

---

**VRINDA MARWAH**


---

[marwahv@usf.edu](mailto:marwahv@usf.edu)

 Dept of Sociology, Room 224  
 4202 East Fowler Ave, CPR 107  
 Tampa, FL 33620

---

 APPOINTMENTS
 

---

2022- 2021-22	Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of South Florida ACLS Emerging Voices Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Utah
------------------	---

---

 EDUCATION
 

---

2021	Ph.D. Sociology, University of Texas at Austin, USA
2009	MSc Gender and Social Policy, London School of Economics, UK
2008	BA (Honors) Political Science, University of Delhi, India

---

 RESEARCH INTERESTS
 

---

Gender; health; political sociology; work; qualitative methods; south Asia

---

 PUBLICATIONS\*
 

---

*PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES:*

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2023 | <b>Marwah, V.</b> "Liminality as Wage Penalty for India's women community health workers". <i>Gender, Work and Organization</i> <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/gwao.12938">https://doi.org/10.1111/gwao.12938</a><br>- <i>Runner Up, Audre Rapoport Prize in Gender and Human Rights 2021</i>                                     |
| 2021 | <b>Marwah, V.</b> "For Love of Money: Rewards of care for India's women community health workers". <i>Social Problems</i> <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/socpro/spab062">https://doi.org/10.1093/socpro/spab062</a><br>- <i>Best Graduate Student Paper Award 2021, Global Division, Society for the Study of Social Problems</i> |
| 2021 | <b>Marwah, V.</b> "Promissory Capital: State legitimacy among women community health volunteers in India." <i>Qualitative Sociology</i> <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11133-021-09487-y">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11133-021-09487-y</a>   |
| 2019 | Anwer, M and <b>Marwah, V.</b> "The Incest Wound in Hindi Cinema: Childhood Trauma and Feminist Futures in <i>Monsoon Wedding</i> and <i>Highway</i> ." <i>Feminist Media Studies</i> 1-18 <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/14680777.2019.1663230">https://doi.org/10.1080/14680777.2019.1663230</a>                                |
| 2015 | Misra, G and <b>Marwah, V.</b> "Whither Men: Reflections on the Inclusion of Men in Women's Rights Programs." <i>Economic and Political Weekly</i> 1 (13): 62-68<br><a href="http://www.jstor.org/stable/24481748">http://www.jstor.org/stable/24481748</a>   |
| 2013 | <b>Marwah, V.</b> "Gender Bending, Gender Testing: Reflections on the Pinki Pramanik Case." <i>Indian Journal of Medical Ethics</i> 10 (1): 45-48 <a href="https://doi.org/10.20529/IJME.2013.010">10.20529/IJME.2013.010</a>   |

---

 \*All co-authored works are equal authorship

2011 Sarojini, N, **Marwah, V** and Sheno, A. “Globalisation of Birth Markets: A case study of Assisted Reproductive Technologies in India.” *Globalization and Health* 7:27 <https://doi.org/10.1186/1744-8603-7-27>

2011 **Marwah, V** and Sarojini, N. “Reinventing Reproduction, Re-conceiving Challenges: An Examination of Assisted Reproductive Technologies in India.” *Economic and Political Weekly* 46 (43): 104-111 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23047764>

#### EDITED BOOKS:

2014 Sarojini, N and **Marwah, V** (Eds). *Reconfiguring Reproduction: Feminist Health Perspectives on Assisted Reproductive Technologies*. Zubaan/University of Chicago Press

#### BOOK CHAPTERS:

Forth. **Marwah, V**. “Reproductive Health in India and the Issue of Sex Selective Abortion.” In *Women’s Empowerment: A Critical Reader*, edited by Sunalini Kumar. Orient Blackswan

2021 **Marwah, V**. “Sherpas in Himalayan Mountaineering: Identity, Labor, and Power in Sport”. In *Sports and Society in India*, edited by Meena Gopal and Padma Prakash. Oxford University Press  
-Winner, Barbara Brown Outstanding Student Paper Award 2016, North American Society for the Sociology of Sport

2019 **Marwah, V**. “Gender, Caste and Indian Feminism: The case of the Women’s Reservation Bill.” In *Women’s and Gender Studies in India*, edited by Anu Aneja. Routledge.

2019 Misra, G and **Marwah, V**. “Criminal Law, Activism, and Sexual and Reproductive Justice: The sex selection campaign in India.” In *Beyond Virtue and Vice: Rethinking Human Rights and Criminal Law*, edited by Mindy Roseman and Alice Miller. Univ. of Pennsylvania Press

2018 **Marwah, V** and Sarojini, N. “Surrogacy and Social Movements in India: Towards a Collective Conversation.” In *Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Surrogacy and Gamete Donations in India, Israel and Germany*, edited by Sayani Mitra, Silke Schicktanz and Tulsi Patel. Palgrave Macmillan

2018 Sarojini, N and **Marwah, V**. “Body as Resource: New Frontiers and Dilemmas in Surrogacy and Biomedical Research.” In *Equity and Access: Health Care Studies in India*, edited by Purendra Prasad and Amar Jesani. Oxford Univ. Press

2016 Sarojini, N and **Marwah, V**. “The Gendered Nature of Infertility and Assisted Reproductive Technologies.” In *Assisted Reproductive Technologies in the Global South and North: Issues, Challenges and the Future*, edited by Sayeed Unisa and Virginie Rozee. Routledge

- 2014 **Marwah, V.** “How surrogacy is challenging and changing our feminisms.” In *Reconfiguring Reproduction*, edited by Sarojini N and Vrinda Marwah. Zubaan/Univ of Chicago Press
- 2014 Venkatachalam, D, Nayak, P and **Marwah, V.** “How Bodies Gender: Examining Infertility and ARTs.” In *Reconfiguring Reproduction*, edited by Sarojini N and Vrinda Marwah. Zubaan/Univ of Chicago Press
- 2013 Sarojini, N and **Marwah, V.** “Shake her, she is like the tree that grows money! Contests and Critiques in Surrogacy.” In *Of Mothers and Others: Stories, Essays, Poems*, edited by Jayshree Misra. Zubaan
- 2011 **Marwah, V.** “Queer Terminologies and Identities” In *Theories of Women’s and Gender Studies: Masters Coursebook*. Indira Gandhi National Open University

---

#### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

##### EXTERNAL:

- 2020-21 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Award (\$43,000)  
Josephine de Karman Fellowship (\$25,000, declined)
- 2018-19 NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$12,000)  
International Journal of Urban and Regional Research Studentship, UK (\$15,000)
- 2017-18 PEO International Peace Scholar Award (\$12,000)

##### INTERNAL (USF):

- 2023 Humanities Project Completion Award (\$10,000)

##### INTERNAL (UT Austin):

- 2020-21 Dean’s Prestigious Fellowship Supplement (\$1000)  
Sociology Excellence Award (\$5000)
- 2019-20 Continuing Fellowship, Graduate School (\$44,000)  
Research Grant, Dept of Sociology (\$2300)
- 2018-19 Dean’s Prestigious Fellowship Supplement (\$1000)
- 2017-18 Global Research Fellowship (\$5000)  
Sociology Excellence Award (\$5000)  
Summer Fieldwork Grant, Rapoport Center for Human Rights (\$2000)  
Summer Fieldwork Award, Urban Ethnography Lab (\$1600)  
Activist Research Grant, Social Justice Initiative (\$1000)
- 2016-20 Professional Development Award, Office of Graduate Studies (\$400)
- 2016-19 Graduate Student Travel Grant, South Asia Institute (\$400)

---

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

##### INSTRUCTOR:

- Fall 2023 Academic Writing (USF, graduate)  
Medical Sociology (USF, undergraduate)
- Spring 2023 Sociology of Health and Illness (USF, graduate)

Fall 2022 Medical Sociology (USF, undergraduate)  
 Spring 2022 Gender and Work (Univ of Utah, undergraduate)  
 Summer 2021 Fertility and Reproduction (UT Austin, undergraduate)

*TEACHING ASSISTANT (UT Austin):*

2015-2018 Introduction to the Study of Society; Sociological Theory; Health Care Policy in the US; Culture and Society in the US; Fertility and Reproduction; Race and Reproductive Justice

INVITED TALKS

---

2023 'ASHAs: Political Entrepreneurialism and Social Structure', Brown Bag Speaker, Women and Gender Studies, University of South Florida

2023 'Working Hope: ASHAs as mediators', speaker series, Sama, Delhi

2022 'ASHAs: Understanding their unique position', speaker series, Noora Health

2021 'Gender in the Partition of India' in Prof Alejandro Marquez's undergraduate class on Migration at Vassar College

2021 Consultation with UN Independent Expert on Infertility and Human Rights, organized by Yale Global Health Justice Partnership

2021 'Why Participant Observation' in Prof Vivian Shaw's undergraduate class on Ethnography at Harvard University

2021 Speaker, The Social Reproduction Seminar Series, Kings College London

2020 'In Whose Interest: Reproductive Health Policy in India' in the Faculty Learning Community of Austin Community College, Texas

2020 'Sex selection and abortion rights' in Prof Sharmila Rudrappa's undergraduate class on Race and Reproductive Justice at UT Austin

2019 'Plausible Deniability: The intimate labor of India's women community health workers' in the School of Human Studies, Ambedkar University, Delhi

2019 'Community health worker programs' in Prof Dwaine Jengelley's undergraduate class on International Development at the Honors College, Purdue University

2019 'ASHAs: India's women community health workers' session at Sama's Gender and Health Institute for Activists, in Delhi, India

2018 'Issues at stake: Surrogacy in national and international policy making' pre-congress symposium at the 14<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Bioethics in Bangalore, India

- 2018 ‘Country experiences and responses to surrogacy’ at the Expert Group Meeting on Surrogacy and Human Rights, organized by WHO, UNFPA and UNOHCHR, Bangkok
- 2018 ‘Gender and Biotechnology’ workshop at the Third People’s Health Assembly- India

---

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

---

- 2022 “ASHAs: Political Entrepreneurship and Social Structure”  
 -Panel presentation, *Junior Theorists Symposium*, LA  
 -Panel presentation, *American Sociological Association* conference, LA
- 2021 “Rewards in paid care work” *Society for the Study of Social Problems* conference, panel presentation (online due to COVID)
- 2020 “Plausible Deniability: The labor of India’s ASHAs” *American Sociological Association* roundtable (online due to COVID)
- 2018 “Mapping gender and caste in the experiences of Punjab’s ASHAs” *14<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Bioethics*, panel presentation, Bangalore
- 2018 “Feminist Ethnographies” *Sociologists for Women in Society* Winter Meeting, panel presentation, Atlanta
- 2017 “Sherpas and Himalayan Mountaineering”  
 -Panel presentation, *American Sociological Association* conference, Montreal  
 -Panel presentation, *North American Society for the Sociology of Sport*, Tampa

---

SERVICE

---

*DEPARTMENT:*

- *USF:*

2022- Member, Graduate and Undergraduate Committees, Sociology, USF  
 PhD advisor: D. Omontese  
 PhD committee member: H. Fulton, S. G. Sharma, S. Banerjee, S. Fatima  
 MA co-advisor: N. Jasper  
 MA committee member: E. Kuechle
- *UT Austin:*

2017-18 Co-coordinator, Race and Ethnicity Working Group, Dept of Sociology

2017-18 Co-founder, Sociology Graduate Student Council

2017 Conference co-organizer and panel moderator, ‘Gender of Ethnography and Ethnography of Gender’ Conference, UT Austin

*PROFESSION:*

- 2023 Sex and Gender Book Award Committee, American Sociological Association

- 2020 Interviewer for Prof Gloria Gonzalez-Lopez, recipient of Distinguished Career Award, ASA Sexualities section
- 2016 Discussant, Book Launch of 'Discounted Life: The Price of Global Surrogacy in India' by Prof Sharmila Rudrappa

*EXTERNAL:*

- 2020- Advisor, Sama-Resource Group for Women and Health, Delhi
- 2020 Panelist for 'India's Citizenship Amendment Act'  
-Asian American Resource Center, Austin  
-South Asia Working Group, Texas A&M
- 2018 Scientific Committee Member, 14<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Bioethics (Bangalore) of the International Bioethics Association
- 2017-20 Board Member, Sama-Resource Group for Women and Health, Delhi

## PUBLIC WRITING

- 
- 2021 **Marwah, V.** "India's ASHAs." In *Policy Broadsheet: Revisiting the Labor Question*, edited by Padmini Swaminathan and Uma Rani. Anveshi
- 2016 **Marwah, V.** "The surrogacy bill gets it all wrong." [www.livemint.com](http://www.livemint.com)
- 2016 **Marwah, V.** "The surrogacy story: Beyond the Bollywood babies is an industry that needs regulation." [www.scroll.in](http://www.scroll.in)
- 2015 **Marwah, V.** "Women in labour" In *Himal Southasian*. 28 (2): 124-133
- 2013 Sen, P and **Marwah, V.** "Do our bodies belong to us?: Review of *Ship of Theseus*" *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*. 10 (4): 273-274
- 2013 **Marwah, V.** "A tale of two panels." [www.kafila.org](http://www.kafila.org)
- 2013 Misra, G and **Marwah, V.** "Taking a comprehensive view of sexual violence." [www.opendemocracy.net/50.50](http://www.opendemocracy.net/50.50)
- 2011 **Marwah, V.** "Renting Wombs." <http://www.himalmag.com>
- 2011 **Marwah, V.** "Commercial Surrogacy in India." *GeneWatch*. 24: 3-4

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- 
- 2014-15 Independent Consultant  
*Commonhealth coalition for maternal-neonatal health and safe abortion*  
*Sama- Resource Group for Women and Health*  
*Nirnaya Women's Fund*

2012-14      Program Coordinator  
*CREA, Delhi*

2009-12      Project Coordinator  
*Sama-Resource Group for Women and Health, Delhi*

---

AFFILIATIONS

---

American Sociological Association (ASA)

North American Society for the Sociology of Sport (NASSS)