CHRISTOPHER M. SULLIVAN

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Updated November 2026

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2021–	Associate Professor of Political Science (with tenure), Louisiana State University
2015–2021	Assistant Professor of Political Science, Louisiana State University
2019–	Research Fellow, Smith Richardson Foundation
2014–2015	Postdoctoral Research Associate, Center for Human Rights and Global Justice, New York University
2013–2014	Predoctoral Fellow, Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence, Yale University

EDUCATION

2014	Ph.D., Political Science, University of Michigan (with distinction). Fields: World Politics, Comparative Politics, Methods. Committee: Christian Davenport (chair), Allan Stam, Mark Beissinger, Kiyoteru Tsutsui
2010	M.A., Political Science, University of Notre Dame
2008	M.A., Government and Politics, University of Maryland
2006	M.S., Comparative Politics, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
2005	B.A., Political Science, Binghamton University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Substantive: political order, state repression, social movements and contentious politics, human rights, political violence and civil conflict, policing and surveillance, public opinion and contentious politics

Methodological: archival research and conflict archives, subnational comparative research, event data, design-based causal inference

BOOK

Why Not Rebel? The Micro-Foundations of Political Order. Manuscript complete (seven chapters). To be submitted to Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics, in January 2027, following a summer 2026 meeting with the series editors, who encouraged submission.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

13. Liu, Howard, and Christopher M. Sullivan. 2021. “And the Heat Goes On: Police Repression and the Modalities of Power.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 65(10): 1657–1679.
12. Balcells, Laia, and Christopher M. Sullivan. 2018. “New Findings from Conflict Archives: An Introduction and Methodological Framework.” *Journal of Peace Research* 55(2): 137–146.
11. Sullivan, Christopher M., and Christian Davenport. 2018. “Resistance Is Mobile: Dynamics of Repression, Challenger Adaptation, and Surveillance in US ‘Red Squad’ and Black Nationalist Archives.” *Journal of Peace Research* 55(2): 175–189.
10. Sullivan, Christopher M. 2018. “Activism in an Age of Mass Surveillance.” In Crabtree, Davenport, Chenoweth, Moss, Earl, Ritter, and Sullivan, “Contentious Politics in the Trump Era.” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 51(1): 17–25.
9. Sullivan, Christopher M., and Zachary P. O’Keeffe. 2017. “Evidence that Curtailing Proactive Policing Can Reduce Major Crime.” *Nature Human Behaviour* 1(10): 730–737.
8. Sullivan, Christopher M., and Christian Davenport. 2017. “The Rebel Alliance Strikes Back: Understanding the Politics of Backlash Mobilization.” *Mobilization* 22(1): 39–56.
7. Sullivan, Christopher M. 2016. “Political Repression and the Destruction of Dissident Organizations: Evidence from the Archives of the Guatemalan National Police.” *World Politics* 68(4): 645–676.

6. Sullivan, Christopher M. 2016. “Undermining Resistance: Mobilization, Repression, and the Enforcement of Political Order.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 60(7): 1163–1190.
5. Wood, Reed M., and Christopher M. Sullivan. 2015. “Doing Harm by Doing Good: The Negative Externalities of Humanitarian Aid Provision during Civil Conflict.” *Journal of Politics* 77(3): 736–748.
4. Sullivan, Christopher M. 2014. “The (In)effectiveness of Torture for Combating Insurgency.” *Journal of Peace Research* 51(3): 388–404. Runner-up, *Journal of Peace Research* Article of the Year Award.
3. Loyle, Cyanne E., Christopher M. Sullivan, and Christian Davenport. 2014. “The Northern Ireland Research Initiative: Data on the Troubles from 1968 to 1998.” *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 31(1): 94–106.
2. Sullivan, Christopher M., Cyanne E. Loyle, and Christian Davenport. 2012. “The Coercive Weight of the Past: Temporal Dependence and the Conflict-Repression Nexus in the Northern Ireland ‘Troubles.’” *International Interactions* 38(4): 426–442.
1. Sullivan, Christopher M. 2012. “Blood in the Village: A Local-Level Investigation of State Massacres.” *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 29(4): 373–396.

PEER-REVIEWED EDITED VOLUME

Balcells, Laia, and Christopher M. Sullivan, eds. 2018. *New Findings from Conflict Archives.* Special issue, *Journal of Peace Research* 55(2).

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Sullivan, Christopher M. 2018. “Material Witness: Source Selection Bias in Comparative Police Data.” *Comparative Politics Newsletter* 28(1): 87–91.

Wood, Reed M., and Christopher Sullivan. 2015. “Doing Harm by Doing Good?” AidData Working Paper 11. Williamsburg, VA: AidData at William & Mary.

Balcells, Laia, and Christopher M. Sullivan. 2018. “Seeing Like Combatants: How New Data from Conflict Archives Are Transforming Conflict Studies.” *Political Violence at a Glance*, December 20.

Sullivan, Christopher M. 2014. “Does Torture Work?” *Political Violence at a Glance*, April 14.

UNDER REVIEW

“Human Rights Advocacy and Repression: Subnational Evidence from Guatemala.” Under review.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

“Who Rats? Political Arrests and Prisoner Defection in America.” In preparation for submission to the *American Political Science Review*.

Sullivan, Christopher M., and Emily Hencken Ritter. “Backlash.” Invited review article, *Annual Review of Political Science*; submission July 2027 (2028 volume).

Davenport, Christian, Cyanne E. Loyle, and Christopher M. Sullivan. Book manuscript in progress developing the organizational approach to the study of repression proposed in the NSF-funded Northern Ireland Research Initiative. First paper: “The Organizational Approach to State Repression: British Security Forces in Northern Ireland,” in progress.

The Even Hand: How Divided Places Lose and Regain Trust in the State. Second book project, matching new street-level police and army records from the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, the Police Service of Northern Ireland, and The National Archives (Kew) to the NIRI events data and to survey data on trust, with a test in U.S. counties; selected by Louisiana State University as its nominee to the Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program (2027 cohort). Archival field research planned for summers 2027 and 2028.

Bureaucracy and Brutality: Intelligence and State-Sponsored Massacres in Iraq, 1987–1989. Research project supported by the Hoover Institution’s Silas Palmer Fellowship; subnational datasets on state

intelligence and massacres built from the Ba'ath Party records in the Northern Iraq Database. Data collection completed June 2026; coding and analysis under way.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

2026	Louisiana State University nominee, Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program (2027 cohort)
2025–2026	Hoover Institution, Stanford University, Silas Palmer Fellowship, for "Bureaucracy and Brutality: Intelligence and State-Sponsored Massacres in Iraq, 1987–1989"
2019–	Smith Richardson Foundation, Strategy and Policy Fellowship, Principal Investigator, for *Why Not Rebel? The Micro-Foundations of Political Order* ($60,000; extended)
2015–2020	National Science Foundation, "Collaborative Research: An Organizational Approach to State Repression: The Northern Ireland Research Initiative and the Troubles, 1968–1998," Co-Principal Investigator with Christian Davenport and Cyanne E. Loyle ($594,903)
2014	Runner-up, Article of the Year Award, *Journal of Peace Research*
2014–2015	Postdoctoral Research Associate, Center for Human Rights and Global Justice, New York University
2013–2014	Predoctoral Fellowship, Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence, Yale University
2011–2012	National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant
2010–2011	Social Science Research Council, International Dissertation Research Fellowship

DATA

Northern Ireland Research Initiative (NIRI). Georeferenced, multi-source events database on the Troubles, 1968–1998, recording perpetrators and victims from the street to the country. Principal Investigator with Christian Davenport and Cyanne E. Loyle. Publicly released through the Northern Ireland Research Initiative (niresearch.org). Documented in *Conflict Management and Peace Science* (2014).

Loyle, Cyanne E., Christian Davenport, and Christopher Sullivan. 2018 (v2, 2023). "Association for Legal Justice (ALJ) Human Rights Testimony, Northern Ireland." Qualitative Data Repository.

Guatemalan National Police Historical Archive (AHPN) event data, 1975–1985: more than 100,000 police records hand-coded over two years of fieldwork, recording acts of surveillance and repression and the dissident activities they targeted, and distinguishing clandestine organizational work from overt collective action.

Guatemalan legacy data: municipal and national election returns, 1996–present; the political demands of protests, coded at the municipal level from the Social Conflict Analysis Database (SCAD); and historical data on demands for political and economic redistribution, extracted from the records of the land redistribution program organized in the late 1940s, as a pre-conflict baseline.

Weekly panel data on the Republic of New Africa and U.S. police intelligence ("Red Squad") units, 1968–1971, from records produced by both sides.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Louisiana State University, undergraduate: International Human Rights (POLI 4040, Fall 2026); State and Society (POLI 4060); Political Violence; The Politics of Social Movement Efficacy; Honors Seminar in Human Rights

Louisiana State University, graduate: Causal Inference (graduate seminar); Writing for Publication in Political Science (POLI 7001, Fall 2026; graduate program capstone); Domination and the Arts of Resistance; Anarchy, Violence, and the Rule of Law; Order and Inequality; International Human Rights; Introductory Graduate Seminar

Guest lectures: Archival Methods and Analytic Skills; Poverty and Public Health in Guatemala

GRADUATE ADVISING

Dissertation chair: Cana Kim (Ph.D., Louisiana State University); Postdoctoral Fellow, Arizona State University

Dissertation chair (in progress): Wonmin Hong, authoritarian legality: rule of law and rule by law

Dissertation chair (in progress): Sanjida Mehrin, *Governing Under Scrutiny: Gender and the Visibility of Human Rights Abuse in Mexico*

FIELD RESEARCH

Guatemala	Historical Archive of the National Police, Guatemala City (2009–2011); Central American archives, Guatemala City (2023)
UK	The National Archives, Kew (2008–2009, 2018); Public Records Office, Belfast (2008–2009, 2018); Association for Legal Justice records, Armagh (2009, 2018)
US	Ba'ath Party Archives, Hoover Institution, Stanford University (2023, 2026); Library of Congress, Washington, DC (2019); NYPD Legal Affairs Bureau, New York (2013–2014); National Security Archive, Washington, DC (2007–2008)

LANGUAGES

English (native); Spanish (professional working proficiency)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Causal Inference for the Social Sciences (ICPSR); Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR); GIS for Peace and Conflict Studies (Trondheim); Social Network Analysis (ECPR); Collective Identity and Political Violence (Yale Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence); Intensive Spanish (ICA Language School, Quetzaltenango)

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Georgetown University (scheduled, spring 2027); Stanford University, Hoover Institution; King's College London, Conflict Records Unit (2021); Vanderbilt University, Laboratory for Research on Conflict and Collective Action; Vanderbilt University, Southern Human Rights Network; George Mason University, Workshop on the Causes and Consequences of Violence; Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO); CUNY, Protest and Politics Workshop; George Washington University, Workshop on Intrastate Violence; Duke University, Research Workshop on International Relations; Yale University, Workshop on 20th Century Conflicts; Yale University, Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence; New York University, Center for Human Rights and Global Justice; University of Michigan, Weiser Center for the Study of Democracy; Uppsala University, Department of Peace and Conflict Research; University of North Carolina, Triangle Workshop on Security Studies; University of Notre Dame, Center for the Study of Social Movements

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION (SELECTED)

American Political Science Association (2011, 2013, 2018, 2019, 2023); International Studies Association (2013, 2015); Peace Science Society (International) (2012, 2013, 2015); Network of European Peace Scientists (2012, 2017); American Sociological Association (2019); WPSA Mini-Conference on Authoritarian Regimes (2018); Midwest Political Science Association (2017); American Society of Criminology (2016); Law and Society Association (2016); Peace Science Workshop on Conflict Archives (2016); Yale Conference on 20th Century Conflicts (2016); Triangle Institute for Security Studies New Faces Conference (2013)

MEDIA COVERAGE

Research covered by the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *Toronto Star*, *New York Daily News*, *Ars Technica*, *Reason*, *La Presse*, *Die Presse*, Phys.org, PsyPost, Journalist's Resource, Crime and Justice News, KCBS San Francisco, Louisiana Radio Network, KATC, and WAFB

Contributing writer: The Monkey Cage (*Washington Post*), Mobilizing Ideas, Political Violence at a Glance, AidData, Small Wars Journal, Open Human Rights

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Chair, Research Committee, Department of Political Science, Louisiana State University (2024–)

DISCIPLINARY SERVICE

Guest Editor, *Journal of Peace Research*, special issue on conflict archives (2018)
Managing Editor, *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (2008–2012)
Workshop organizer, Peace Science Society (International), APSA, and ISA
Reviewer for approximately two dozen journals, including the *American Political Science Review*, *World Politics*, *International Organization*, the *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, and *Policing and Society*
Member: American Political Science Association; American Sociological Association; International Studies Association; Midwest Political Science Association; Western Political Science Association; Peace Science Society (International); European Peace Science Association

REFERENCES

Available upon request.