Washington Post*. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet/wp/2013/04/01/teach-for-america-critics-organizing-resistance-at-summit/>