

SUSANA AVALOS

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EDUCATION

2025	Ph.D., Criminology and Criminal Justice, Old Dominion University
2021	M.A.S., Criminology, Law and Society, University of California Irvine
2019	B.A. Criminal Justice, Minor: Psychology, California State University Bakersfield
2016	AS-TT, Administration of Justice, Bakersfield College

RESEARCH INTERESTS

LGBTQ+ Populations, Queer Victimology/Criminology, Place & Space, Gender and Crime, Social Inequality, Police and Queer Identities, Cultural Criminology

POSITIONS HELD

2025- Present	Assistant Professor, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, University of Missouri Kansas City
Summer 2025	Adjunct Professor, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, University of Missouri Kansas City
2022-2025	Instructor of Record, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Old Dominion University
2021-2025	Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Old Dominion University
Spring 2025	Qualitative Peer Researcher, Gambling Research Policy Initiative, East Carolina University
Summer 2022	Telephone Interviewer, Research Foundation, Old Dominion University
Summer 2022	Qualitative Data Analyst, Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment, Old Dominion University
2019-2020	Instructional Student Assistant, Department of Criminal Justice, California State University Bakersfield

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Articles (* = Student Coauthor)

- Reed, S. M., Kibler, M. & **Avalos, S.** (2024). "...It's just the barriers that can be so vast and different": Domestic violence advocates' perceived barriers for service across survivor subpopulations. *Crime & Delinquency*, 70(13-14), 3582-3606.
- Avalos, S.**, Jackey, H., & Wickel, I.* (2024) 404 page not found: A mixed-method analysis of the news media framing of gender non-conforming victims of homicide in the U.S. from 2012-2022. *Critical Criminology*, 31(4), 913-931.
- Avalos, S.** & Carrillo, A. (2024) "Took my money, called me a guy and made me sleep in jail overnight" Police procedural failings identifying and interacting with trans folx. *Policing & Society*, 34(6), 489-504.
- Avalos, S.** (2023). A comparative content analysis of the media framing of trans homicide between trans men and trans women in the United States from 2016-2022. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 39(11-12), 2602-2628.
- Avalos, S.**, DeJong, C., & Wood, H.* (2023). "La loca" y "La Victima": An analysis of penalizing gender non-conformity after death. *Homicide Studies*, 28(3), 292-312.
- Avalos, S.** (2022). The Trans Experience with the Criminal Justice System. (Eds.) Maria Joao Lobo Antunes & Sarah E. Daly. *Crime & Delinquency, Special Issue on Intersections of Gender, Race, and Criminal Justice*, 70(5), 1505-1515.
- Avalos, S.**, Kibler, M., & Monk Turner, L. (2022). Out of the closet and onto the Olympic floor: A qualitative look at social media user's perceptions of transgender Olympic athletes. *Gender Issues*, 39(4), 437-454.

Public Sociology/Outreach

- Grasso, J. & **Avalos, S.** (2025). Police and Public Entanglement in Arrests of Transgender People in California. *Contexts*. Accepted, forthcoming.

Book Chapters

- Avalos, S.** (Forthcoming Fall 2025). From the hood to queer scholar: How I became a police abolitionist. In Walker, A., & Wooda, A. (Eds.) *Abolition and Queer Justice*. University of California Press.
- Avalos, S.** (2025). "Is my fear of transphobia just a little out of control?": A qualitative exploration of the use of online forums by trans persons for support. In R. Graham, S. G. Humer, C. Seungeun Lee, & V. Nagy (Eds.). *Routledge International Handbook of Online Deviance*, pp. 339-353. Routledge.

Avalos, S. (2024). Transgressions of the U.S. prison system: The mistreatment of incarcerated transgender persons. In N. W. Link, M.A. Novisky, & C. Fahmy (Eds.). *The Division on Corrections and Sentencing Handbook Series: Contemporary Issues in Health and Punishment*, pp. 662-670. Routledge.

Avalos, S. (2024). "It is us who are the divine ones. We are the gods who are trapped in cocoons": A critical analysis of GET OUT. In DeKeseredy, W., Gehring, K., Lenning, E., & Merken, S (Eds.). *Criminological Understandings of Horror Films: Reel Fear*, pp. 187-200. Lexington Books.

Avalos, S., & Boppre, B. (2023). Queer Invisibility: LGBTQA+ Victimization in Carceral Settings. In S. Kelley, S. Clevenger, & K. Ratajczak, (Eds.). *Queer Victimology*, pp. 149-157. Routledge.

Book Reviews

Avalos, S. T. Linneman: The Horror of Police. (2023). *Critical Criminology*, 31(1), 275-276.

Avalos, S. Adam M. Messinger & Xavier L. Guadalupe-Diaz. (2020). *Transgender Intimate Partner Violence: A Comprehensive Introduction*. *Journal of Criminal Justice Review*, 50(1), 106-107.

Commentary

Avalos, S. (2021). #SayHerName: Out of the darkness and into the light. *ASC Division on Women and Crime Black Lives Matter Special Edition Newsletter* (p. 7-10).

Under Review

Avalos, S. Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009. Sage Encyclopedia of Crime and Gender.

In Progress

Smith, E.* **Avalos, S., & DeJong, C.** An Exploration of Transgender Homicide in Central America.

Avalos, S., Mills, J. & Knapp, K. Unyielding resistance: A qualitative look at LGBTQ resistance at the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States.

PRESENTATIONS (* = Student Coauthor)

Avalos, S. (Discussant). Roundtable: Teaching While Human, American Society of Criminology, Washington, D.C., November 12-15, 2025. Accepted.

Avalos, S. (Discussant). Roundtable: Navigating the Job Market as a Queer Criminologist. American Society of Criminology, Washington D.C., November 12-15, 2025. Accepted.

Avalos, S. Making space: An Exploration of Transgender People's Spatial Experiences. American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA, November 13-16, 2024.

Avalos, S., & Boppre, B. Queer Invisibility: LGBTQ+ Victimization in Carceral Settings. American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA, November 13-16, 2024.

Osborn., M., Warren, J., **Avalos, S.**, Walker, A., Frederick, B. Queer Methods and Research Designs. American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA, November 13-16, 2024.

Jackson., B., **Avalos, S.**, & Yu-Heng Chen, S. Incarceration and Mental Health of Incarcerated LGBTQ Populations. American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA, November 13-16, 2024.

Avalos, S., Jackey, H., Wickel, I.* A Mixed Method Analysis of the News Media Framing of Gender Non-conforming Victims of Homicide in the U.S. from 2012-2022. GSGA Annual Research Conference, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, April 5, 2024.

Avalos, S. (Chair), Paige, B., Haakmat, N., & Ovalle, B. Intersections of injustice: Understanding the criminal legal experiences of LGBTQ women of color. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Chicago, IL, March 19-23, 2024. Abstract accepted. *Canceled*.

Avalos, S. Are we seeing transitions in the media?: The news media framing of trans homicides. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 15-18, 2023.

Yu-Heng Chen (chair), **Avalos, S. (co-chair)**, Cooper, E. & Jackson-Green, B. Creating safe communities for incarcerated LGBTQ individuals in correctional facilities. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 15-18, 2023.

Petersen, A. (chair), Howard, N., **Avalos, S.**, & Askew, Q. What CRT taught me: Pedagogy edition. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 15-18, 2023.

Kibler, M., **Avalos, S.** & Reed, S. "Barriers Can Be So Different": Domestic Violence Advocates' Perceived Barriers for Service Across Survivor Populations. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, National Harbor, Maryland, March 14-18, 2023.

Avalos, S. 'Trans'formations: How online spaces cultivate hope and resilience among trans people. Innovations in Queer Criminological Research, American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA, November 16-19, 2022.

Avalos, S., & Carrillo, A. "Took my money and called me guy" Police procedural failings interacting with trans folx. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA, November 16-19, 2022.

Avalos, S., Dejong, C., & Wood H.* "La Loca" y "La Victima": Framing Gender Nonconformity in Homicide Victims. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA, November 16-19, 2022.

Sherrick, A. (chair), **Avalos, S.**, & Flonney, S. Navigating the grad experience as a queer person. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA, November 16-19, 2022.

Avalos, S., Kibler, M., & Monk-Turner, E. Social media platforms and hetero-cis-normative biases: How online attitudes shape transgender rights and protections. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA, November 16-19, 2022.

Kibler, M., Askew, L., Vonderhaar, R., **Avalos, S.,** & Haakmat, N. Perceptions of homelessness, mental illness, and attitudes towards the police: An analysis of citizen perceptions across Hampton Roads. Hampton Roads Social Justice Conference, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA, April 11-12, 2022.

Avalos, S. (chair), Askew, L., & Haakmat, N. The revolving door of victimization: The failure of reentry policies for LGBTQ+ people. Hampton Roads Social Justice Conference, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA, April 11-12, 2022.

Boppre, B. & **Avalos, S.** An Exploration on Inclusive Practices for LGBTQ+ Clients in Correctional Facilities. The Association of Justice-Involved Females and Organizations, Virtual Conference. Co-facilitator. (October) 2021. *Cancelled*.

INVITED TALKS

Avalos, S. 2021. "Forum on Anti-Racism & Intersectionality in Feminist Criminology (& Academia)". Invited Panelist. American Society of Criminology Division on Women and Crime, American University Antiracist Research & Policy Center, American University School of Public Affairs, Virtual.

Avalos, S. 2021. "Bullying in Academia". Invited Panelist. American Society of Criminology Division of Victimology, Virtual.

Avalos, S. 2021. "Introduction to Queer Criminology." Teaching demonstration for Graduate Teaching Assistant Instructors' Institute. Old Dominion University.

Avalos, S. 2021. "The Criminal (In)Justice System: The Trans Experience." Teaching demonstration for Social Ecology Digital Teaching Certificate. Virtual. University of California, Irvine.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Missouri Kansas City

Assistant Professor

CJC 5576: Graduate Seminar in CJ and Criminology Issues (Victimology)
In-Person: Scheduled Spring 2026

CJC 495WI Capstone: Criminal Justice and Criminology
In-Person: Fall 2025
Online Asynchronous: Scheduled Spring 2026

CJC 301 Theoretical Criminology
Online Asynchronous: Fall 2025

Adjunct Professor**CJC 385 Victimology**

Online Asynchronous: Summer 2025

*Old Dominion University*Instructor of Record**CRJS 215s Introduction to Criminology**In-Person: Spring 2025, Fall 2024 (impact-learning community), Spring 2024, Fall 2023,
Online Asynchronous: Summer 2022**CRJS 326 LGBTQ People, Crime, and Justice**Online Asynchronous: Summer 2025, Summer 2024,
Summer 2023Teaching Assistant**SOC 343 Sexualities in Society**

Online Asynchronous: Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2024

SOC 203s Diversity and Society

Online Asynchronous: Fall 2021

AWARDS, RECOGNITION, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS

2025	Certificate of Commendation, Academic Success Center, Old Dominion University
2024	Teaching Award, Division on Queer Criminology, American Society of Criminology
2024	Ruth D. Peterson Fellow for Racial and Ethnic Diversity, American Society of Criminology (\$8,000)
2024	Excellence in Research, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Old Dominion University
2024	Graduate Summer Award Program, The Graduate School, Old Dominion University (\$3,000)
2024	Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant – Classroom Instructor, Old Dominion University (\$1,000)
2024	Doctoral Student Research Assistance Award, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, Old Dominion University (\$750)

2024	Doctoral Summit Fellowship, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, March 19-22.
2024	Certificate of Commendation, Academic Success Center, Old Dominion University
2023	Seigel Fellowship, Honorable Mention Award, Division on Feminist Criminology, American Society of Criminology (\$500)
2022	Honorable Mention Student Paper Award, Division on Queer Criminology, American Society of Criminology
2021	Stephen M. Rosoff Distinguished Research Award, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California Irvine
2021	Academic Excellence Award, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California Irvine
2021	Student Leadership Award, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California Irvine
2021	MAS Diversity Scholarship, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California Irvine (\$5,000)
2020	Golden Key International Honor Society, University of California Irvine
2019	Alpha Phi Sigma Honor Society, California State University Bakersfield
2018	Dr. Robert W. & Jean L. Sheldon Endowed Scholarship, California State University Bakersfield (\$1,941)
2018	President Matching Scholarship, California State University Bakersfield (\$455)

SERVICE

Peer Review

Crime & Delinquency; Homicide Studies; Journal of Interpersonal Violence; Journal of Homosexuality; Trauma, Violence & Abuse; Critical Criminology; Health & Justice

Professional

2025-2026	Newsletter Co-Editor, Division on Queer Criminology, American Society of Criminology
2025-2026	Web Content Manager, Division on Queer Criminology, American Society of Criminology
2024-2025	Student Executive Counsel, Division on Queer Criminology, American Society of Criminology
2024-2025	Social Media Committee Chair, Division on Queer Criminology, American Society of Criminology
2023-2024	Mentoring Committee Member, Division on Queer Criminology, American Society of Criminology
2021-2023	Social Media Committee Member, Division on Feminist Criminology, American Society of Criminology
2021-2022	Mentoring Committee Co-Chair, Division on Queer Criminology, American Society of Criminology

Department/School

2025	Search Committee Member, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, University of Missouri Kansas City
2021-2025	Social Media Committee Chair, Graduate Student Organization for Criminology and Sociology, Old Dominion University
2022-2024	At(*)risk Student Board Member, LGBTQIA+ Initiatives, Old Dominion University
2020-2021	Social Ecology Graduate Ambassador, University of California Irvine

University/Campus-Wide

2022-2024	American Association of University Professors, Member, Old Dominion University
2021-2022	Diversity and Inclusion Committee Member, IODU, Old Dominion University

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teaching and Pedagogy

2025	Online Teaching Certification Seminar: Excellence in Online Teaching, University of Missouri Kansas City
2025	AI Use in the Classroom, Webinar, Old Dominion University
2024	Inclusive Pedagogy, Webinar, Old Dominion University
2021	Social Ecology Digital Teaching Certificate, University of California Irvine

Research

2023	Focus Groups/Qualitative Interviewing, Social Science Research Center, Old Dominion University
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2021 Bureau of Justice Statistics Webinar: Analyzing Data from the National Crime Victimization Survey. Workshop.

Mentorship

2023-2024 Mentor, Division on Queer Criminology Mentoring Program, American Society of Criminology

2023-2024 Mentee, Division on Convict Criminology, Mentoring Program
Mentor: Dr. David Pitts, Vice President, Justice Policy Center, Urban Institute

2022-2023 Mentee, Division on Queer Criminology, Mentoring Program
Mentor: Dr. Stacie Merken, Associate Professor & Chair, Indiana University South Bend

2021-2022 Mentee, Division on Feminist Criminology Mentoring Program
Mentor: Dr. Tara Sutton, Associate Professor, University of South Carolina

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Criminology (ASC), Divisions: Queer Criminology; Victimology; Feminist Criminology; Critical Criminology and Social Justice; Division on People of Color

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS)

American Association of University Professors, Old Dominion University