

Marie Mele Thomas

EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** Criminal Justice
Rutgers University, Newark, NJ
- M.S.** Justice, Law & Society
American University, Washington, DC
- B.S.** Law & Justice
The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2022 – 2024 **Associate Professor, Department of Criminology, Law and Society
George Mason University – Fairfax, VA**
Develop and teach courses for the undergraduate program, including Social Inequality, Crime and Justice, Criminology, Victims and Victimization, Research Methods, Criminal Justice Ethics, and Capstone in Criminology, Law and Society.
- 2015 – 2022 **Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice
Member, Graduate Faculty
Monmouth University - West Long Branch, NJ**
Develop and teach a diversity of undergraduate and graduate courses, including Criminology, Victimology, Research Methods, Senior Seminar, Applied Data Analysis, Criminal Justice Policy, and Race, Class, Gender & Criminal Justice.
- 2013 – 2015 **Adjunct Faculty, Department of Social Sciences and History
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Florham Campus**
Contribute to the undergraduate course offerings in the Criminal Justice Program, including Criminology and Victimology.
- 2006 – 2010 **Assistant Professor, Department of Criminal Justice
Monmouth University - West Long Branch, NJ**
Develop and teach a diversity of undergraduate courses, including Criminology, Victimology, Research Methods, Statistics, Juvenile Justice, Forensic Psychology, and Criminal Justice Ethics.
- 2008 – 2010 **Co-Director, Gender Studies Program
Monmouth University - West Long Branch, NJ**
Coordinate Gender Studies (GS) sponsored events, provide oversight of GS program curriculum, and foster and maintain relationships with state and national GS programs and organizations.

- 2003 – 2006 **Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminal Justice
La Salle University - Philadelphia, PA**
Develop and teach a diversity of undergraduate courses, including Criminology, Victimology, Gender, Crime, & Justice, Social Problems, Research Methods, Research Seminar, Deviance, and Criminal Justice Policy.
- 2000 – 2003 **Academic Advisor, School of Criminal Justice
Rutgers University - Newark, NJ**
Advise 300 undergraduate students on academic and professional matters, coordinate internship and cooperative education programs, facilitate meetings and activities of Criminal Justice Club and Alpha Phi Sigma Honor Society.
- 1999 – 2000 **Victim Advocate, Morris County Prosecutor's Office - Morristown, NJ**
Travel to municipalities within county to meet with victims of domestic violence, provide necessary support and advocacy, assess victims' immediate and short-term needs, and refer to appropriate social service providers, maintain follow-up with victims to assess their continuing needs.
- 1998 – 1999 **Program Specialist, National Institute of Justice - Washington, DC**
Assist in the evaluation of *Breaking the Cycle*, a \$20 million research demonstration program consisting of court-enforced drug treatment intervention for system-involved adults and juveniles.

SCHOLARSHIP

- McGovern, J., **Mele, M.**, & Ragudaran, S. (2021). Community-based research in practice: Faculty reflections on a collaborative approach to teaching CBR with a variety of community partners. *Journal of Higher Education, Outreach, and Engagement*, 25(4), 1-13.
- Mele, M.** (2018). Police response to domestic violence: The influence of extralegal factors on arrest decisions. *Partner Abuse*, 9(3), 215-229.
- Mele, M.** (2017). Victim advocacy. In Maschi, T., Bradley, C., & Ward, K. (Eds.) *Forensic Social Work: Psychosocial and Legal Issues in Diverse Practice Settings, 2nd Edition*. Lyceum Books, Inc.
- Mele, M.** (2017). Improving police records of repeat domestic violence: A case study. In Moriarty, L.J., & Jerin, R.A. (Eds). *Current Issues in Victimology Research, 3rd Edition*. Carolina Academic Press.
- Mele, M.** (2016). Victim advocacy. In Ackerman, A., & Sacks, M. (Eds.) *Introduction to Criminal Justice: A Personal Narrative Approach*. Carolina Academic Press.
- Mele, M.**, Roberts, J. C., & Wolfer, L. (2011). Men who seek protection orders against female intimate partners. *Partner Abuse*, 2(1), 1-15.

- Mele, M.**, Wolfer, L., & Roberts, J.C. (2011). Characteristics of women who withdraw from the protection order process and their decisions for withdrawal. *Journal of Current Issues in Crime, Law, and Law Enforcement*, 3(1/2), 1-15.
- Mele, M.** (2009). The time course of repeat intimate partner violence. *Journal of Family Violence*, 24(8), 619-624.
- Roberts, J. C., Wolfer, L., & **Mele, M.** (2008). Why victims of intimate partner violence withdraw protection orders. *Journal of Family Violence*, 23, 369-375.
- Mele, M.** (2006). Victim/offender contact and repeat domestic violence victimization. *Journal of Crime and Justice*, 29(2), 51-68.

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Served as an external evaluator for the tenure review of Dr. Oral Nicholas Robertson, a candidate for tenure in the Department of Criminal Justice at Rochester Institute of Technology (July 2022).

Served as the planning committee chair for Policing in Communities of Color: A Conversation on Police Violence, Black Lives Matter, and Police Reform, an interdisciplinary panel discussion hosted in honor of Black History Month (February 2021).

Developed and implemented a client survey for The Mercy Center Community Victim Witness Advocacy (CVWA) Project in Asbury Park, NJ. Conducted analysis of survey data for the purpose of measuring client satisfaction and assessing CVWA goals and objectives (Spring 2019-Fall 2021).

Served as a member of the planning committee for Conversation and Action: Title IX, Sexual Assault, and College Campuses. Presented research on “The Intersectionality of Gender, Race, and Class on the Risk of Sexual Assault and Access to Victim Services” (Fall 2019).

Served as the faculty advisor for “Students’ perceptions of sexual assault on college campuses: An analysis of gender differences,” a senior thesis presented by Taylor Mitchell at the Eastern Sociological Society Meeting (Spring 2018).

Assisted in the development and implementation of the Asbury Park Needs Assessment as part of the Asbury Park Community Transformation research team, in collaboration with the Asbury Park Housing Authority, sponsored in part by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (Spring 2017).

Served as a peer reviewer of paper entitled, “Tears behind closed doors: A logistic analysis of domestic violence against women in West Bengal, India” for *Crime and Delinquency*.

Served as a peer reviewer of paper entitled, “The fragmented experience of male victims of intimate partner violence in heterosexual relationships” for *Smith College Studies in Social Work*.

Served as a peer reviewer of paper entitled, “Motivations for police support of domestic violence response team implementation with advocates” for *Violence Against Women*.

Served as a peer reviewer of paper entitled, “Suffering in silence, shame, seclusion, and invisibility: Men as victims of domestic violence between intimate partners in Trinidad and Tobago” for *Journal of Family Issues*.

Served as a peer reviewer of paper entitled, “If you want to convict a domestic violence batterer, list multiple charges in the police report (those being the result of a more thorough investigation which uncovers additional concurrent and past/still chargeable crime)” for *SAGE Open*.

Served as a peer reviewer of paper entitled, “Jail or counseling? Gender, race, and social status difference in perceptions of appropriate response to situational couple violence” for *Justice Quarterly*.

Served as a peer reviewer of paper entitled, “I was scared to press charges”: Using the theory of planned behavior to understand victim participation in IPV prosecution” for *Violence Against Women*.

UNIVERSITY AFFILIATIONS

Member, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, Department of Criminology, Law and Society
Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Criminology, Law and Society

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

President, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice Alumni Association (2021-2023)
Board Member, LINDA Organization (2020-2024)
Member, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
Member, American Society of Criminology
Member, Eastern Sociological Society
Member, Society for the Study of Social Problems