

## MAX BESBRIS

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
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### EMPLOYMENT

2020- Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- Faculty Affiliate, Center for Demography and Ecology
- Faculty Affiliate, Center for Financial Security
- Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Research on Poverty

2017-2020 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Rice University

### EXTERNAL AFFILIATIONS

2020-2021 Visiting Scholar, Russell Sage Foundation  
2017- Fellow, Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University

### EDUCATION

2017 PhD, Sociology, New York University  
2012 MA, Sociology, New York University  
2008 BA, Sociology, University of California, Berkeley

- Sociology Departmental Citation
- Highest Honors
- Phi Beta Kappa

2008 BA, Linguistics, University of California, Berkeley

### BOOKS

Rhodes, Anna and **Max Besbris**. 2022. *Soaking the Middle Class: Suburban Inequality and Recovery from Disaster*. New York: Russell Sage.

- Related media coverage in *Houston Public Media*

**Besbris, Max**. 2020. *Upsold: Real Estate Agents, Prices, and Neighborhood Inequality*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

- Distinguished Book Award, Midwest Sociological Society, 2022
- Shortlisted, Alice Amsden Book Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 2022
- Author-Meets-Critics: SASE 2021; ESS 2022
- Reviewed in *American Journal of Sociology*; *Journal of Economic Sociology*; *Journal of Urban Affairs*; *Public Books*; *Social Forces*; *Symbolic Interaction*
- Related media coverage in *Bloomberg*, *Crain's New York Business*, *HousingWire*, *Insider*, *Jacobin*, NPR's *Think with Krys Boyd*

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

Hayes, Adam and **Max Besbris**. Conditional Accept. "Earmarking Space: Relationality, Economic

Judgments, and Housing Wealth.” *Socio-Economic Review*

**Besbris, Max** and Elizabeth Korver-Glenn. 2022. “Value Fluidity and Value Anchoring: Race, Intermediaries, and Valuation in Two Housing Markets.” *Socio-Economic Review* doi: 10.109/ser/mwac012

**Besbris, Max**, John Kuk, Ann Owens, and Ariela Schachter. 2022. “Predatory Inclusion in the Market for Rental Housing: A Multi-City Empirical Test.” *Socius* 8:1-16.

Rhodes, Anna and **Max Besbris**. 2021. “Best Laid Plans: How the Middle-Class Make Residential Decisions Post-Disaster.” *Social Problems* doi: 10.1093/socpro/spab026

- Related media coverage in *New York Times*, *Front Burner*

**Besbris, Max**, Ariela Schachter, and John Kuk. 2021. “The Unequal Availability of Rental Housing Information Across Neighborhoods.” *Demography* 58:1197-1221.

Kuk, John, Ariela Schachter, Jacob William Faber, and **Max Besbris**. 2021. “The COVID-19 Pandemic and the Rental Market: Evidence from Craigslist.” *American Behavioral Scientist* 65:1623-1648.

- Related media coverage in *Truthout*

Boeing, Geoff, **Max Besbris**, David Wachsmuth, and Jake Wegmann. 2021. “Tilted Platforms: Rental Housing Technology and the Rise of Urban Big Data Oligopolies.” *Urban Transformations* 3:1-10.

Boeing, Geoff, **Max Besbris**, Ariela Schachter, and John Kuk. 2021. “Housing Search in the Age of Big Data: Smarter Cities or Same Old Blind Spots?” *Housing Policy Debate* 31:112-126.

**Besbris, Max** and Caitlin Petre. 2020. “Professionalizing Contingency: How Journalism Schools Adapt to Deprofessionalization.” *Social Forces* 98:1524-1547.

- Related media coverage in *Houston Public Media*, *Study Hall*

**Besbris, Max**, Jacob William Faber, and Patrick Sharkey. 2019. “Disentangling the Effects of Race and Place in Economic Transactions: Findings from an Online Field Experiment.” *City & Community* 18:529-555.

**Besbris, Max** and Shamus Khan. 2017. “Less Theory. More Description.” *Sociological Theory* 35:147-153.

**Besbris, Max** and Jacob William Faber. 2017. “Investigating the Relationship Between Real Estate Agents, Segregation, and House Prices: Steering and Upselling in New York State.” *Sociological Forum* 32:850-873.

- Student Paper Award, SASE
- Related media coverage in *Newsday*, *SDP Radio*, *Brick Underground*

Schachter, Ariela and **Max Besbris**. 2017. "Immigration and Neighborhood Change: Methodological Possibilities for Future Research." *City & Community* 16:244-251.

**Besbris, Max**. 2016. "Romancing the Home: Emotions and the Interactional Creation of Demand in the Housing Market." *Socio-Economic Review* 14:461-482.

- Student Paper Award, SASE
- Best Student Paper Award Honorable Mention, Consumers & Consumption Section of ASA

**Besbris, Max**. 2016. "Revanchist Masculinity: Gender Attitudes in Sex Work Management." *The Sociological Quarterly* 57:711-732.

- Sally Hacker Award Honorable Mention, Sociology of Sex and Gender Section of ASA
- Candace Rogers Award, Eastern Sociological Society
- Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division of SSSP

**Besbris, Max**, Jacob William Faber, Peter Rich, and Patrick Sharkey. 2015. "Effect of Neighborhood Stigma on Economic Transactions." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 112:4994-4998.

- Related media coverage in *Washington Post*, *U.S. New and World Report*, *Wonkblog*, *CityLab*, *Next City*

### **ARTICLES IN PROGRESS**

Robinson III, John N., Elizabeth Korver-Glenn, and **Max Besbris**. "Racial Capitalism and Social Psychology: A Note for Future Research." (Revise & resubmit, *Social Psychology Quarterly*)

**Besbris, Max** and Gary Alan Fine. "Planning as Social Practice: The Formation and Blockage of Competitive Futures." (Under review)

Schachter, Ariela, John Kuk, **Max Besbris**, and Garrett Pekarek. "Inclusive to Some: Ethnoracial Boundaries and the Use of Spanish in the Market for Rental Housing."

Rhodes, Anna and **Max Besbris**. "A Rapidly Changing Ecology of Aid: Help-Seeking and Stigma in the Aftermath of Disaster."

**Besbris, Max** and John N. Robinson III. "The Sociology of Real Estate." (Invited submission to the *Annual Review of Sociology*)

### **BOOK CHAPTERS**

Korver-Glenn, Elizabeth, Robin Bartram, and **Max Besbris**. Forthcoming. "Housing Market Intermediaries." In *The Sociology of Housing*, edited by Eva Rosen and Brian McCabe. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

**Besbris, Max**, Jacob William Faber, Peter Rich, and Patrick Sharkey. 2018. "The Geography of Stigma: Experimental Methods to Identify the Penalty of Place." Pp. 159-177 in *Audit Studies: Behind the Scenes with Theory, Method and Nuance*, edited by S. Michael Gaddis. New York: Springer.

Sharkey, Patrick, **Max Besbris**, and Michael Friedson. 2016. "Poverty and Crime." Pp. 623-636 in *The Oxford Handbook of the Social Science of Poverty*, edited by David Brady and Linda M. Burton. New York: Oxford University Press.

Sharkey, Patrick and **Max Besbris**. 2012. "Cities and Communities." Chapter 8 in *The Sociology Project: Introducing the Sociological Imagination*, edited by Jeff Manza, Lynne Haney, and Richard Arum. New York: Pearson.

### **OTHER PUBLICATIONS, BOOK REVIEWS, AND NEUROLOGY RESEARCH**

**Besbris, Max**. Forthcoming. "Review of *A Detroit Story: Urban Decline and the Rise of Property Informality* by Claire W. Herbert." *Contemporary Sociology*.

**Besbris Max**. 2022. "Review of *The Innovation Complex: Cities, Tech, and the New Economy* by Sharon Zukin." *Contemporary Sociology* 51:78-79.

**Besbris, Max**, Jacob Faber, and Elizabeth Korver-Glenn. 2021. "Shifting the Burden of Proof to the Discriminators: A Proposal for Real Estate Industry Data Collection." Pp. 36-42 in *Racial Justice in Housing Finance*, edited by Megan Haberle and Sophia House. Washington DC: PRRAC.

**Besbris, Max**. Jan, 2021. "Home is Where the Money Is." *Consume This! Blog*. American Sociological Association.

**Besbris, Max** and Jacob W. Faber. 2020. "Furthering Fair Housing in the Residential Real Estate Industry." *Race & Poverty* 29: 7-8.

**Besbris, Max** and Caitlin Petre. Dec, 2019. "Professionalizing contingency." *Work in Progress Blog*. American Sociological Association.

**Besbris, Max**. Feb, 2017. "How real estate agents manage homebuyer's emotions and reshape preferences." *Work in Progress Blog*. American Sociological Association.

**Besbris, Max**. 2015. "Stigma." Pp. 1532-4 in *The Sage Encyclopedia of Economics and Society*, edited by Frederick F. Wherry and Juliet Schor. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Petre, Caitlin and **Max Besbris**. 2013. *Hitting a Moving Target: How Journalism Schools are Adapting to an Unstable Media Job Market*. Commissioned by the Tow-Knight Center for Entrepreneurial Journalism, CUNY.

DeLeon, Jessica, Benno Gesierich, **Max Besbris**, Jennifer Ogar, Maya L. Henry, Bruce L. Miller, Maria Louisa Gorno-Tempini, and Stephen M. Wilson. 2012. "Elicitation of specific syntactic structures in primary progressive aphasia." *Brain and Language* 123: 183-90.

Wilson, Stephen M., Maya Henry, **Max Besbris**, Jennifer M. Ogar, Nina F. Dronkers, William Jerrold, Bruce L. Miller, and Maria Louisa Gorno-Tempini. 2010. "Connected speech production in three variants of primary progressive aphasia: linguistic features and neuroanatomical correlates." *Brain: A Journal of Neurology* 133: 2069-88.

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

### **External:**

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2021-2022 | Russell Sage Foundation Grant Extension #1808-07960. "The Consequences of Ecological Disaster on Social Mobility and Economic Security"—\$18,468 (with Anna Rhodes)                                 |
| 2020-2022 | National Science Foundation SES Grant #1947591/1947598/2041304. "Collaborative Research: Testing the Effects of Unequal Information in the Rental Housing Market"—\$378,793 (with Ariela Schachter) |
| 2019-2020 | Russell Sage Foundation Presidential Grant #1808-07960. "The Consequences of Ecological Disaster on Social Mobility and Economic Security"—\$34,971 (with Anna Rhodes)                              |
| 2013      | Tow-Knight Center for Entrepreneurial Journalism. "How Journalism Schools are Adapting to an Unstable Media Job Market"—\$5,400 (with Caitlin Petre)  |
| 2012      | Berlin Summer School in Social Sciences Fellowship  |
| 2011-2014 | National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship—\$138,000  |

### **Internal:**

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|-----------|---|
| 2022-2023 | Graduate School Research Competition, UW-Madison. "Testing the Effects of Unequal Information in the Rental Housing Market"—\$41,655                              |
| 2017-2018 | Seed Grant, Social Science Research Institute, Rice University. "Post-Disaster Residential Instability among Middle-Class Households"—\$10,000 (with Anna Rhodes) |
| 2016-2017 | Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York University—\$26,200  |
| 2015      | Student Grant Award, Center for Social and Political Behavior, New York University—\$1,000  |

- 2014 Student Grant Award, Center for Social and Political Behavior, New York University—\$1,000
- 2012 Research Development Grant, Institute for Public Knowledge—\$2,084 (with Caitlin Petre)
- 2012 Predoctoral Summer Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York University—\$3,000
- 2011 Graduate Student Summer Research Grant, Department of Sociology, New York University—\$3,000

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 2022 Shortlist, Alice Amsden Book Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
- 2022 Distinguished Book Award, Midwest Sociological Society
- 2017 Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award, Sex and Gender Section of the American Sociological Association, Honorable Mention
- 2016 Best Student Paper Award, Consumers & Consumption Section of the American Sociological Association, Honorable Mention
- 2015 Student Paper Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
- 2014 Student Paper Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
- 2013 Outstanding Student Teacher, Department of Sociology, New York University (Dept. nominee for NYU-wide teaching prize)
- 2012 Candace Rogers Award for Best Graduate Student Paper, Eastern Sociological Society
- 2012 Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher, Department of Sociology, New York University (Dept. nominee for NYU-wide teaching prize)
- 2011 Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- 2021
- Department of Sociology, Purdue University, February
  - Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University, January
- 2020
- Furman Center, New York University, October
  - Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April
  - Agora Institute, Johns Hopkins University, March
  - Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, March
- 2019

- Department of Sociology, Cornell University, November
- Sociology of Housing Conference, Georgetown University, October
- Furman Center, New York University, June
- Department of Sociology, The Pennsylvania State University, May
- Joint Center for Housing Studies, Harvard Kennedy School, March

2018

- Department of Sociology, Tulane University, September
- Population Research Center, University of Texas, Austin, January

2017

- Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania, November

2016

- Department of Sociology, UCLA, December
- Department of Sociology, Dartmouth College, October
- Department of Sociology, Rice University, October
- Ethnography Working Group, UCLA, April

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS (past 5 years)**

2021

- "Value Fluidity and Value Anchoring: Race, Intermediaries, and Valuation Processes in Two Housing Markets." American Sociological Association (virtual)
- "Earmarking Space: Relationality and Decisions Around Housing Wealth." ASA (virtual)

2020

- "Do Housing Voucher Holders Live in Affordable Neighborhoods?" Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (virtual)
- "Signals of Segregation: The Use of Spanish in Online Housing Advertisements." ASA (virtual)

2019

- "Professionalizing Contingency: How Journalism Schools Adapt to Deprofessionalization." Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, New York, NY
- "The Effect of Homicide on Local Rent." Urban Affairs Association, Los Angeles, CA
- "The Effect of Homicide on Local Rent." Population Association of America, Austin, TX

2018

- "The Language of Segregation: Variation in the Description of Rental Housing Across Neighborhoods." ASA, Philadelphia, PA

2017

- "Disentangling the Effects of Race and Neighborhood Stigma on Economic Transactions." ASA, Montreal, QC

### **TEACHING/ADVISING**

#### **Graduate Courses Taught:**

- Classical Sociological Theory; Economic Sociology; Urban Sociology

**Undergraduate Courses Taught:**

- Advanced Qualitative Methods; Methods of Sociological Inquiry; Senior Honors Research; Sociological Theory; Urban Sociology

**Advising:**

- *Dissertation*: Asia Bento (Rice), Adam Hayes (UW-Madison), Taylor Laemmli (UW-Madison), Sharan Mehta (Rice), Jason Nolen (UW-Madison)
- *Master's Thesis*: Asia Bento (Rice), Cullen Cohane (UW-Madison), Grace Nguyen (UW-Madison), Dan Seel (UW-Madison), Xioarui Zhang (Rice)
- *Senior Honors Thesis*: Sarah Berton (Rice), Sophie Rodriguez (Rice), Bharathi Selvan (Rice)

**SERVICE****Editorial Boards:**

- *American Sociological Review*, 2023-
- *Sociological Theory*, 2020-2023
- *Social Forces*, 2018-

**Professional Association Positions:**

- Member, Joseph B. Gittler Award Committee of SSSP, 2021-2022
- Member, Robert and Helen Lynd Award for Lifetime Achievement Committee, Community and Urban Sociology Section of ASA, 2020-2021
- Member, Robert E. Park Book Award Committee, Community and Urban Sociology Section of ASA, 2019-2020
- Member, Nominations Committee, Organizations Occupations and Work Section of ASA, 2019-2020
- Member, Shils-Coleman Prize Committee, Theory Section of ASA, 2017-2018
- Member, Outstanding Publication Award Committee, Consumers and Consumption Section of ASA, 2017-2018
- Council Member, Consumers and Consumption Section of ASA, 2016-2017
- Member, Student Paper Award Committee, Consumers and Consumption Section of ASA, 2016-2017

**Occasional Reviewer for:**

*American Journal of Sociology; American Sociological Review; City & Community; Cityscape; Demography; Gender & Society; Housing Policy Debate; Housing Studies; International Journal of Urban and Regional Research; Oxford University Press; Princeton University Press; Public Culture; Qualitative Sociology; Russell Sage Press; Social Forces; Social Problems; Socio-Economic Review; Sociological Forum; Sociological Methods & Research; Sociological Theory; The Sociological Quarterly; Socius; Work and Occupations*

**Department and University Service:**

- Faculty Advisor, Qualitative Methods Working Group, UW-Madison



- Member, Graduate Committee, Dept of Sociology, Rice University
- Member, Post-Doctoral Committee, Dept of Sociology, Rice University
- Chair, Office of Institutional Effectiveness Committee, Dept of Sociology, Rice University
- Co-Founder, Qualitative Working Group, Dept of Sociology, Rice University
- Member, Technology Culture and Society Planning Committee, Rice University

**Public Service:**

- Invited testimony given to the NY State Senate Standing Committee on Housing Construction and Community Development, Standing Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, Standing Committee on Consumer Protection, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020