

Here are five biographical statements about Pamela Oliver. The first two focus on criminal justice issues, with a longer and shorter version. The second two combine prison issues with Oliver's eminence in the study of collective action and social movements, again with a longer and shorter version. The fifth one merges the two shorter versions, given equal emphasis to both, and is a little longer than the other short bios. If you have invited me to speak, you have permission to edit these bios to shorten them to your appropriate word limits.

LONG BIO (for criminal justice-related things)

Pamela Oliver received her PhD in sociology from the University of North Carolina in 1977. She was an assistant professor at the University of Louisville from 1976-1980, and has been at the University of Wisconsin since 1980, where she has been a full professor since 1990 and a Conway-Bascom Professor since 2004. She is well-known for her work on collective action and social movements, and has published numerous influential articles and a book (with Gerald Marwell) on these topics. She has several National Science Foundation grants and has served on the National Science Foundation's Sociology Advisory Committee. Her work on the causes and consequences of the racial disparity in imprisonment began out of her community service involvement. She is working on a project based in detailed statistical comparisons between states in the US 1983-2003. She has done a detailed analysis of racial disparities in imprisonment and arrest in Wisconsin, and has given numerous presentations to public officials and community members on these issues. She serves on the board of several non-profit organizations and community advisory committees concerned with criminal justice issues and has made dozens of presentations to public officials and general audiences as well as given numerous interviews to various news media about patterns of racial disparity in imprisonment. Because of her leadership in this area, she was asked to serve on the Governor's special Commission to Reduce Racial Disparities in the Wisconsin Justice System, which met April 2007 – January 2008 and issued its report in February 2008; she played a major role in helping to draft this report and authored (with her collaborator James Yocom) several appendices, including a comparison of arrests and prison sentences by race to assess where in the system disparities occur, and a detailed analysis of probation and parole revocations. She served on Dane County's racial disparities task force in 2008-9, and continues to work with public officials and non-profit groups in Wisconsin concerned about these issues.

SHORT VERSION: Pamela Oliver is a professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin who has published many articles and a book on collective action and social movements. Since 1999, she has devoted much of her time to analyzing and speaking about statistical patterns of racial disparity in criminal justice in Wisconsin and the nation. She has made over 100 public presentations on these issues and served on the Governor's Commission to Reduce Racial Disparities in Criminal Justice in 2007-8. She is working on a project about the politics of incarceration and analyzing differences among US states and metro areas in their racial disparity patterns.

LONG BIO (combines all areas)

Pamela Oliver received her PhD in sociology from the University of North Carolina in 1977. She was an assistant professor at the University of Louisville from 1976-1980, and has been at the University of Wisconsin since 1980, where she has been a full professor since 1990 and a Conway-Bascom Professor since 2004. She is well-known for her work on collective action and social movements, and has published a number of influential articles in the *American Sociological Review* and the *American Journal of Sociology* and other sociological journals. She is the author with Gerald Marwell a series of widely-cited articles and a book on the *Critical Mass in Collective Action*. She has received a number of National Science Foundation grants and has served on the National Science Foundation's Sociology Advisory Committee, and has been elected to terms as chair of the ASA sections on "Collective Behavior and Social Movements," "Political Sociology," and "Rational Choice." Her current research is in two streams. One continues her work on collective action and social movements with an emphasis on the coevolution of protest movements, political institutions, repressive practices, and news media. The other is an examination of the causes and consequences of the racial disparity in imprisonment in the US 1983-2003, linking theories of crime control, repression, and ethnic conflict in understanding the patterns of mass incarceration in the 1980s and 1990s. These streams join in work integrating ethnic conflict and social control with theories of social movements. She has done a detailed analysis of racial disparities in imprisonment and arrest in Wisconsin, and has made dozens of presentations to public officials and general audiences as well as given numerous interviews to various news media about patterns of racial disparity in imprisonment. She serves on the board of several non-profit organizations concerned with criminal justice issues. Because of her leadership in this area, she was asked to serve on the Governor's special Commission to Reduce Racial Disparities in the Wisconsin Justice System, which met April 2007 – January 2008 and issued its report in February 2008; she played a major role in helping to draft this report and authored several appendices. Subsequently, she served on Dane County's task force on racial disparities. She teaches a popular sociology class "Ethnic Movements in the US" which compares American Indian, African American, Mexican American, and Asian American movements and politics, and has been a member of the Asian American Studies Faculty Advisory Committee for many years.

MERGED SHORT VERSION

Pamela Oliver is a professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin who has published many articles and a book on collective action and social movements, including her influential work on the "critical mass" with Gerald Marwell, studies of news coverage of protests, and theoretical work on the coevolution of movements, protest and news coverage. Since 1999, she has devoted much of her time to analyzing and speaking about statistical patterns of racial disparity in criminal justice in Wisconsin and the nation. She has made over 100 public presentations on these issues and served on the Governor's Commission to Reduce Racial Disparities in Criminal Justice in 2007-8 and the Dane County Task on Racial Disparities 2008-9. She is working on a project about the politics of incarceration and analyzing differences among US states and metro areas in their racial disparity patterns and is developing an integration of theories of ethnic conflict, social movements, social control, and repression. She teaches "Ethnic Movements in the US" which compares American Indian, African American, Mexican American, and Asian American movements and politics, and has also been a member of

the Asian American Studies Faculty Advisory Committee for many years.