

# GIPSY ESCOBAR

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## EDUCATION

### **The Graduate Center – CUNY**

Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice

Specialization: Criminology and Deviance

**Dissertation Title:** Homicide in Bogota: Do Social Capital and Collective Efficacy Matter?

**New York, NY**

2009

### **John Jay College of Criminal Justice**

Master of Arts in Criminal Justice

Specialization: Criminology and Deviance

**New York, NY**

2004

### **Universidad de Los Andes**

Bachelor of Arts

Major: Political Science

Minor: History

**Bogotá, Colombia**

1997

## CERTIFICATIONS

- Certificate Program on Terrorism Studies 2004  
*John Jay College of Criminal Justice*
- Crisis Management Certificate 2001  
*United States Department of State, Washington, DC*
- Crime Prevention Certificate 2000  
*Embassy of France in Colombia*
- Training in Defense Policies for Civilians Certificate 1999  
*Universidad de Los Andes*

## HONORS

- Graduate Scholarly Achievement Award 2005, 2006 and 2007  
*John Jay College of Criminal Justice*
- Graduate Teaching Fellow 2004-Present  
*The Graduate Center (CUNY)*
- Rudin Fellowship 2005-Present  
*Lewis and Jack Rudin Foundation*
- National Dean's List 2002 and 2003

## GRANTS

- Doctoral Student Research Grant 2006  
*The Graduate Center (CUNY)*  
Paramilitary Activity in Colombia: Analyzing the Impact of Governmental Interventions on Massacres against Civilians (1982-2005)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Research Experience

#### ***Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation Center (John Jay College of Criminal Justice)***

Position: Research Assistant, May 2005 – May 2006  
Senior Research Assistant, May 2006 - Present

Supervisors: Nancy Jacobs and Michael D. White

Projects: **Examining Domestic Violence Case Processing in New York County (May 2005 – Present):** Project focuses on understanding internal factors that contribute to various case outcomes and victim's perceptions and satisfaction regarding their interactions with the Manhattan District Attorney's Office. *Responsibilities include:* (1) conducting comprehensive review of the relevant literature; (2) creating research design (prospective study with quantitative and qualitative components); (3) developing interview instrument; (4) generating dataset with case variables; (5) interviewing domestic violence victims; (6) analyzing quantitative and qualitative data; (7) writing progress reports; and (7) coordinating interactions with DA's Office.

**Family Justice Center (May 2007 – Present):** Providing technical assistance to the New York Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence to put in place an evaluation system for the Brooklyn Family Justice Center. *Responsibilities include:* (1) conducting comprehensive literature review on co-located services for victims of crime, particularly domestic violence; (2) developing an in-house data collection strategy to be used in future evaluations; and (3) writing reports.

**Evaluation of the Phoenix Curriculum in Sussex County, NJ (November 2006 – May 2007):** Evaluation of the implementation of a youth violence prevention program in Sussex, NJ. The research design included a multi-level pre- and post-test of children's (treatment and comparison) beliefs in four need areas (control, esteem, trust, and intimacy) expected to be effected by the curriculum. *Responsibilities included:* (1) tailoring of measurement instruments; (2) coordinating implementation of pre- and post-test measurements; (3) analyzing data; and (4) writing reports.

**Bronx Community Solutions (July – October 2005):** Provided technical assistance to the New York State Office of Courts Administration in the design and implementation of an alternative sentencing program for low-level offenders. *Responsibilities included:* (1) conducting field work to collect information about community-based organizations in the South Bronx; (2) creating a community-based organization directory; and (3) mapping community-based organizations in the South Bronx.

#### ***Community Policing Manual for Latin America (John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Tinker Foundation)***

Position: Research Assistant, April 2007 – Present

Supervisors: Desmond Arias (Department of Government, John Jay College) and Mark Ungar (Department of Political Science, The Graduate Center and Brooklyn College) (Editors)

Description: Collect experiences and lessons of community policing projects in Latin American countries.

Responsibilities: (1) Conducting comprehensive literature review on community policing in Latin America; (2) communicating with potential chapter authors; (3) editing submitted chapters; and (4) collaborating in the writing of introductory and conclusion sections.

#### ***Defusing Contention: The Effectiveness of Paramilitary Demobilization Programs in Reducing Violent Crime and Political Violence in Colombia. (John Jay College of Criminal Justice)***

Position: Co-Principal Investigator, January 2007 – Present

Co-PI: Desmond Arias (Department of Government).

Description: Evaluate the policy of demobilization of paramilitary groups in Colombia, and its impact on different indicators of violence in that country.

Responsibilities: (1) Developing research design (retrospective quantitative study); (2) conducting comprehensive literature review; (3) communicating with academics and public officials in Colombia; (4)

collecting data; (5) analyzing data; and (6) reporting findings (publishable articles and conference presentations).

***Alternative Justice in Democratizing Countries (John Jay College of Criminal Justice)***

Position: Research Assistant, Spring 2006  
Supervisor: Diana Gordon (Doctoral Program in Criminal Justice)  
Description: Comparative study of alternative justice experiences in democratizing countries.  
Responsibilities: (1) Conducted literature review of alternative justice experiences in Latin American countries; and (2) communicated with public officials involved in such experiences.

***Back to the Homeland: Social Control and the Dominican Deportee (John Jay College of Criminal Justice)***

Position: Research Assistant, January 2004 – May 2006  
Supervisor: David Brotherton (Department of Sociology)  
Description: Qualitative study concerning the lives and conditions of Dominicans deported back to the Dominican Republic after spending time in prison in the United States.  
Responsibilities: (1) Transcribed interviews, both in English and Spanish, carried out by Dr. Brotherton in the Dominican Republic and New York; and (2) interviewed females awaiting deportation and female deportees who had returned illegally to New York.

***Coercive Mobility in the South Bronx (John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Lehman College)***

Position: Research Assistant, July – October 2005  
Supervisor: Elin Waring (Department of Sociology, Lehman College)  
Descriptive: The impact of high levels of incarceration on the social networks of the South Bronx.  
Responsibilities: (1) Collaborated in the development of a block inventory protocol to be used during field work; (2) collaborated in the development of resident survey instrument; (3) translated resident survey instrument to Spanish; and (4) conducted field work.

**Teaching Experience**

**The Graduate Center, CUNY**

**New York, NY**

*PhD Program in Criminal Justice*

**Survey of Statistics (CRJ 70200)**

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2007

**Doctoral Primer Course in Statistics**

Graduate Teaching Fellow

Fall 2006

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2007

**John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY**

**New York, NY**

*Department of Psychology*

**Principles and Methods of Statistics (STA 250)**

Adjunct Professor

Spring 2008

*Department of Sociology*

**Criminology (SOC 203)**

Adjunct Professor

Spring 2005

Graduate Teaching Fellow

Fall 2005 & Spring 2006

**Women & Crime (CRJ/SOC 420)**

Graduate Teaching Fellow

Spring 2006

*Department of Government*

**Introduction to Criminal Justice (CRJ101)**

Graduate Teaching Fellow

Fall 2005

## **Non-Academic Experience**

### **Presidencia de la República de Colombia**

**Bogotá, Colombia**

*Consejería Presidencial para la Convivencia y Seguridad Ciudadana*

Position: Asesora del Consejero Presidencial para la Convivencia y Seguridad Ciudadana (Advisor to the Urban Security Presidential Councilor), March 1999 - July 2002

Supervisor: Gonzalo De Francisco

Description: The *Consejería Presidencial para la Convivencia y Seguridad Ciudadana* was in charge of producing and implementing public policies aimed at improving urban security in Colombia.

Responsibilities: (1) Analyzed crime, terrorism, and security trends in Colombia; (2) participated in the design and implementation of national urban security policies; (3) designed local security plans for Colombia's major cities; (4) coordinated crisis management trainings; and (5) wrote speeches for the president of Colombia related to security policies.

### **British Petroleum Exploration Colombia**

**Bogotá, Colombia**

*Corporate Security Department*

Position: Political Analyst, August 1997 - February 1999

Supervisor: Mauricio Jimenez

Description: The Corporate Security Department was in charge of assessing possible security threats to the exploration of oil in remote regions of Colombia, and give recommendations to corporate decision makers accordingly.

Responsibilities: (1) Analyzed Colombian politics and the dynamics of the armed conflict as they related to the operations of the company; (2) performed security assessments and risk evaluations; (3) coordinated kidnapping prevention trainings for field and city executives; (4) put together a crisis management manual; and (5) coordinated training on human rights and international humanitarian law for police and military personnel stationed near the company's areas of operation.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Peer Reviewed Publications**

White, M.D. & G. Escobar (2008). Making Good Cops in the 21st Century: Emerging Issues for the Effective Recruitment, Selection and Training of Police in the United States and Abroad. *International Review of Law, Computing and Technology* 2(1-2):119-134.

White, M.D., M. Galietta, & G. Escobar (2006). Technology-Driven Literacy Programs as a Tool for Re-connecting Incarcerated Mothers and their Children: Assessing their Need and Viability in a Federal Prison. *Justice Policy Journal* 3(1).

### **Other Publications**

Daza, A., D.C. Brotherton & G. Escobar (2008). Children of the Land, Fruit of the Ghetto. In Flynn, M. & Brotherton, D.C. (eds.) *Globalizing the Streets: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Youth, Social Control and Empowerment in the New Mllenum*. New York: Columbia University Press (In Press).

Escobar, G. (2005). El Conflicto Colombiano en el Contexto de la Guerra contra el Terrorismo de los Estados Unidos. *Perspectivas Internacionales* 1(1):2-5. Cali, Colombia: Observatorio de Asuntos Internacionales Universidad Javeriana.

Escobar, G. (2003). Apocalyptic Imagery in the Discourse of the FARC-EP. New York, NY: John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Center on Terrorism and Public Safety Website: <http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/terrorism>.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Escobar, G., Arias, D. & Llorente, M.V. (November 2007) *Defusing Contention: The Effect of Paramilitary Demobilizations on Homicides in Colombia*, presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Escobar, G. & White, M.D. (November 2007) *An Evaluation of a Youth Violence Prevention Curriculum in a High-Risk Community*, presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Natarajan, M., Ceballos, F., Englander, K., Escobar, G., Garcia, A., Hougham, C., Kang, J.H., Ranjan, S., Simms, O., Trojan, C., Wong, S.L., Wilder, K. & Woosuk, Y. (March 2007). *Crime Specific Analysis of Homicide Hot Spots*, presented at the 9th Annual NIJ Crime Mapping Conference, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Escobar, G. (November 2006) *Paramilitary Activity in Colombia: Analyzing the Impact of Governmental Interventions on Massacres against Civilians (1982-2005)*, presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.

Natarajan, M., Ceballos, F., Escobar, G., Garcia, A., Hougham, C., Kang, J., Ranjan, S., Simms, O., Trojan, C., Wong, S., & Yun, W. (July 2006). *Application of Crime Opportunity Theories in Understanding Murder Hotspots in NYC*, presented at the 14th Environmental Criminology and Crime Analysis Conference, British Columbia, Canada.

Escobar, G. (May 2005) *Children of Hopelessness and Despair: the Gangs in Medellin*, presented at the Common Study Programme in Criminal Justice and Critical Criminology, Spring Common Session, New York, NY.

Escobar, G. (November 2004) *Female Drug Couriers in Europe and the United States: When what you are carrying is closely tied to your destiny*, presented at the Common Study Programme in Criminal Justice and Critical Criminology, Fall Common Session, Athens, Greece.

Escobar, G. (April and May 2004) *The Colombian Conflict in the Context of the United States' War on Terror*, presented at the Friday Series of the Center on Terrorism, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY (May 2004); and at the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Common Study Programme on Criminal Justice and Critical Criminology, Spring Common Session, Barcelona, Spain (April 2004).

## COMPUTER SKILLS

*Statistics Software:* SPSS, LISREL, HLM, Mx, LEM, MS Excel

*Mapping Software:* ArcGIS

*Social Networks Analysis:* Pajek

## LANGUAGES

Spanish: Native

English: Fluent