

Sravanthi Dasari

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Education

- Doctoral candidate, University of Illinois, Chicago** August 2021 - Present
Department of Anthropology
Chair: Dr. Gayatri Reddy
Thesis topic: Intimacies and intergenerationality in social movements: a study of the Telangana Armed Struggle
- MA, University of Illinois, Chicago** 2019 –2021
Department of Anthropology
- MPhil, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India** 2014 - 2016
Advanced Centre for Women’s Studies
Thesis: Women remembering the Left movements of undivided Andhra Pradesh
- MA, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India** 2009 - 2011
Department of Social Work, Concentration in Women Centered Social Work
Thesis: Construction of identity of Dalit women with disability
- BTech, Anna University, India** 2002 - 2006
Department of Information Technology

Research Interests

Social movements; politics; intersectionality; gender; sexuality; caste; feminist studies; South Asian studies

Fellowships, Awards, and Honors (Total: \$1750)

- 2022 Graduate Student Prize, Department of Gender and Women’s Studies, UIC, Chicago (\$500)
- 2022 Keegan Travel Award, UIC, Chicago (\$250)
- 2021 Joshua J. Terry Graduate Award, UIC, Chicago (\$1000)
- 2013 Junior Research Fellowship, University Grants Commission, India
- 2012 IASSCS Emerging Scholars International Research Fellowship
- 2011 Dr. Maria Mies prize for the best research in the area of gender and justice, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India
- 2009 M. K. Tata Trust Scholarship, India

Presentations and Invited Talks

- 2021 GLAS 230 Guest lecturer for Dr. Anna Guevarra “Corruptions and travels of the ‘curry’” (9/21/2021)
- 2017 “Performing Revolution”: Paper presented at XV National Conference of Indian Association for Women’s Studies, Chennai, India (1/22/2017)
- 2012 “Socio-cultural understanding of disability” Invited talk at Manipal University, India (2/25/2012)

Research Experience

Research assistant, Dr. Gayatri Reddy, Associate Professor, Anthropology and Gender and Women’s Studies, UIC Chicago, USA May 2020 – July 2020

Assisted in a study on the Siddi community in South Asia. Worked on creating a media archive on the representation of the community. Was involved with creating reading lists and looking at government interventions for the community.

Research Assistant, Dr. Subadra Panchanandeswaran (Professor, School of Social Work, Adelphi University) and Dr. Gowri Vijaykumar (Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Brandeis University) Bangalore, India June 2019 – July 2019

Assisted the team in conducting of field work which included in depth interviews and focused group discussions with women sex workers. The study focused on ideas of ageing within the sex worker community and how the women negotiate and cope with it.

Research assistant, Dr. Michele Friedner, Assistant Professor, Department of Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago Bangalore, India August 2018 – February 2019

Assisted in a study on government support for cochlear implants in India. Conducted ethnographic field work in an early intervention centre for deaf children. Assisted in conducting of interviews with key stakeholders.

Research assistant, Shubha Chacko, Executive Director, Solidarity Foundation Bangalore, India January 2017 – March 2017

Assisted in secondary research for a concept paper which looked at the interface of gender in the policies of BRICS

Independent researcher Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India May 2015 – December 2015

Conducted field work towards MPhil thesis in Hyderabad, India. Used oral history methods to understand the intersections of gender in the space of the Telangana armed struggle.

Lead researcher, International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society Emerging Scholars International Research Fellowship Bangalore, India April 2012 - December 2012

Led a team which researched the structural violence faced by women sex workers in Bangalore, India through the interface of state mechanisms. Was a part of the first cohort of the IASSCS international research grant.

Independent researcher Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India May 2010 – June 2010

Conducted field work towards MA thesis in Ranga Reddy district, Telangana, India. Conducted interviews with women living on the intersections of gender, caste and disability in a rural area to understand concepts of identity formation

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant *Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago* June 2020 – August 2020
Conduct weekly discussion sections for ANTH 216 “Medicine, Culture, and Society” under Dr. Michelangelo Giampaoli

Teaching Assistant *Department of Gender and Women’s Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago* August 2020 – May 2022
Conducted weekly discussion sections for GWS 102 “Global Perspectives on Women and Gender” under Dr Nadine Naber, Dr Gayatri Reddy, and Dr Lynette Jackson over four semesters.

Teaching Assistant *Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago* June 2020 – August 2020
Conducted weekly discussion sections for ANTH 100 “Human Adventure” under Rory Dennison.

Teaching Assistant *Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago* August 2019 – May 2020
Conducted weekly discussion sections for ANTH 101 “World Cultures – An introduction to Sociocultural Anthropology” under Prof. John Monaghan and Dr. Molly Cunningham.

Service to community

2022 Executive committee member, 6th Annual Second City Anthropology Conference, UIC, Chicago

2022 Department of Anthropology representative, Graduate Student Council, UIC, Chicago

Languages

English: Fluent | Telugu: Native speaker | Hindi: Proficient | Tamil: Beginner | Kannada: Beginner

References

Dr. Gayatri Reddy, Associate Professor, Anthropology and Gender and Women’s Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
gayatri@uic.edu

Dr. Nadine Naber, Professor, Gender and Women’s Studies and Global Asian Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
naber@uic.edu