

ROBERT O. SELF

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2015- Mary Ann Lippitt Professor of American History, Brown University
2016-2020 Department Chair, Department of History, Brown University
2013-2016 Royce Family Professor of Teaching Excellence, Brown University
2006-2013 Associate Professor of History, Brown University
2004-2006 Assistant Professor of History, Brown University
2002-2004 Assistant Professor of History and Urban Studies, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
1999-2002 Rackham Fellow, Michigan Society of Fellows, University of Michigan
1998-1999 Fellow in the Study of the North American West, Stanford University

EDUCATION

1998 University of Washington, Department of History, PhD
1993 University of Washington, Department of History, MA
1991 Oregon State University, History and English, BA

BOOKS

Intimate States: Gender, Sexuality, and Governance in Modern U.S. History, co-edited with Nancy Cott and Margot Canaday (forthcoming 2021, University of Chicago Press).

All in the Family: The Realignment of American Democracy Since the 1960s (Hill & Wang, 2012).

American Babylon: Race and the Struggle for Postwar Oakland (Princeton University Press, 2003).

- James A. Rawley Prize, Best Book on U.S. Race Relations, Organization of American Historians
- Best Book in Urban Affairs, Urban Affairs Association
- Ralph J. Bunche Award, Best Book on Ethnic Pluralism, American Political Science Association
- Best Book in North American Urban History, Urban History Association
- Excerpts published in *The Suburb Reader*, Becky Nicolaides and Andrew Wiese, eds. (New York: Routledge, 2006): 368-375; *The American Urban Reader: History and Theory*, Steven H. Corey and Lisa Krissoff Boehm, eds. (New York: Routledge, 2010): 442-444

America's History (co-authored with James Henretta, Rebecca Edwards, and Eric Hinderaker), 10th edition (Bedford Books, 2020); *America: A Concise History* (co-authored with James Henretta, Rebecca Edwards, and Eric Hinderaker), 8th Edition (Bedford Books, 2020).

FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS

2013-2014 Richard B. Salomon Faculty Research Award, Brown University (\$12,000)
2008-2009 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship
2007-2008 Frederick Burkhardt Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS),

2007-2008 Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University
Residential Fellowship, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University (declined)

2007-2008 Cogut Center for the Humanities, Faculty Fellowship, Brown University (declined)

2006 Edwin and Shirley Seave Faculty Fellow, Pembroke Research Seminar, Brown University

2005-2006 Wriston Curricular Development Grant, Brown University (3,000)

2005-2006 Richard B. Salomon Faculty Research Award, Brown University (\$15,000)

2004 W. M. Keck Foundation and Andrew Mellon Foundation Fellow, Huntington Library

2004 Center for 21st Century Studies Fellow, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (declined)

2002-2003 Graduate School Research Committee, Research Grant, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

2001 Rackham Summer Interdisciplinary Institute Fellowship, University of Michigan

2000 Office of the Vice President for Research Faculty Grant, University of Michigan

1999 American Philosophical Society, Research Grant

1999 Book Club of California, Manuscript Writing Grant

1997-1998 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Dissertation Fellowship

1997-1998 National Science Foundation, Dissertation Grant (year-long)

1997-1998 Rondeau Evans Dissertation Fellowship, History Department, University of Washington

1995 Harry Bridges Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Washington

AWARDS

2013-2016 Royce Family Professor of Teaching Excellence, Brown University

2012-2013 Barrett Hazeltine Citation for Excellence in Teaching, Brown University

2012-2013 Harriet W. Sheridan Award for Distinguished Contribution to Teaching and Learning at Brown University

See book and article prizes listed under publications

ARTICLES, ESSAYS, AND CHAPTERS

“The Sixties,” *Oxford Encyclopedia of American Urban History*, edited by Timothy J. Gilfoyle (New York: Oxford University Press, 2019): 1435–1457.

“The 1960s,” *American History: Oxford Research Encyclopedias* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016) <<http://americanhistory.oxfordre.com/>>.

“Breadwinner Liberalism and its Discontents in the American Welfare State,” in Maurizio Vaudagna and Alice Kessler-Harris, eds., *Democracy and the Welfare State: The Two Wests in the Age of Austerity* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2017): 273-294.

“The Reagan Devolution: Movement Conservatives and the Right’s Days of Rage, 1988-1992,” in Brian Balogh and Bruce Schulman, eds., *Recapturing the Oval Office: New Historical Approaches to the American Presidency* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2015): 75-92.

“Bodies Count: The Sixties Body in American Politics,” in John C. Blum, ed., *The Long 1968: Revisions and New Perspectives* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2013): 239-269.

“Sex and the City: The Politics of Sexual Liberalism in Los Angeles, 1960-1984,” *Gender and History* 20/2 (August 2008): 288-311.

“The Black Panther Party and the Long Civil Rights Era, 1935-1975,” in *In Search of the Black Panther Party: New Perspectives on a Revolutionary Movement*, Jama Lazerow and Yohuru Williams, eds. (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2006): 15-58.

“Prelude to the Tax Revolt: The Politics of the ‘Tax Dollar’ in Postwar California,” in *The New Suburban History*, Kevin Kruse and Thomas Sugrue, eds. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006): 144-160.

“City Lights: Urban History in the West,” in *A Companion to Western History*, William Deverell, ed. (Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 2003): 412-441.

“‘Negro Leadership and Negro Money’: African American Political Organizing in Oakland Before the Panthers,” in *Freedom North: Black Freedom Struggles Outside the South, 1940-1980*, Jeanne Theoharis and Komozi Woodard, eds. (New York: St. Martin’s, 2003): 93-123.

“California’s Industrial Garden: Oakland and the East Bay in the Age of Deindustrialization,” in *Beyond the Ruins: Deindustrialization and the Meanings of Modern America*, Jefferson Cowie and Joseph Heathcott, eds. (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003): 159-180.

“The Power of Place: Race, Political Economy, and Identity in the Postwar Metropolis,” (co-authored with Thomas Sugrue) in *A Companion to Post-1945 America*, Roy Rosenzweig and Jean-Christophe Agnew, eds. (Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 2002): 20-43.

“‘To Plan Our Liberation’: Black Power and the Politics of Place in Oakland, California, 1965-1977,” *Journal of Urban History* 26/6 (September 2000): 759-792.

- Best Article on Urban History, Urban History Association, 2000.

PUBLIC-FACING ESSAYS AND OP-EDS

“Cataclysm in Suburbia: The Dark, Twisted History of America’s Oil-Addicted Middle Class,” Salon.com, August 30, 2014.

“Are We There Yet?” *The New York Times*, January 20, 2013.

“How Choice Won,” Salon.com, September 22, 2012.

“Speakout,” *Guernica: A Magazine of Art and Politics*, September 17, 2012.

“The Anti-Social Contract,” *The New York Times*, August 26, 2012.

BOOK REVIEWS AND REVIEW ESSAYS

“The Heat is On: Cold War Conservatism,” *Reviews in American History* 42 (2014): 513-518.

Review of *The Invention of Brownstone Brooklyn: Gentrification and the Search for Authenticity in Postwar New York*, by Suleiman Osman, *American Historical Review* 114/4 (October 2012): 1257-1258.

Review of *The Battle for Welfare Rights: Politics and Poverty in Modern America*, by Felicia Kornbluh, *The Sixties* 1/1 (June 2008): 96-98.

Review of *Invincible Cities*, <http://invinciblecities.camden.rutgers.edu/>, sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities at Rutgers University, Camden, New Jersey, *Journal of American History* 94/2 (September 2007): 662-663.

“Matthew Countryman’s *Up South* and The New Urban Political History,” review essay for a forum on *Up South: Civil Rights and Black Power in Philadelphia*, by Matthew Countryman, *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* (October 2006): 393-398.

Review of *Bound for Freedom: Black Los Angeles in Jim Crow America*, by Douglas Flamming, *Pacific Historical Review* 75/2 (May 2006): 358-359.

Review of *Places of Their Own: African American Suburbanization in the Twentieth Century* by Andrew Wiese, *Labor*, 2/2 (Summer 2005): 138-141.

Review of *What Going On? California and the Vietnam Era*, Marcia A. Eymann and Charles Wollenberg, eds., *Southern California Quarterly*, 87/2 (Summer, 2005): 208-210.

Review of *The Right to the City: Social Justice and the Fight For Public Space* by Don Mitchell, *Journal of American History*, 91/3 (December 2004): 1110-1111.

Review of *New York and Los Angeles: Politics, Society, and Culture, A Comparative View*, edited by David Halle, *Pacific Historical Review* 73/4 (November 2004): 688-689.

Review of *Divided Arsenal: Race and the American State During World War II* by Daniel Kryder, *International Labor and Working Class History* 65 (Spring 2004): 232-235.

“Searching for the City: The Bourgeoisie Makes and Remakes New York City, 1850-1940,” a review of *Empire City: The Making and Meaning of the New York City Landscape* by David M. Scobey and *Building Gotham: Civic Culture and Public Policy in New York City, 1898-1938* by Keith D. Revell, *Journal of Planning History* 3/2 (May 2004): 177-183.

Review of *Strike-breaking and Intimidation: Mercenaries and Masculinity in Twentieth-Century America* by Stephen H. Norwood, *Journal of Social History* 37/1 (Fall 2003): 277-279.

“California and the New Suburban History,” *Reviews in American History* 31/1 (March 2003): 127-134.

“Writing Landscapes of Class, Power, and Racial Division: the Problem of (Sub)Urban Space and Place in Postwar America” *Journal of Urban History* 27/2 (January 2001): 237-250.

“Their Eyes Were Watching Harlem: The Renaissance and the Politics of Modernism,” *Journal of American Ethnic History* 20/2 (Winter 2001): 107-110.

“Shaping the Boundaries of Class in Modern Urban America: Street Gangs, Social Workers, and the Meaning of the Mean Streets,” *Reviews in American History* 28/2 (June 2000): 290-297.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

Invited panelist for “The Meaning of the Midterms: Who Counted? Who Voted?” The 2018–2019 Kim and Judy Davis Dean’s Lecture, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, December 4, 2018.

“The Unhappiest Place on Earth: The Family Economy in the American Century,” Brown University, May 9, 2017 and Cornell University, November 8, 2018.

“Political Alignments in the Twentieth-Century United States: Before and After the ‘Great Exception,’ ” Vassar College, October 4, 2016.

“The Unhappiest Place on Earth: The Family Economy in the American Century,” University of Pennsylvania, October 13, 2015.

“All in the Family: The Realignment of American Democracy Since the 1960s,” University Lyceum Lecture, Winona State University, April 3, 2014.

“All in the Family: The Cultural Politics of Liberalism in Crisis,” University of Washington, February 25, 2014.

Faculty and graduate student seminar on *All in the Family: The Realignment of American Democracy Since the 1960s*, University of California, Berkeley (October 25, 2013) and Columbia University (December 12, 2013).

Panel presentation, “Sexuality and Politics in Modern American History,” followed by graduate seminar on *All in the Family: The Realignment of American Democracy Since the 1960s*, University of Michigan, October 18, 2013.

“Cultural Politics and the Family in America,” Queen’s College, Oxford University, Oxford, England, April 30, 2013.

“Cultural Politics in an Age of Economic Decline,” presentation delivered at: Yale University (January 30, 2013), Loyola University (March 13, 2013), and the University of Oregon (May 9, 2013).

“Girls who Say Yes and Boys who Say No: Gender and Sexual Politics in the American Sixties,” la Contre-culture américaine des années 1960s,” l’Université Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV), December 1, 2012.

“The Reagan Devolution: Conservative Critics and the Right’s Days of Rage,” Recasting the Modern Presidency Conference, The Miller Center, University of Virginia, October 26-27, 2012.

Invited symposium speaker, “Women and the Politics of Gender: The 2012 Election,” Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Wesleyan University, October 5, 2012.

“Identity, Social Justice, and the Polity: Family Values and the Neoliberal Turn,” University of Illinois, Chicago Social Justice Initiative, University of Illinois, Chicago, May 31, 2012.

Invited Panelist, “New Directions in Twentieth-Century African American History,” March 1, 2012, Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia University.

“Presidential Session: Oakland the East Bay in the Age of Deindustrialization: A Discussion of Robert Self’s *American Babylon*,” a panel discussion of *American Babylon*, Western History Association Annual Conference, October 13-16, 2011, Oakland, California.

“Bodies Count: Postwar Social Movements and the Body in American Politics,” delivered at: Princeton University, March 5, 2009; Oregon State University, January 21, 2010; California State University, Fullerton, October 8, 2010.

“Sex, Sexuality, and the Dilemmas of Privacy in American Politics and Law, 1965-1986,” delivered in 2009 at: Yale University, University of North Carolina, and Colby College.

Plenary Panel, “Shock Cities: Lessons from North America,” Urban History Association Annual Conference, Houston, Texas, November 5-8, 2008.

“Bodies Count: 1968 and the Body in American Politics,” Since 1968 Conference, Center for Twenty-First Century Studies, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, October 23-25, 2008.

“Equal Citizenship, and the Privacy Quandary in American Politics and Law, 1965-1976,” Radcliffe Center for Advanced Study, Harvard University, April 2, 2008, and The Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University, April 15, 2008.

“Sexual Citizenship, and the Privacy Quandary in American Politics and Law, 1965-1975,” Department of History, Brandeis University, March 13, 2008.

“Citizenship and the Privacy Quandary in American Politics, 1965-1975,” Institute for the Study of Social Change,” University of California, Berkeley, March 11, 2008.

“Last Man to Die: Vietnam and the Citizen as Soldier,” Schlesinger Library and Massachusetts Historical Society, Seminar on the History of Women and Gender,” December 13, 2007.

“Gender and Political Culture in the Vietnam Era,” Policy History Program, University of California, Santa Barbara, October 12, 2007.

Comment on *White Flight: Atlanta and the Making of Modern Conservatism*, by Kevin Kruse, and *The Silent Majority: Suburban Politics in the Sunbelt South*, by Matthew Lassiter, Policy History Conference, Charlottesville, Virginia, June 1-4, 2006.

“Sex and the City: The Erotic Landscape of the U.S. Urban Crisis, 1965-1990s,” invited talk, History Department, University of Michigan, September 30, 2005.

“Black Political Activism and the State in the Long Civil Rights Era, 1935-1978,” invited talk, Northern Struggles: New Paradigms in Civil Rights conference, University of Rochester, September 24, 2004.

“American Babylon: Oakland, the Nation, and the Civil Rights Narrative,” invited lecture, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, May 7, 2004.

“California’s Industrial Garden: Post-World War II Metropolitan Development in the East Bay,” On the Edge: Metropolitan Growth and Western Environments—Past, Present, and Future, Stanford University, April 15-17, 2004.

“Oakland and the Progressive Social Science Tradition in the Twenty-First Century,” Keynote Address, Social Sciences Building Dedication, Mills College, April 13, 2004.

Roundtable on *American Babylon*, Discussions Across Disciplines, Paul Milstein Center for Real Estate, Columbia University, March 2, 2004.

“Prelude to the Tax Revolt: Property Taxes and the Politics of Nostalgia in Postwar California,” City Limits:

New Perspectives in the History of American Suburbs Conference, Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University, February 20-21, 2004.

Roundtable Participant: “Rethinking the Urban Crisis—New Visions for the City in the 1960s and Beyond,” Tenth National Conference on Planning History, Society for American City and Regional Planning History, St. Louis, MO, November 6-9, 2003.

“The Struggle for the Postwar City: Rethinking the Civil Rights Paradigm through Urban History,” Chicago Historical Society Urban History Seminar, January 23, 2003.

“Industrial Garden Means Urban Plantation: African American Politics in Oakland Before the Panthers,” African Americans in the Post-Industrial City Conference, Carnegie Mellon University, October 26-27, 2001.

Invited Consultant in Detroit Design Charrette, January 12-15, 2001, sponsored by the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Invited member of roundtable, “Crises of the 1970s,” American Historical Association annual meeting, New York, NY, January 2-5, 2015.

“Tiptoeing over the Gender Gap: The Breadwinner Politics of 1964,” Annual Meeting, Organization of American Historians, Atlanta, GA, April 10-13, 2014.

“The Right Turn’s Public-Private Controversy, 1975-1987,” Annual Meeting, American Society for Legal History, Philadelphia, November 18-20, 2010.

“Gender, Citizenship, and the Privacy Quandary in American Politics and Law,” Annual Meeting, American Society for Legal History, Ottawa, Canada, November 13-15, 2008.

“Black Power and Post-Colonial Urban America,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, March 24-28, 2004.

“Californians and the Tax Dollar: Suburban Politics and Growth Liberalism,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 8-11, 2004.

“The Black Panther Party and the Second Internationalist Moment in Postwar U.S. History,” The Black Panther Party in American Historical Perspective Conference, Wheelock College, June 11-13, 2003.

“The Postwar Southern Black Diaspora and the Remaking of American Markets, 1945-1975,” Conference on The Limits and Liberties of Markets: Race, Commerce and the Making of Modern Identities, October 25-26, 2002, University of California, Los Angeles.

“California Dream and Urban Plantation: Postwar African American Politics,” presented at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, April 26-29, 2001, Los Angeles, California.

“The Making of a California Industrial Garden: Postwar Oakland and the East Bay,” presented at the American Studies Association Conference, Detroit, Michigan, October 12-15, 2000.

“Black Power City, White Power Suburb: Rhetoric and Reality in Postwar America,” presented at the

“Unimagined Futures: The Racial Economy of Postwar Metropolitan California” conference, May 21, 1999, Stanford University.

“Power, Place, and Race in Urban Redevelopment: Remaking Oakland, California, 1955-1975,” presented at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, April 22-25, 1999, Toronto, Canada.

" 'Cities are Composed of People': Racial Integration and the Working-Class Built Environment in the San Francisco Bay Area, 1955-1970," presented at the annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch, American Historical Association, August 7-9, 1997, Portland, Oregon.

"Remaking the City: Work and Politics in San Francisco's New Economy, 1965-1995," presented at the Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting, April 16-19, 1997, Toronto, Canada.

"Labor, Urban History, and the Post-Civil Rights Era: Two Case Studies From San Francisco's Tourist and Health Care Industries," presented at the Western History Association Annual Conference, October 2-5, 1996, Lincoln, Nebraska.

DISSERTATION

“Shifting Ground in Metropolitan America: Class, Race, and Power in Oakland and the East Bay, 1945-1977.” Directed by Richard White and James Gregory, University of Washington, 1998.

- 1998 W. Turrentine Jackson Award for Best Dissertation on the Twentieth-Century West, American Historical Association, Pacific Coast Branch.

PROFESSIONAL REFEREEING, EDITORIAL BOARDS, AND CONSULTING

Journals: *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Urban History*, *Journal of Policy History*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, *Journal of Global History*

Presses: Cambridge University Press; University of Pennsylvania Press; Bedford/St. Martins; Harvard University Press; University of Chicago Press; Cornell University Press; University of North Carolina Press; Oxford University Press; University of Minnesota Press; University of Georgia Press

Editorial Boards: “Since 1970: Histories of Contemporary America,” University of Georgia Press

Professional Consulting: National Endowment for the Humanities; National Museum of African American History

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2017	Co-Chair, Program Committee, Organization of American Historians (OAH)
2011-	Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians (OAH)
2007	Co-Chair, Program Committee, Organization of American Historians (OAH)
2005	Program Committee, Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH)

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2017-2020	Governing Board, Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, Brown
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University
 2016-2020 Chair, Department of History, Brown University
 2018-2019 Committee to consider Watson School for Public and International Affairs
 2015-2018 Board of Directors, Cogut Center for the Humanities, Brown University
 2014-2016 Chair, Planning and Priorities Committee, Department of History, Brown University
 2010-2013 Director of Graduate Studies, Department of History, Brown University
 2010-2013 Board of Directors, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Brown University
 2009-2012 University Resources Committee, Brown University
 2009-2012 Faculty Advising Fellow, Brown University
 2007 Faculty Affairs Committee (Vice Chair), Brown University
 2006-2007 Randall Sophomore Advisor, Dean of the College, Brown University
 2006 Concentration Advisor, Department of History, Brown University
 2005-2007 Graduate Committee, Department of History, Brown University
 2002-2004 Lectures Committee, Urban Studies Programs, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
 2002-2004 Steering Committee, Urban Studies Programs, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
 2002-2004 Faculty Affairs Committee, History Department, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

DISSERTATION COMMITTEES CHAIRED

Anne Gray Fischer, “Arrestable Behavior: Women, Police Power, and the Making of Law-and-Order America, 1930s-1980s,” Brown University PhD diss., 2018.

Brooke Lamperd, “Trading Freedoms: Economic Internationalism in the New Deal,” Brown University PhD diss., 2018.

Daniel Platt, “Law, Race, and the Problem of Finance from the Age of Emancipation to the Keynesian Turn,” Brown University PhD diss., 2018.

Benjamin Holtzman, “Crisis and Confidence: Reimagining New York City in the Late Twentieth Century,” Brown University PhD diss., 2015. (*The Long Crisis: New York City and the Path to Neoliberalism*, Oxford University Press, 2021.)

Bryan Knapp, “‘The Biggest Business in the World’: The Nestle Boycott and the Global Development of Infants, Nations, and Economies, 1968-1988,” Brown University PhD diss., 2015.

Sara Fingal, “Turning the Tide: Conflict, Leisure, and Access along California and Mexico's Coastline, 1920-1980,” Brown University PhD diss., 2012.

Stacie Taranto, “Defending ‘Family Values’: Women's Grassroots Politics and the Republican Right, 1970-1980,” Brown University PhD diss., 2010. (*Kitchen Table Politics: Conservative Women and Family Values in New York*, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017.)

Derek Seidman, “The Unquiet Americans: G.I. Dissent During the Vietnam War,” Brown University PhD diss., 2010.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Organization of American Historians; American Historical Association