

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Paul Kaplan, PhD  
School of Public Affairs  
San Diego State University  
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San Diego, CA 92182  
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2024

### **ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

2018 – Present	Professor San Diego State University
2011 - 2018	Associate Professor San Diego State University
2007 - 2010	Assistant Professor San Diego State University
2015 - Present	Visiting Professor University of California, San Diego

### **EDUCATION**

2007	Ph.D, Criminology, Law and Society University of California, Irvine
1992	B.A., English and American Literature University of California, Santa Cruz

### **AREAS OF RESEARCH**

The Death Penalty  
Cultural Criminology  
Sociolegal Theory

### **PUBLICATIONS**

## Books:

Kaplan, Paul and Daniel LaChance (2022). *Crimesploitation: Crime, Punishment, and Pleasure on Reality Television*. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press.

Kaplan, Paul (2012) *Murder Stories: Ideological Narratives in Capital Punishment*. Lanham: Lexington Books.

## Articles and Chapters:

Kaplan, Paul (2024) “Challenges to the Contemporary Death Penalty in the United States.” *Annual Review of Law and Social Science*. Vol. 20, p. 353 – 368.

Kaplan, Paul (2022) “When the Islamic State Kills: Ironies of American and ISIS Executions.” Research Notes. *Critical Criminology*. Vol. 30, p. 947 – 960.

Kaplan, Paul (2020) “Doomed Antihero: Intimate Killers and Home-Grown Jihadis.” Book Chapter in *Seductions of Crime: The Work of Jack Katz*, Edited by David Polizzi. P. 73 – 89.

Kaplan, Paul (2019) “The Death Penalty.” Handbook Chapter in *The Wiley Blackwell Handbook of Social Control*, Edited by Mathieu Deflem. P. 333 – 345.

LaChance, Daniel and Paul Kaplan (2019). “Criminal Justice in the Middlebrow Imagination: The Punitive Dimensions of *Making a Murderer*.” *Crime, Media, Culture*. Vol. 16, no. 1. P. 80 – 96.

Kaplan, Paul (2018). “The Death Penalty.” Encyclopedia Chapter in *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice*, Edited by Henry Pontell.

Kaplan, Paul (2017) *Executing Freedom: The Cultural Life of Capital Punishment in the United States*, by Daniel LaChance. Commentary. *Social Justice*. Vol. 44, No. 4. 139-144.

Kaplan, Paul and Daniel LaChance (2017) “Crimesploitation.” Handbook Chapter in *The Routledge International Handbook of Visual Criminology*, Edited by Eamonn Carrabine and Michelle Brown.

Kaplan, Paul and Daniel LaChance (2017) “Crimesploitation.” Encyclopedia Chapter in *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice*, Edited by Nicole Rafter.

Angioli, Shanda and Paul Kaplan (2017). “Some Things Are Just Better Left As Secrets” Non-Transparency and Prosecutorial Decision Making in the Era of Neoliberal

Punitivism.” *Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice and Criminology*. Vol. 5, No 1. June. P. 66 – 103.

Kaplan, Paul, Kerry Dunn and Shannon Jackson (2016). “The Problem of Explanation: Understanding the Scandal of Judicial Override in Capital Cases.” *Social Justice*. Vol. 43-1.

Kaplan, Paul, Kerry Dunn and Nicole Sherman (2016). “Localism and Capital Judicial Override in Jefferson County, Alabama” *Race and Justice*. Vol. 6, No. 2. P. 170 – 790.

LaChance, Daniel and Paul Kaplan (2015) “The Seductions of Crimesploitation: The Apprehension of Sex Offenders on Primetime Television.” *Law, Culture and the Humanities*. P. 1 – 24.

Fleury-Steiner, Benjamin, Paul Kaplan, and Jamie Longazel (2015) “Defending Racial Boundaries: Racist Localism in Administration of Capital Punishment in the U.S.” *Studies in Law, Politics, and Society*. Vol. 66. P. 63-85.

Kaplan, Paul, Brian Goeltzenleuchter, and Dan Salmonson (2014). “The Art / Crime Archive: An Anti-Boredom Space.” *The STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) Journal*. Vol. 1 (2).

Kaplan, Paul J. (2010) “Forgetting the Future: Are Capital Trial Defenders Cause Lawyers?” *Theoretical Criminology*. Vol. 14, No. 2, 1 – 25.

Kaplan, Paul J. (2009). “Looking Through the Gaps: A Critical Approach to the LAPD’s Rampart Scandal.” *Social Justice*. Vol. 36, No. 1, (Issue 115), 61 – 81.

Dunn, Kerry and Paul J. Kaplan (2009). “The Ironies of Helping: Social Interventions and Executable Subjects” *Law & Society Review*. Vol. 43, No. 2, 337 – 368.

Kaplan, Paul J. (2009). “Nihilism and Mistaken Identity: (Self)Hate Crime in *The Believer*.” *Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture*. Vol. 16, Issue 1, 63 – 80.

Kaplan, Paul J., Romy Ganschow, Shanda Angioli and Larissa Tabin (2009) “Public but Opaque: The Problems of Tracking Homicide Charging in a California County” *Justice Policy Journal*. Vol. 6, No. 2.

Kaplan, Paul J. (2008). “Facts and Furies: The Antinomies of Facts and Law, and Retribution in the Work of Capital Prosecutors.” *Studies in Law, Politics and Society. Special Issue: Is the Death Penalty Dying?* Vol. 42, 135–159.

Kaplan, Paul J. (2006) “American Exceptionalism and Racialized Inequality in American Capital Punishment.” Review Essay. *Law & Social Inquiry*. Vol. 31, Issue 1, 149 – 175.

## **Book Reviews:**

Kaplan, Paul (2024) “Ghosts Over the Boiler: Voices from Alabama’s Death Row,” by Project Hope to Abolish the Death Penalty, Edited by Katie Owens-Murphy. *International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy*.

Kaplan, Paul (2021) “Stranger Danger: Family Values, Childhood, and the American Carceral State,” by Paul M. Renfro. *Punishment & Society*.

Kaplan, Paul (2020) “American Roulette: The Social Logic of Death Penalty Sentencing Trials,” by Sarah Beth Kaufmann. *Law & Society Review*. Vol. 65, Issue 4, p. 914-907.

Kaplan, Paul (2018) “Exonerated: A History of the Innocence Movement,” by Robert J. Norris. *Journal of American History*. Vol. 105 No. 2.

Kaplan, Paul J. (2012) “Cruel and Unusual: The American Death Penalty and the Founders’ Eighth Amendment,” by John D. Bessler. *Law & Society Review*. Vol. 46, No. 4, pp. 938 – 940.

Kaplan, Paul J. (2006) “Mercy on Trial: What it Means to Stop an Execution,” by Austin Sarat. *Theoretical Criminology*, 8, 2006; vol. 10: pp. 401 - 405.

Kaplan, Paul J. (2005) “Studies in Law, Politics and Society” Edited by Austin Sarat, and Patricia Ewick. Volume 31. *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews*, Volume 34, Number 5, September 2005, pp. 551-553(3).

Kaplan, Paul J. (2004) “The O.J. Simpson Trials: Rhetoric, Media, and the Law.” Edited by Janice Schuetz and Lin S. Lilley. *Criminal Justice Review*. Volume 29, Number 1.

## **Edited Textbooks:**

Henry, Stuart, Kaplan, Paul, and Alan Mobley, Editors (2016). *Law and Society*. Cognella Academic Publishing.

Valenzuela, Sylvia, Kaplan, Paul, and Stuart Henry, Editors (2014). *Crime and Behavior*. Cognella Academic Publishing.

## **Curated Art Exhibition:**

Goeltzenleuchter, Brian, Paul Kaplan and Laura Pecenco, Curators (2014) *Shadow Spaces from the Art | Crime Archive: Creativity, Culture, and Criminality: The Prison Art Project: Works by Prisoners in the Books for Prisoners Program and Interrogating Dump Sites: Photographs by Stephen Chalmers*. Donor’s Hall. Love Library. San Diego State University. Main installation for Spring 2014.

## PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

Presenter: "The Problem of Execution: Challenges to the Death Penalty in the 2020s." American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA (2023).

Critic, Author Meets Critics: "Ghosts Over the Boiler: Voices from Alabama's Death Row." American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA (2023).

Author, Authors Meet Critics: "Crimesploitation." American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA (2022).

Presenter: "Hermeneutically Challenged: The Problem of Interpretation in Alcoholics Anonymous." American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA (2022).

Presenter: "The Dopefiend Treadmill: The Highs and Lows of Intoxication on *Intervention*." Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities. Ottawa, Canada (2019).

Presenter: "The Clinic and the Abattoir: Comparing American Executions to ISIS Propaganda Killings." Law and Society Association Conference. Toronto, Canada (2018).

Presenter: "Criminal Justice in the Middlebrow Imagination: The Punitive Dimensions of *Making a Murderer*." Western Society of Criminology Conference. Long Beach, CA (2018).

Presenter: "Serious Crimesploitation." American Society of Criminology Conference. New Orleans, LA (2016).

Presenter: "Middlebrow Crimesploitation." New Directions in Critical Criminology Conference. University of Tennessee. Knoxville, TN (2016).

Presenter: "The Mitigation Sensibility." Bi-annual Meeting of the West Coast Law and Society Retreat. Irvine, CA (2016).

Presenter: "Thinking about the Metaphysics of Capital Jurisprudence by Studying Judicial Override in Alabama and Florida." Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association. Atlanta, GA. (2016).

Presenter: "The Jihadi Badass." Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Washington, D.C. (2015).

Presenter: "Crimesploitation." Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, CA (2014).

Presenter: “Crimesploitation.” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Minneapolis, MN (2014).

Presenter: “Techniques of Dismissing Mitigation: The Scandal of Judicial Override in Alabama.” Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Criminology. Honolulu, HI (2014)

Presenter: “*To Catch A Predator* without Becoming One: The Politics and Metaphysics of Sex Offenders and Vigilantes on Primetime Television.” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Boston, MA (2013).

Presenter: “The Art/Crime Archive: A Place for Reactions to Boredom” Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Criminology. Berkeley, CA (2013)

Presenter: “The Art/Crime Archive” (Roundtable) Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Chicago, IL (2012)

Presenter: “Is Override Local?: Parochialism and Libertarianism in Alabama Capital Sentencing” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Honolulu, HI (2012).

Presenter: “The Problem of Explanation: The Capital Judicial Sentencing Project” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Honolulu, HI (2012).

Presenter: “*Blat (блат), Los que no transan, no avanzan* & Politics: Corruption in Russia, Mexico & the USA” Annual Meeting of the Critical Criminology and Justice Studies Conference, in association with the Western Society of Criminology. Newport Beach, CA (2012).

Presenter: “The Capital Judicial Sentencing Project” Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, CA (2010)

Presenter: “The Capital Judicial Sentencing Project” Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Criminology. Honolulu, HI (2010)

Presenter: “The Ironies of Saving: The Hegemony of Individualism in Capital Defense” Critical Criminology and Justice Studies Mini-Conference in Association with the Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Criminology. Honolulu, HI (2010)

Presenter: “Murder Stories and the Hegemony of Individualism” Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Philadelphia, PA (2009).

Presenter: “The Capital Jury Project, Phase III, in California: Problems of Access” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Denver, CO (2009)

Presenter, with Shanda Angioli and Larissa Tabin: “Public but Opaque: The Problems of Tracking Homicide Charging in a California County” Annual Meeting of the American Society

of Criminology. St. Louis, MO (2008).

Presenter: “The Ironies of Helping: Projects of Social Improvement and Executable Subjects.” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Montreal, Canada (2008).

Presenter: “Facts and Furies: The Antinomies of Facts and Law, and Retribution in the Work of Capital Prosecutors.” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Berlin, Germany (2007).

Presenter: “Forgetting the Future: Are Capital Trial Attorneys Cause Lawyers?” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Baltimore, MD (2006).

Presenter: “The American Creed and Capital Punishment.” Annual Meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association. Universal City/Hollywood, CA (2006).

Presenter: “American Exceptionalism and Racialized Inequality in American Capital Punishment.” Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Toronto, Canada (2005).

Presenter: “The Subject of Execution.” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Las Vegas, NV (2005).

Presenter: “Nihilism and Misrecognition: (Self)Hate Crime in *The Believer*.” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Chicago, IL (2004).

Presenter: “Bracketed Into Non-existence: Media Theory and the Rampart Scandal.” Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Pittsburgh, PA (2003).

Roundtable Participant: “Media Culture and Cops: A Critical Approach to the LAPD’s Rampart Scandal.” Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Chicago, IL (2003).

Presenter: “Investigating and Correcting Official Misconduct: Preliminary Lessons from the Rampart Scandal.” Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Anaheim, CA (2001).

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

Invited Speaker: “Capital Punishment in the United States.” Mannheim University of Applied Sciences, Mannheim, Germany (2024).

Invited Speaker: “Police Misconduct in the United States.” Ludovika University of Public Service, Budapest, Hungary (2024).

Invited Speaker: “Crimesploitation.” University of California, Irvine (2022).

Invited Speaker: “Crimesploitation.” Arizona State University (2022).

Invited Speaker: “Public Criminology.” Emory University. (2017)

Invited Speaker: “He Never had a Chance: Capital Defendants in Contexts of Racist Fear.” The Arlin M. Adams Center for Law and Society. Susquehanna University. (2017).

Invited Speaker: “The Mitigation Sensibility.” West Coast Law and Society Retreat. UC, Irvine. (2016).

Invited Speaker: “The Jihadi Badass: Culture, Social History, and the Charlie Hebdo Massacre.” University of Kent at Canterbury, England (2015).

Invited Speaker: “Mitigation Investigation.” United States Marine Corps Defense Services Organization Sexual Assault-Focused CLE Seminar. United States Marine Corps Recruitment Centers, San Diego, CA (2015).

Invited Speaker: “Murder Stories and the Hegemony of Individualism.” San Diego State University School of Communication Colloquia Series (2011)

Invited Speaker: Job Market Workshop. Department of Criminology, Law and Society. University of California, Irvine (2009).

Invited Speaker: “Murder Stories and the Hegemony of Individualism.” San Diego State University Department of Geography Colloquia Series (2009)

Invited Guest Speaker: “The Wrong Man: Wrongful Conviction in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Rotary International, San Diego, CA (2008)

Invited Lecturer: “Current Research on Capital Punishment in the United States.” University of California, Irvine (2006).

Invited Lecturer: “Mitigation and Aggravation: A Tale of Two Stories.” University of California, Irvine (2004).

Invited Lecturer: “Meanings of the American Death Penalty.” University of California, Irvine (2004).

Invited Lecturer: “The Death Penalty in America.” University of California, Irvine (2004).

Invited Lecturer: “An Introduction to Critical Race Theory.” University of California, Irvine (2002).

Invited Lecturer: “Police Misconduct in the LAPD: What are the Barriers to Detection and



Investigation?” University of California, Irvine (2001).

## **AWARDS**

The Joseph E. Lohman Award for Outstanding Service to the Western Society of Criminology (2015-2016).

Most Influential Faculty, Program in Criminal Justice, School of Public Affairs, SDSU (2013)

Most Influential Faculty, Program in Criminal Justice, School of Public Affairs, SDSU (2012)

Most Influential Faculty, Program in Criminal Justice, School of Public Affairs, SDSU (2011)

Most Influential Faculty, Program in Criminal Justice, School of Public Affairs, SDSU (2010)

Social Ecology Graduate Student Outstanding Mentor (2006)

The Gilbert Geis Excellence in Graduate Research Award (2005)

Social Ecology Graduate Student Outstanding Mentor (2005)

Social Ecology Graduate Student Outstanding Mentor (2004)

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

University Grants Program, San Diego State University (2012). \$9,972.

University Grants Program, San Diego State University (2010). \$9,138.

University Grants Program, San Diego State University (2009). \$4,969.

Graduate Student Professional Development Fellowship, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California, Irvine (2006).

Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California, Irvine (2006).

Dean of Social Ecology Dissertation Writing Fellowship, School of Social Ecology, University of California, Irvine (2006).

National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant SES-0518071: “The Subject of Execution” (2005). \$7,217.

Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California, Irvine (2005).

Dissertation Data Collection Stipend, School of Social Ecology, University of California, Irvine (2004).

Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California, Irvine (2004).

Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California, Irvine (2003).

Participant, Graduate Student Workshop at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association. Pittsburgh, PA (2003).

Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California, Irvine (2002).

Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California, Irvine (2001).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### *Instructor*

Cultural Criminology

The Prosecutor

Law in Society

Crime and Behavior

Social Control, Social Policy, and the Administration of Justice

Seminar in Comparative Criminal Justice

The Cultural Life of Crime

Miscarriages of Justice

Criminal Law

The Cultural Lives of Art and Crime (co-taught with Brian Goeltzleuchter)

Cultural Criminology

### *Study Abroad Instructor*

Russian Criminal Justice in Moscow, Russia

Criminal Behavior (in American Samoa)

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE POSITIONS**

2013-2014 President, Western Society of Criminology

2019-2022 Member, International Editorial Board, *Theoretical Criminology*

## **MEDIA**

*CSPAN* television coverage of Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association (2016).  
“Thinking about the Metaphysics of Capital Jurisprudence by Studying Judicial Override in Alabama and Florida.”

*KPBS Mid-day Edition* radio program on capital punishment (10/10/12)

*KPBS Evening Edition* television program on capital punishment (10/10/12)

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP**

American Society of Criminology  
Law and Society Association  
Western Society of Criminology

## **PEER REVIEWER**

*The Law & Society Review*  
*Law & Social Inquiry*  
*Justice Quarterly*  
*Crime, Media, Culture*  
*Punishment & Society*  
*Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society* (formerly: *Western Criminological Review*)  
*Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice and Criminology*  
*Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*  
*Theoretical and Philosophical Criminology*

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

5/98-4/04 Legal Analyst. Office of the State Public Defender. San Francisco, CA. I was responsible for developing and carrying out all phases of investigation in the preparation of habeas corpus petitions on death penalty cases to the California Supreme Court. This included drafting and editing claims for habeas corpus petitions, reviewing and summarizing trial counsel files, developing new issues, locating and interviewing lay witnesses, jurors and others associated with the case, conducting comprehensive legal research, conducting mental health research, creating family genealogies, identifying and collecting life history and

legal documents, conducting comprehensive court searches, and creating and maintaining various databases.

6/97 - 4/98 Penalty Phase Investigator. Center for Capital Assistance/Office of the Federal Public Defender. San Francisco, CA/Sacramento, CA. My responsibilities included locating and interviewing lay witnesses, writing and editing narrative social histories, creating graphics of family genealogies, identifying and collecting life history and legal documents, conducting comprehensive court searches, creating visual aids for trial, creating and maintaining various databases, and preparing background information packets for mental health professionals.