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## **Research Interests**

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Race, ethnicity, & the criminal justice system; discrimination; public opinion; psychology & law

## **Education**

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PhD. Criminology, Law and Society, University of California-Irvine (2017)

*Dissertation:* Rap Lyrics as Evidence: An Examination  
of Rap Music, Perceptions of Threat, and Juror Decision Making

B.A. Sociology and Psychology (Double Major) (2010)

Stanford University

## **Academic Positions**

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**Assistant Professor,** Fall 2020 - present  
Department of Criminal Justice  
University of Nevada, Reno

**Visiting Assistant Professor,** Fall 2019 – Spring 2020  
Department of Sociology and  
Criminology & Law  
University of Florida

**Postdoctoral Researcher,** Fall 2017- Spring 2019  
Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice  
University of Delaware

## **Peer-Reviewed Publications**

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**Dunbar, A.** & Jones, N.E. (forthcoming). Cruel and Unusual Punishment: Assessing Public Perceptions of Suffering in Toxic Prisons. *Social Problems*

**Dunbar, A.**, Hanink, P., & Kyle, B. (2024). Good Cop, Bad Cop, Black Cop, White Cop: Unraveling Public Perceptions of Police Use of Force. *Journal of Crime & Delinquency*. Advanced online. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287241268298>

**Dunbar, A.**, King, S., & Vaughn, C. (2024). Dialect on Trial: An Experimental Examination of Raciolinguistic Ideologies and Character Judgments. *Race and Justice*. Advanced online. <https://doi.org/10.1177/21533687241258772>

Garlic, N. & **Dunbar, A.** (2024). Public Perceptions of Remote Courts: Modality Preferences and Digital Inequity Attitudes. *Current Issues in Criminal Justice*. 37(1), 94-110. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10345329.2024.2305979>

**Dunbar, A.** & Hanink, P. (2023). Reforming the Police: Examining the Effect of Message Framing on Police Reform Policy Preferences. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*. 34(6), 534-558. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08874034231211259>

**Dunbar, A.** & Hanink, P. (2023). Policing Protests: An Experimental Evaluation of the Impact of Protester Race on Support for Police Reform. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*. 19(2), 343-364. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11292-021-09499-2>

**Dunbar, A.** (2022). Arguing for Criminal Justice Reform: Examining the Effects of Message Framing on Policy Preferences. *Justice Quarterly*. 39(7), 1524-1544. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07418825.2022.2038243>

**Dunbar, A.** & Holbrook, M. (2022). A Color-Blind Lens: Public Perceptions of Systemic Racism in the Criminal Justice System. *Crime, Law & Social Change*. 79, 1-20. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10611-022-10032-3>

Hanink, P. & **Dunbar, A.** (2022). Protesting the Police: An Analysis of the Correlates of Support for Police Reform Following the 2020 Black Lives Matter Protests. *Social Movement Studies*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14742837.2022.2067842>

Holbrook, M., **Dunbar, A.**, & Miller, M.K, (2022). Judges' Perceptions of Systemic Racism in the Criminal Justice System. *Race and Justice*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/21533687221087388>

**Dunbar, A.** & Jones, N.E. (2020). Race, Police, and the Pandemic: Considering the Role of Race in Public Health Policing. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. 44(5), 773-782. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2020.1851381>

**Dunbar, A.** (2020). Follow the Money: Racial Crime Stereotypes and Willingness to Fund Crime Control Policies. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 26(4), 476–489. <https://doi.org/10.1037/law0000234>

- October 9, 2020: Featured in Society for Psychological Studies of Social Issues newsletter

**Dunbar, A.** (2020). Art or Confession?: Evaluating Rap Lyrics as Evidence in Criminal Cases. *Race and Justice*, 10(3), 320-340. <https://doi.org/10.1177/21533687177498>

**Dunbar, A.**, Hughes, C., Kupchik, A., & Lewis, R. (2019). Fear of a Black (And Poor) School: Race, Class, and School Safety Policy Preferences. *Race & Justice*, 12(2), 344-367. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2153368719881679>

**Dunbar, A.** (2019). Rap Music, Race, and Perceptions of Crime. *Sociology Compass*. 13(10), e12732. <https://doi.org/10.1111/soc4.12732>

**Dunbar, A.** & Kubrin, C.E. (2018). Imagining Violent Criminals: Rap Music Stereotypes and Character Judgments. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 14(4), 507-528. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11292-018-9342-6>

- September 30, 2022: Cited in California Assembly Bill 2799

**Dunbar, A.**, Kubrin, C.E., & Scurich, N. (2016). The Threatening Nature of “Rap” Music. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 22(3), 280-292. <https://doi.org/10.1037/law0000093>

- July 8, 2022: Cited in United States v. Wiley (2022) 610 D. Conn F.Supp.3d,440, 445
- October 7, 2023: Cited in Correia v. Commonwealth (Supreme Ct. Mass) 492 Mass. 220, 210, N.E.3d 407
- October 20, 2023: Cited in United States v. Donald (2023) D. Conn. WL 6958797
- June 27, 2023: Cited in Counterman v. Colorado (2023) 600 U.S. 66, 88
- July 12, 2023: Cited in People v. Ramos (2023) 90 Cal. App. 5<sup>th</sup> 578
- May 8, 2024: Cited in Hart v. State, No. PD-0677-22 (Tex. Crim. App. May 8, 2024).

## Non-Refereed Publications

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**Dunbar, A.** (in press). Racial and Ethnic Dynamics in the Context of Protest Policing. Chapter in *Race, Crime, and Justice* edited volume

Kyle, B. & **Dunbar, A.** (2025). A Colorblind Lens: Assessing the Relationships among Racial Attitudes and Support for Police Militarization. *Nevada Undergraduate Research Journal*. 10(1), 7-23.

**Dunbar, A.** (2023). Book Review of *Transforming Criminal Justice: Evidence-Based Agenda for Reform*, by Jon B. Gould and Pamela Metzger, *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10511253.2023.2277077>

King, S., Vaughn, C., & **Dunbar, A.** (2022). Dialect on Trial: Raciolinguistic ideologies in perceptions of AAVE/MAE codeswitching. *University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics*.

**Dunbar, A.** (2021). Evaluating Rap Lyrics. In Barnes, J.C., and David R. Forde (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Research Methods and Statistical Techniques in Criminology & Criminal Justice*. New York: Wiley Blackwell.

**Dunbar, A.** (2020). Follow the Money: Racial Crime Stereotypes and Willingness to Fund Crime Control Policies. *SPSSI Forward*.

**Dunbar, A.** (2020). Art, Entertainment, or Admission of Guilt?: Contextualizing Crime in Rap Lyrics. In K. Elvey & D. Mackey (Eds.), *Society, Ethics, and the Law*. Jones and Bartlett.

Tingen, I. W., Pathis, L. & **Dunbar, A.** (2014). Source credibility. In T. R. Levine, J. G. Golson (Eds) *Encyclopedia of Lying and Deception*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

## **Work in Progress**

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**Dunbar, A.** & Kyle, B. (under review). Boots on the Ground: Assessing Attitudes about Race, Space, and Police Militarization

Jones, N.E., & **Dunbar, A.** (in preparation). Bad Victims: Assessing Attitudes about Health Emergencies in Prisons

Kupchik, A. & **Dunbar, A.** (in preparation). Public Opinion about School Resource Officers

Ward, G.K., Verma, A., Hanink, P.A., & **Dunbar, A.** (in preparation) Eating their Own: Police Responses to Fellow Officer Misconduct.

## **Fellowships and Grants**

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**Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Summer Research Institute Fellowship** (July 2021)  
3-week intensive workshop

**School of Social Research and Social Justice Faculty Research Seed Grant** (November 2020)  
\$1,000 research stipend

<b>Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Grant</b> “Racial Bias, Perceptions of Pain, and Criminal Justice Decision Making” \$1,584 research stipend	(July 2019)
<b>Public Impact Fellowship, UC Irvine</b> \$1,000 stipend	(November 2016)
<b>Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship</b> Honorable Mention	(Spring 2016)
<b>CLS Professional Development Fellowship, UC Irvine</b> \$11,000	(Fall 2015)
<b>UC Irvine Pedagogical Fellowship</b> \$2,000 stipend	(2014-2015)
<b>UC Irvine School of Social Ecology Fellowship</b> \$33,000	(2011-2012)
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<b>Awards</b>	
<b>VPRI Travel Grant Award</b> \$1,000 conference travel stipend	(November 2024)
<b>College of Liberal Arts (CLA) Dean's Award for Outstanding Research in the Social Sciences</b> \$1,000 monetary award	(March 2023)
<b>Hilliard Foundation Endowment</b> <b>University of Nevada-Reno</b> \$2000 to fund guest speaker	(October 2022)
<b>SPSSI Early Career Scholars Program Travel Funding</b> Stipend to attend SPSSI conference	(August 2021)
<b>Best Student Paper Award, Division of Experimental Criminology, American Society of Criminology</b> \$500 monetary award	(Spring 2016)

**Travel Award, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues** (Spring 2016)  
\$500 stipend to attend SPSSI conference

**Travel Award, Center for Psychology and Law** (Winter 2016)  
\$500 stipend to attend AP-LS conference

## **Media Appearances**

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Invited interview (2024, February 14<sup>th</sup>), *Killing Hip Hop: Young Thug*, Street Car Entertainment, June 2024

Invited interview (2023, April 11<sup>th</sup>), *As We Speak*, Strike Anywhere Films, February 2024

Invited interview, Palm Beach Post

Phillips, H. (2023, March 23). Rap Lyrics, Criminal Prosecutions, and the First Amendment. *Palm Beach Post*.

<https://www.palmbeachpost.com/story/news/crime/2023/03/23/rap-lyrics-on-trial-jury-acquits-south-florida-rapper-who-threatened-to-shoot-up-former-high-schools/70028312007/>

Invited interview, Courthouse News Service

McDaniel, K. (2022, September 13). Rap Lyrics, Criminal Prosecutions, and the First Amendment. *Courthouse News Service*. <https://www.courthousenews.com/sidebar-season-two-ep-10-rap-lyrics-criminal-prosecutions-and-the-first-amendment/>

Invited interview, OkayPlayer

Hill, B. (2022, August, 15). The RAP Act Would Ban Lyrics from Being Used as Evidence - But is it Enough?. *OkayPlayer*. <https://www.okayplayer.com/news/what-is-the-rap-act.html>

Invited interview, “Stand for It” web-series (2020)

## **Invited Presentations**

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“Race, Language, and the Law.” Linguistics for Justice. June 2025

“Contemporary Intersections of Race and the Criminal Justice System.” Nevada Public Defender Office. November, 2024

“Rap on Trial and Expert Testimony.” California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. November, 2023

“Contemporary Intersections of Race and the Criminal Justice System.” Nevada Department of Indigent Defense Services. July, 2023

“Criminalization of Culture: Examining the Intersection of Race, Culture, and Perceptions of Crime.” Black Studies Research Roundtable. September, 2022

“Arguing for Criminal Justice Reform: Examining the Effects of Message Framing on Policy Preferences.” University Nevada Reno Lightning Talks (Reno, NV) April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

“Race, Rap, and Discrimination.” Pace Center for Girls. November, 2019

“Rap on Trial: The Impact of Using Rap Lyrics as Evidence.” University of Delaware-Georgetown. April, 2018

“Rap on Trial: The Impact of Using Rap Lyrics as Evidence.” University of Delaware. April, 2018

“The Relationship between Racial Stereotypes and Clinical Decision Making.” Metropolitan State Hospital. August, 2016

“Rap on Trial: The Impact of Using Rap Lyrics as Evidence.” Criminological Theory graduate seminar. May, 2016

“Implicit Bias: Policing and the Courts.” Race, Ethnicity, and Social Control undergraduate course. November, 2015

“Dealing with Challenging Situations.” Teaching Assistant Professional Development Training. September, 2014

“Implicit Bias, Discretion, and the U.S. Legal System.” Race, Ethnicity, and Social Control undergraduate course. December, 2013

“Transitional Justice in the Post-Civil Rights Era.” Ethics and Politics of Justice undergraduate course. May, 2013

## **Selected Conference Presentations**

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Dunbar, A., Hanink, P. & Kyle., B. “Good Cop, Bad Cop, Black Cop, White Cop: Unraveling Public Perceptions of Police Use of Force.” American Society of Criminology Conference (San Francisco, CA). November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dunbar, A. & Kyle, B. “Boots on the Ground: Assessing Attitudes about Race, Space, and Police Militarization.” Western Association of Criminal Justice (Reno, CA). October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dunbar, A., Hanink, P. & Kyle., B. “Good Cop, Bad Cop, Black Cop, White Cop: Unraveling Public Perceptions of Police Use of Force.” Western Society of Criminology Conference (Long Beach, CA). February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dunbar, A., King, S., & Vaughn, C. “Dialect on Trial.” Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Conference (Denver, CO) June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dunbar, A. & Hanink, P.A. “Reforming the Police: Assessing the Extent and Correlates of Public Support for Police Reform.” American Society of Criminology Conference (Atlanta, GA) November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dunbar, A. “Dialect on Trial.” American Society of Criminology Conference (Atlanta, GA) November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dunbar, A. "Arguing for Criminal Justice Reform: Examining the Effects of Message Framing on Policy Preferences." American Society of Criminology Conference (Chicago, IL) November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dunbar, A., King, S., & Vaughn, C. "Dialect on Trial." New Ways of Analyzing Variation (virtual) October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dunbar, A., King, S., & Vaughn, C. "Dialect on Trial." Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Conference (virtual) August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Holbrook, M., Dunbar, A., & Miller, M.K. "Judges' Perceptions of Systemic Racism in the Criminal Justice System." Law and Society Association (virtual) May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dunbar, A. & Mende-Seidlecki, P. "Race, Perceptions of Pain, and Police Use of Force." American Psychology-Law Society (New Orleans, LA) March 6, 2020

Dunbar, A. "Following the Money: Racialized Support for Punitive Crime Control Policies." American Society of Criminology Conference (San Francisco, CA) November 15, 2019

Dunbar, A., Hughes, C., and Kupchik, A. (presenter). "Race, Poverty, and Public Willingness to Pay for Child Saving and Juvenile Punishment." American Society of Criminology Conference (San Francisco, CA) November 15, 2019

Dunbar, A., Hughes, C., and Kupchik, A. "Race, Poverty, and Public Willingness to Pay for Child Saving and Juvenile Punishment." American Society of Criminology Conference (Atlanta, GA) November 14, 2018

Dunbar, A. and Kubrin, C.E. "Imagining Violent Criminals: Rap Music Stereotypes and Character Judgments." American Sociological Association Conference (Philadelphia, PA) August 13, 2018

Dunbar, A. and Kubrin, C.E. "Imagining Violent Criminals: Rap Music Stereotypes and Character Judgments." Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Conference (Pittsburgh, PA) June 30, 2018

Dunbar, A., Kubrin, C.E., and Scurich, N. "The Threatening Nature of Rap." American Society of Criminology Conference (New Orleans, LA) November 15, 2016

Dunbar, A., Kubrin, C.E., and Scurich, N. "The Threatening Nature of Rap." Law and Society Association Conference (New Orleans, LA) June 3, 2016

Dunbar, A., Kubrin, C.E., and Scurich, N. "The Threatening Nature of Rap." American Psychology-Law Society Conference (Atlanta, GA) March 9, 2016