

# LaDawn Elisa-Prieto Johnson

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Biola University

## Office:

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Sociology of Culture; Sociology of Religion; Historical-Comparative; Collective Action/Social Movements; Social Inequality: Stratification/Race/Ethnicity/Gender; Education

## EDUCATION:

**Master of Social Work**, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, 1998  
Co-concentration: Children and Family Mental Health; School Social Work  
Research: Effects of Religious Participation on Gang Involvement  
Advisors: Margarita Artavia and Jacquelyn McCroskey

**Bachelor of Science**, Sociology, Biola University, La Mirada, May 1996

**Pupil, Personnel and Services Credential**, University of Southern California, 2000/2005.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

**Research Assistant:** Biola University, 1995-1996  
Collected and evaluated data for ongoing studies under Biola University Sociology department. Richard Flory PhD

**Masters Research:** University of Southern California, 1996-98  
Collected, maintained and statistically evaluated data for case studies regarding the effects of religious participation on Latino street gang involvement.

**Grant Research:** Homes of Hope, FFA, 1998-2000  
Collected, evaluated and compiled data for California Title 1 Educational Funding Grant awarded 2 years under Los Angeles County Board of Education at 45,000/year to create drop-out prevention program for at-risk, minority youth.

**Grant Research:** Los Angeles Unified School District, 2000-2007  
Collected, evaluated and compiled data for various State, Federal and district programs to increase community resources at the local school level:  
School Community Policing Grant, Gratts Elementary School, 2001-02  
AB 56 Grant- Community Outreach Grant, Union Avenue Elementary  
2004-05 awarded \$50,000  
2003-04 awarded \$50,000  
2002-03 awarded \$50,000

**Educational Policy Research:** Los Angeles City Mayor Commissions, 2004-06  
Collected, evaluated and presented data for school district and city commission programs:

Commission for Children, Youth, and their Families, School Valet Program and Safe Passages/Corridors Program. Awarded several city grants to change community safety issues, including street signage for safer passages to and from school under various city programs.

Community needs analysis was conducted and presented to LA Commissioner Rafael Lopez (Educational Policy Advisor at the time). This information was distributed to various city commissions and city councilmen to improve and target specific community social problems and needs. The research information was used to support existing city policies to gain state funding to improve housing needs for low-income families within metro Los Angeles.

Commission on the Status of Women: Domestic Violence Program, 2004-5

Frequency in incidence of Domestic violence in the homes of Los Angeles inner-city Latino learners was examined, data collected and presented to Educational Policy Advisor and Commission on the Status of Women. Data and abstract were further presented to city councilmen and used in conjunction with existing city statistical research to support state educational policy reform.

Los Angeles Unified: Early Behavior Intervention Program/PIPPS, 2000-2007

Conducted pre/post Walker-McConnell Scales to measure student behavioral changes with social program interventions and to rate the effectiveness of LAUSD's pilot community programs. The results were presented to the District School Board, city governance and media. Awarded yearly grants ranging from \$2 million to \$8 million each year.

**Current Research**: Published research, 1999-2000

GenX Religion: In-depth case study research was conducted on various "Gen X" urban church members of mainline Denominational church and relationship between their age and expression of faith was examined. Findings were published.

The GenX and Millennial Missionary: Current research, 2000-2004

Case studies on 2 emerging missions organization and one mainline denominational missions organization and compares/contrasts their recruiting, changes in missiological approaches and language, and actual "missions trips" with regards to organizational definitions of "success". Not yet published.

Amandla and the Christian Church: Current research, 2004-current

Historical-comparative research on the growth of Evangelical and Pentecostal racial reconciliation movements in South Africa Post-Apartheid and Post-Civil Rights United States by race and gender.

The Church of Nascar: Current research, 2007-current

Qualitative research on Nascar culture in relation to religion, race and gender.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

**Assistant Professor of Sociology**: Biola University, La Mirada, CA 2005-present

Lectured on Sociology of Gender, Social Theory, Social Conflict, Social Inequalities, Urban Sociology, LA Social and Cultural Conflict, and Independent Research/Study courses as full-time and adjunct. Bradley Christerson, PhD. Sociology.

**District Team Leader**: Los Angeles Unified School District-Mental Health, 2002-06

Coordinated and organized in-service and staff development trainings to college interns, faculty, and district 4 counselors; lectured in various professional conferences and provided PPSC continuing education credits for post-graduate mental health faculty; created, organized and facilitated community organization between Rampart Police Department drug and gang task forces, the school site setting, LA City councilpersons,

Anti-Defamation League, Neighborhood City Attorney Prosecutors, Echo Park Boys and Girls Club, and various LA Mayor Commissions that resulted in a 3-day conference with parent, teacher, student, and community participation; provide mental health services to children and families on school site; assist in MediCal data collection and evaluation of services. Karen Timko, Psych.D, Coordinator of Early Behavior Intervention Program.

**Psychiatric Social Worker:** Los Angeles Unified School District, 2000-2007

Provided in-service trainings; focused on direct implementation of counseling services and community organization; conducted needs assessments for various school sites; grant writing for federal and state grants. Cecelia Ramos, LCSW, Coordinator for School Mental Health, district 4.

**Clinical Social Worker:** Homes of Hope, FFA

Taught parent education and child development courses; participated in LA Board of Education (LACBOE) policy research team for Title I funding and state lobbying; provided individual and group counseling; attended court proceedings for children and families; Design and teach parent and community safety programs to at-risk families through LACBOE. James Schrage, MSW, Professor of Social Work, Long Beach State University and founder of Families Uniting Families, FFA.

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

Flory, Richard W. and Donald E. Miller (eds). 2000. Gen X Religion. "Chapter 3: An Urban Mosaic in Shangra-La" by LaDawn Prieto (Johnson). Routledge Publishing.

Prieto (Johnson), LaDawn. 1995. 1996. ChristTeen Magazine. "An Interview with Kirk Franklin", "Worship Explosion" and "Focus on Teens Overcoming Challenges." Inglewood, CA.

#### **ABSTRACTS AND PUBLICATIONS:**

Prieto, LaDawn. 2006. "Finding the Inner-City Diamonds." Presented at Hope for LA Conference, Los Angeles.

Prieto, LaDawn. 2005. "Understanding Your Community and Taking Action." Presented at Preventing Community Violence Conference, Los Angeles.

Prieto, LaDawn. 2005. "Working with Difficult Kids and Juvenile Delinquency." Presented at A World Fit for Kids Seminar, Los Angeles.

Prieto, LaDawn. 2004 "Frequency of Domestic Violence in Homes of Latino Young Learners at Union (Metro LA)." Presented at LA City Commission on Children, Youth, and Their Families meeting, Los Angeles.

Prieto, LaDawn. 2005. "Community Needs Analysis of Metro LA". Presented at Special City Council meetings with appointed LA City Commission chair of Children, Youth, and their Families, Safe Passages/Corridors and Safety Valet Programs, Los Angeles.

Prieto, LaDawn. 2003. "Walker-McConnell Analysis of Mental Health Services in District 4". Presented at a special meeting of Los Angeles Unified School District School Board members, Los Angeles.

Prieto, LaDawn. 2003. "Finding Your Skills and Strengths in the School Setting." Presented at the LAUSD annual School Social Work Conference, Los Angeles.

Prieto, LaDawn. 2002. "Changes in State MediCal Funding and the Impact on Poverty Level Public Schools." Presented at LAUSD Team Conference, Los Angeles

Prieto, LaDawn. 2002. "Tapping into Passions as a Key to Resiliency." LAUSD Annual School Social Work Resource Conference.

Prieto, LaDawn. 2002. "New Perspectives on Youth and How to Pastor a New Generation." Lecture at Fuller Seminary, Pasadena.

**HONORS:**

Recipient. "District team Leadership Appreciation Award." LAUSD Mental Health, 2004.

Recipient. "Outstanding Academic Achievement" Latino Social Work Club, USC, 1998.

Recipient. "Dean Grant Award for Academic Achievement." University of Southern California, 1997-98.