

**Victoria Copeland**  
Upturn, Washington DC  
[copelandvictoria@gmail.com](mailto:copelandvictoria@gmail.com)

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## **EDUCATION**

- April 2022     **PhD**, Social Welfare, University of California, Los Angeles, CA  
*Dissertation: Dismantling the Carceral Ecosystem: Investigating Child Protection and Family Policing in Los Angeles.* <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3rc7z257>  
*Committee:* Todd Franke, Safiya Noble, Amy Ritterbusch, Dorothy Roberts.
- 2019            **MSW**, Social Welfare, University of California, Los Angeles, CA  
Concentration: *Child & Family Well-Being*
- 2016            **B.A.**, Psychology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV  
Minor: *Neuroscience*

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles**

- Edwards, F., Fong, K., **Copeland, V.**, Raz, M., Dettlaff, A., (in press). Administrative Burdens in Child Welfare.
- Murray, B., **Copeland, V.**, Dettlaff, A. (2023). Reflections on the Ethical Possibilities and Limitations of Abolitionist Praxis in Social Work. *Affilia*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/08861099221146151>
- Sonsteng-Person, M., Garcia-Perez, J., **Copeland, V.**, Liévano-Karim, L., Abrams, D., Bunney, R., Van Leeuwen, J.V., Taitingfong, S., Brittany. (2023). “What I Would do to Take Away Your Pain”: A Photovoice Project Conducted by Mothers of Children with Medical Complexity. *Qualitative Health Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10497323221146047>
- Allmang, S., Plummer, J., **Copeland, V.**, Riascos, M. (2022). Addressing Economic Inequities and Uncertainty Magnified by COVID-19: A Commentary on Directions for Social Work Research. *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*.  
<https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/720981>
- Copeland, V. A.** (2021). “It’s the Only System We’ve Got”: Exploring Emergency Response Decision-Making in Child Welfare. *Columbia Journal of Race and Law*, 11(3), 43–74.  
<https://doi.org/10.52214/cjrl.v11i3.8740>
- Copeland, V.** (2021). Centering Unacknowledged Histories: Revisiting NABSW Demands to Repeal ASFA. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15548732.2021.1976349>

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### ***Submitted Manuscripts***

Lau, C., Sonsteng-Person, M., & **Copeland, V.** (under review). “Unfortunately What’s Right Isn’t Always What’s Best”: The Impact of Mandated Reporting as the Default System to Meet Children’s Needs

**Copeland, V.** & Dettlaff, A. (under review). Conceptualizing the Carceral: Carceral Logics, the Carceral State, and the Child Welfare System

**Copeland, V.** & Wells, R. (under review). “The Real Data Set”: A Case Study on Challenging Power Dynamics and Questioning the Boundaries of Research Production

### ***Manuscripts in Progress***

**Copeland, V.** (submitted - special call). Towards a Framework for Solidarity and “Radical Place-Making” in Social Work and Beyond.

**Copeland, V.** (submitted - special call). “It Takes a Village”: How Theories of Resistance and Reproduction Influence the Perceived Role of Social Workers in an Abolitionist Future

### **Book Chapters**

**Copeland, V.** (in press). Abolitionist Praxis and Black Geographies in Social Work. In Tuck, E., Yang, K.W., Williams, J., Hurd, N., & Doane, L. (Eds.), *Theories of Blackness, Indigeneity, and Racialization in Research to Reduce Inequality in the Lives of Young People*.

Dettlaff, A. & **Copeland, V.** (in press). Family Separation as Terror. In *Confronting the Racist Legacy of the American Child Welfare System: The Case for Abolition*. Oxford University Press.

Dettlaff, A. & **Copeland, V.** (in press). Manifestations of Surveillance, Regulation, and Punishment in the Afterlife of Slavery. In *Confronting the Racist Legacy of the American Child Welfare System: The Case for Abolition*. Oxford University Press.

**Copeland, V.** & Dettlaff, A. (2023). The Oppressive History of “Child Welfare” Systems and the Need for Abolition. In Ioakimidis, V. & Wyllie, A. (Eds.), *Social Work’s Histories of Complicity and Resistance: A Tale of Two Professions*. Bristol University Press.  
<https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/social-works-histories-of-complicity-and-resistance>

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## Book Reviews

**Copeland, V.** (2021). Book Review: The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped A Nation. *Affilia*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/08861099211025585>

## Public Facing Works

### *Research Reports and White Papers*

**Copeland, V.,** The Stop LAPD Spying Coalition, & The Downtown Women’s Action Coalition. (2023, Feb). “*DCF(S) Stands for Dividing and Conquering Families*”: How the Family Policing System Contributes to the Stalker State.

**Copeland, V.,** Harvey, B., & McMillan, J. (2022, June). *Unlearning Punishment: Family Policing Abolition as Liberatory Praxis*. UpEND. <https://upendmovement.org/punishment/>

**Copeland, V. &** Pendleton, M. (2021, Dec.). *The Surveillance of Black Families in the Family Policing System*. UpEND. <https://upendmovement.org/wpcontent/uploads/2021/12/upENDSurveillance2021.pdf>

### *News Articles and Interviews*

**Student Nation.** (2021, April). What the Cops Off Campus Movement Looks Like Across the Country. *The Nation*. <https://www.thenation.com/article/activism/campus-police/>

Saba, M. & **Copeland, V.** (2020, Dec.). *Victoria Copeland: Oral Histories of Surveillance*. Our Data Bodies Project. <https://www.odbproject.org/2020/12/15/victoria-copeland-oral-histories-of-surveillance/>

**Copeland, V.** (2020, Oct). The Complicity of Academia in Policing of Families. *The Imprint: Youth & Family News*. <https://imprintnews.org/opinion/complicity-academia-policing-families/48395>

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Summer 2021 **Summer Fellow**, Upturn: Toward Justice in Technology, Washington DC.  
Research Area and Duties: Conducted policy research regarding the use of technology and data within housing, the criminal legal system, and child welfare system.

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**Summer Fellow**, Black in AI Research- Stanford University.

Project: Countering Carceral Data Infrastructures through a Praxis of Dark Sousveillance.

Faculty Mentor: Sarah M. Brown, Ph.D.

2019 —2022 **Graduate Student Researcher**, *UCLA Labor Center*, University of California, Los Angeles, Institute for Research on Labor and Employment.

Principal Investigators: Tia Koonse & Lucero Herrera

Research Area and Duties: Provided research assistance and research-based testimony regarding the ethics and efficiency of court-ordered community service and targeted-hiring programs in the state of California, as well as criminal legal system administrative and program fines and fees.

2017 – 2018 **Graduate Researcher-Intern**, *WISE & Healthy Aging*, Los Angeles, CA.

Principal Investigator: Melanie Gironda, Ph.D, MSW

Research Area and Duties: Collaborated with ED and staff to apply for National Committee for Quality Assurance for Long-Term Services and Supports Accreditation (NCQA-LTSS). Created several data collection processes and reports including the: Mental Health Referral Guide, Linkages Eligibility Form, Client Satisfaction Survey, ER/SNF Admission & Improvement Plan, Satisfaction Survey Feedback & Analysis, Critical Incidence Adult Protective Services & Outcomes Report, Timely Service Report, and Social Isolation Report.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Invited Talks and Webinars**

Tuck, E., Yang, K.W., **Copeland, V.**, Houston, D.A., & Chaney, M. (2022, Dec). *Moving Against the Tides of Our Disciplines – Part III: Refusing to Speak Against Ourselves and Our Communities*. William T. Grant Foundation Webinar, Virtual.

**Copeland, V.**, Dixon, E., Perez-Darby, S. (2022, April). *Mandatory Reporting, Abolition, Trans and Disability Justice*. Transgender Law Center. Virtual.  
Facilitated by: Paris Chapman.

**Copeland, V.**, Ufot, N., Roberts, A., Roberts, T.W., Hansford, J. (2022, Jan.). *Abolition and Community*. UCLA Law Review Symposium. Virtual.

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- Copeland, V.,** Boyd, R., Kim, M. (2021, Dec). *Eliminate Racism Series: Build Healthy Relationships to End Violence & Ensure Healthy Development for All Youth*. Grand Challenges for Social Work, Virtual.
- Copeland, V.,** Gormley, E., Harvey, B., McMillan, J, Pendleton, M. (2021, Nov). *UpEnd Convening: Mandatory Reporting Laws and Surveillance*. University of Houston-Texas, Virtual.
- Copeland, V.,** Mathana, Bye, K., Wild, F., Mangina, E., & Dick, E. (2021, Oct). *XR in the Classroom*. IEEE Standards Association, Virtual.
- Copeland, V.,** Speaker, F., Excell, K., Gormley, E., McMillan, J. (2021, June). *Child Welfare Justice: A Public Health Abolitionist Approach*. University of Illinois at Chicago-Radical Public Health, Virtual.
- Copeland, V.,** Williams-Diggs, C., & Pendleton, M. (2021, May). *How We EndUP: Black Feminism Dreams for the Future*. The upEND Movement, Virtual.
- Copeland, V.,** Rodriguez, D., Smythe, S. (2021, May). *What does re-imagining community safety mean to me?*, Social Justice Seminar Series, UCLA UAW5810, Virtual
- Copeland, V.,** James, K., Kim, M. (2021, Mar). *Are Social Workers Abolitionist?*, Townhall on Racial Equity, National Association of Social Workers, Virtual.
- Copeland, V.,** Aten, E., Cantu, A., Yeo, V. (2021, Feb). *Power, Privilege, & Oppression, "DICE": Discussions in Culture & Experiences*. Pacific Psychology and Comprehensive Clinic, Portland OR, Virtual.
- Copeland, V.,** McMillan, J., Ortiz, D., Gasser-Ordaz, L., Lemmons, J. (2020, Dec). *Spotlight on the Foster System Series: "The Carceral Web: How the Foster and Criminal Legal Systems Perpetuate Injustice"*. Shriver Center on Policy and Law, Chicago IL, Virtual.
- Copeland, V.** (2019, May). *Youth Advice & Support App*. Public Policy Leadership and Management of Non-Profits, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, Los Angeles CA.

### CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

#### Peer-Reviewed Presentations

- Copeland, V. & Harvey, B.** (2023, April). *Collective Configurations towards Liberation:*

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*Disrupting Academic Hegemony through Anti-Carceral Qualitative Inquiry*. Paper presentation at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Jordan, S., Mickell, D., Sonsteng-Person, M. & **Copeland, V.** (2023, Jan). *Keeping the P in PAR during Analysis: A Critical Discussion on Participatory Strategies to Analyzing Data and Building Solutions to Social Problems*. Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Roundtable Session. Phoenix, AZ.

Duarte, N., Dada, T., & **Copeland, V.** (2022, June). *Reining in Tenant Screening: A Legal Roadmap*. Privacy Law Scholars Conference, Boston, MA.

Whitman, K., Papias, M. **Copeland, V.** (2022, Jan.). *Navigating Carceral Environments: Experiences of Foster Youth of Color*. University of California Student of Color Conference. Virtual.

**Copeland V.**, Edwards, F., Fong, K., Raz, M., Dettlaff, A., (2022, Feb). *Administrative Burdens in Child Welfare*. Russell Sage Foundation Conference: Administrative Burdens as a Mechanism of Inequality in Policy Implementation. New York City, NY.

**Copeland, V.**, *Child Protection and the rationale for surveillance in the child welfare system*. (2022, Jan.) Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Brief and Brilliant Session. Washington, DC.

**Copeland, V.** (2022, Jan.). *Reflections on the Possibilities of Dark Sousveillance: Countering Anti-Black Surveillance through Black Abolitionist Feminist Epistemology and PAR*. Society for Social Work and Research Conference. Washington, DC.

**Copeland, V.**, Sonsteng, M., Mickell, D., & Jordan, S. (2022, Jan.). *Keeping the P in PAR During Analysis: A Critical Discussion on Participatory Strategies to Analyzing Data*, Society for Social Work and Research Conference. Washington, DC.

**Copeland, V.** & Wells, R. (2022, Jan.). *“The Real Data Set”: A Case Study on Challenging Power Dynamics and Questioning the Boundaries of Research Production*. Society for Social Work and Research Conference. Washington, DC.

Tulley, B., **Copeland, V.**, Mickell, D. (2021, Sept). *“I Wanna Give Her Her Space”: How Young Adults Exiting Foster Care Navigate Living with Family After Foster Care*. Presentation at the European Scientific Association on Residential & Family Care for Children and Adolescents Conference, Virtual

**Copeland, V.** (2021, Aug). *Countering Carceral Data Infrastructures through a Praxis of Dark*

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*Sousveillance*. Poster Presentation at the CURIS Conference: Stanford University, Virtual

**Copeland, V.**, Abdurahman, J.K., Baughman, C., Ismail, T. (2021, June). *Family Surveillance*. Panel presentation at the Strengthened Bonds: Abolishing the Child Welfare System and Re-Envisioning Child Well-Being Columbia Law School Volume 11 Symposium, Virtual

Harvey, B. & **Copeland, V.** (2021, April). *Co-Conspirators: Interrogating the Role of Schools within the Foster Care Industrial Complex*. Paper presentation at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Virtual

Allmang, S., Plummer, J., **Copeland, V.** (2021, Jan). *Covid 19 and Youth Engagement in Politics: An Intersectional Approach*. Roundtable at the Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference, Virtual

Tulley, B., **Copeland, V.**, Mickell, D. (2021, Jan). *"I Wanna Give Her Her Space": An exploration of how young adults exiting foster care navigate living with family after foster care*. Paper presentation at the Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference, Virtual

Zink, D., Barchard, K., San Miguel, L., **Copeland, V.**, Allen, D. (2016, Nov). *Factor Structure of the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children-Fourth Edition Spanish in a Clinical Sample of Puerto Rican Children*. Poster presentation at the National Academy of Neuropsychology Conference, Seattle WA

Lee, B., **Copeland, V.**, Allen, D. (2015, Nov). *Meta-Analytic Investigation of Neuropsychological Performance in persons with Schizophrenia and Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorders*. Poster presentation at the National Academy of Neuropsychology Conference, Austin TX

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Spring 2021, **Teaching Assistant**, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs-Undergrad.  
Spring 2020 Social Problems and Social Change.

Fall 2021 **Teaching Assistant**, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs-Undergrad.  
People, Organizations, and Systems.



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### **Guest Lecture Presentations**

**Copeland, V.** (2022, April). *Family in the U.S.* Identity Politics, UVA Batten School of Public Policy-Grad.

**Copeland, V.** (2022, Jan). *Policing of Families.* UC Berkeley Law, Virtual.

**Copeland, V.** (2021, Oct). *The Impact of Child Welfare or Family Policing.* Policy with Children and Adolescents, Lewis University-MSW, Virtual.

**Copeland, V.** (2021, May). *Care of Coercion? Questioning Care Ethics of Child Welfare.* CHDV Family Stress and Resilience: Cultural Considerations, California State University Long Beach-Undergrad, Virtual.

**Copeland, V.** (2021, May). *Abolitionist Reflections.* Gerontology Cluster, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs-Undergrad, Virtual.

**Copeland, V.** (2021, Feb). *Surveillance and Data Proliferation in Child Welfare.* People, Organizations, and Systems, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs-Undergrad, Virtual.

### **Invited Training Presentations**

**Copeland, V.,** Asher BlackDeer, A. Harty, J., & Ludeke, R. (July 2022). *Child Maltreatment BIPOC Scholar Panel.* LEAD Pre-Doctoral Institute, Washington University.

**Copeland, V.,** Kwan Jin Yao, Brock-Petroshius, K., Jordan, S. (2021, May). *Advancing to Candidacy.* Professional Development Series, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs-Ph.D, Virtual.

**Copeland, V.** (2021, Feb). *Developing Theory.* The Craft of Social Welfare Scholarship. UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs-Ph.D. Virtual.

**Copeland, V.,** Jordan, S., & Mickell, D. (2021, Feb). *PAR Methods.* Qualitative Methods, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs-Ph.D, Virtual.

**Copeland, V. &** Mueller-Williams, A. (2021, Jan). *Preparing for and Passing your Written Comprehensive Exam.* Second-Year Ph.D Students, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs-Ph.D, Virtual



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**COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE**

- 2020-2022     **Founding Member**, *University of California Survivors + Allies*, California.  
Campaigns: Research and advocacy for survivors of gender violence, interpersonal violence, sexual harassment. Advocacy for increased transparency in reporting, trauma-informed syllabi language shifts, improved training on reporting.
- 2019-2022     **Member**, *Let's Get Free LA Coalition*, Los Angeles, CA.  
Campaigns: Eliminating criminal justice administrative and program fees, elimination of fees for phone calls and commissary for incarcerated individuals and families, SB71 Support for Expanding Community Service Options.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Sept 2021-     **Senior Policy Analyst**, Upturn: Toward Justice in Technology, Washington DC.
- 2021-           **Consultant**, UpEND, The Center for the Study of Social Policy and the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work.
- 2018            **Community Organizer and South Central Youth Empowered thru Action (SCYEA) Wellness Intern**, Community Coalition, Los Angeles CA.
- 2017 - 2018    **Care Management Intern**, WISE & Healthy Aging, Los Angeles CA.
- 2016 – 2017    **Juvenile Justice Advocate**, Youth Advocate Programs, Las Vegas NV.

**SERVICE EXPERIENCE**

- 2022            **Founding Co-Editor**, *Abolitionist Perspectives in Social Work Journal*
- 2022            **Ad-Hoc Reviewer**, *Journal of Public Child Welfare*
- 2021            **Invited Guest Peer Reviewer**, Special Issue of *Child Welfare: Transforming Child Welfare through Anti-Racist Approaches in Child Welfare*
- 2021            **Founding Member**, SPACE: Survivor Photos: A Collaboration for Empowerment.

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- 2020-2022     **Founding Member**, Social Work Anti-Racism Committee, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs-Department of Social Welfare.  
<https://ucla.app.box.com/s/et3k3c9i2dhwn6xh672fjky55afwnicz>.
- 2020            **Panelist & Mentor**, Luskin Diversity Fair
- 2019,  
2018            **Lobby Days Leader**, NASW Lobby Days  
*Bills included: SB10 (Bail Reform), AB186 (Harm Reduction), SB982 (CalWORKs Grants Amounts), AB163 (Group homes), SB 568 (Postsecondary Education).*
- 2019            **Inaugural Member**, NASW 23-Strong Council
- 2016            **Conference Session Chair**, The National Academy of Neuropsychology Annual Conference.

**FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

- 2021            William T. Grant Foundation, Theories of Blackness, Indigeneity, and Racialization in Research to Reduce Inequality in the Lives of Young People Writing Fellowship (\$2,000)
- 2021            UpTurn: Toward Justice in Technology, Washington DC. Summer Fellowship (\$10,200)
- 2021            Black in Artificial Intelligence Grant Program, Black in AI, (\$1,500)
- 2021            Alisa Bierria Graduate Fellowship in Black Feminist Research, UCLA Center for the Study of Women, Black Feminist Initiative (\$1,000)
- 2021            Bruin Advocacy Grant (\$1250)
- 2020            UCLA/Alianza UCMX Binational Committee Covid-19 Funding (\$5,000)
- 2020            UCLA Graduate Council Diversity Summer Fellowship (\$8,000)
- 2018            Renee & Meyer Luskin Summer Funding (\$5,000)

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 2021            Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr. Social Justice Awards
- 2019            UCLA MSW Thesis Award for Outstanding Research

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- 2019      UCLA Public Policy Leadership and Management of Nonprofits Competition Winner
- 2017      UCLA Senior Fellows. *Mentor:* Judge Nash, Office of Child Protection
- 2016      UNLV Research Showcase Outstanding Presentation Award, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- 2016      UNLV Psi Chi International Honors Society Poster Competition Outstanding Presentation, 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- 2016      UNLV Roosevelt Fitzgerald Outstanding Scholar and Leadership Award
- 2016      UNLV Alliance of Professionals of African Heritage Outstanding Student Award

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- 2021      Association for Community Organization & Social Action
- 2021      American Educational Research Association
- 2021      Society for Social Work and Research
- 2017 – 2019      National Association of Social Workers
- 2013 – 2016      National Academy of Neuropsychology