

James Short Professorship in Sociology



Jennifer Schwartz

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JENNIFER SCHWARTZ

Professor
Department of Sociology

A thought-leader in the sociology of crime and punishment, Jennifer Schwartz examines the roots of people's engagement in anti-social behavior and what can be done to justly encourage behavior for the common good. She applies rigorous, proven techniques to analyze patterns, causes, and trends in crime and punishment, with a focus on similarities and differences by gender, age, and race-ethnicity, across place and over time.

Her diverse teaching and research interests also encompass the implications of social control—including definitions and enforcement of criminal behavior—for varied groups, places, and time periods in history.

Schwartz has published widely from her expertise and many projects focused on rural and urban communities as contexts of crime and social control; substance use, abuse, and regulation; and group and organizational contexts that encourage criminality. Her cross-disciplinary work has attracted more than \$1 million in external grant support from the National Institute of Justice, National Institutes of Health, and others.

An affiliate faculty member in the WSU Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology and the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences' Disability Studies Program, she is also a faculty researcher for the University's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program. She has served on graduate committees for more than 30 students at WSU and as an international visiting scholar at major universities in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.



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