

Blake Powell

Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University

blake.w.powell@vanderbilt.edu

EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University

2024—Present

Ph.D. in Sociology

Tulane University

2023

B.A. in Sociology

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Medical Sociology, Social Determinants Health, Illness and Disease, Social Networks, Aging and Life Course, Public Policy, Quantitative Methods

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Powell, Blake W., Ostertag, S. F., & Chen, X. (2022). Compulsive immobility: Understanding the role of health on collective efficacy. *Social Science and Medicine- Population Health*, 17, 101057. doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2022.101057>

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Donnelly, Rachel, Zhe Zhang, Mateo Farina, and **Blake W. Powell**. “Structuralizing the Stress Process: States as Contextual Determinants of Stress and Mental Health.” Under Review.

Donnelly, Rachel, and **Blake W. Powell**. “State Policy Contexts and Marital Dissolution.” Under Review.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Powell, Blake W. “Policy and Social Network Embeddedness in the United States.”

Rachel Donnelly and **Blake W. Powell**. “Long-term Trends in State Policy Contexts and Mental Health.”

Powell, Blake W., and Rachel Donnelly. “Structuralizing the Cancer Experience: Examining Cancer, State Policy, and Mental Health.”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Powell, Blake W. “State Policy Contexts and Marital Dissolution.” Presented at the annual conference of the American Sociological Association. Chicago, IL. August 2025.

Powell, B. W. “A Design for a Medical Sociology Study on the Impact of a Li-Fraumeni Syndrome Diagnosis.” Presented at the annual conference of Disease Prevention, Detection and Treatment: From Molecules and Genes to Precision Implementation. October 2023.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Associate, City of Hope National Medical Center *June 2023—June 2024*

Research Assistant, Tulane University School of Medicine *July 2021—November 2021*

Research Assistant, USC Norris Cancer Center—Gruber Lab *Spring 2016—Spring 2019*

AWARDS AND HONORS

Second Place, **Best Graduate Student Paper Award** *Spring 2025*
Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University
Paper Title: “*Structuralizing the Cancer Experience: Examining Cancer, State Policy, and Mental Health.*”

College of Arts and Science Fellowship, Vanderbilt University *2024-2030*

School of Liberal Arts Tenenbaum Scholar, Tulane University *2021-2022*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association