

# Kayla McKeon

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## EDUCATION

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**Drexel University**, Philadelphia, PA **Aug. 2022 - present**  
Ph.D., Clinical Psychology (expected 2029)

**Drexel University Kline School of Law**, Philadelphia, PA **Aug. 2022 - present**  
J.D. (expected 2026)

**Amherst College**, Amherst, MA **Sept. 2018 - May 2022**  
B.A. in Law, Jurisprudence, and Social Thought and Psychology, *cum laude*  
Honor's Thesis: *A problematic provocation: The role of gender identity on assessments of guilt and criminal culpability in a mock jury decision-making paradigm*  
Thesis funding: Gregory S. Call Student Research Award (total: \$5350)

**Study Abroad: University of Oxford**, St. Catherine's College, Oxford, U.K. **Sept. – Dec. 2021**  
Courses: Criminology; Ethics, History & Philosophy of Punishment; Ethics of Rectificatory Justice

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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Haskell R. Coplin Prize **May 2022**  
*Award for excellence in psychology at Amherst College*

David Kirp 1965 Stonewall Prize **May 2022**  
*Award for a work of intellectual merit pertaining to the LGBTQ+ community*

Rising Advocate Scholar **Feb. 2022**  
*Most prestigious merit scholarship at Drexel University's Kline School of Law*

Meiklejohn Fellow **2018 - 2022**  
*Fellowship for first generation students and/or students with low income*

Crowell Prize **2018 - 2019**  
*Award for the highest scholarship in first-year Latin courses at Amherst College*

## PUBLICATIONS

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Totton, R. & **McKeon, K.** (2023). *Unexpected judgements: The role of gender identity and provocation on blame and affect in a mock jury paradigm*. [Manuscript submitted for publication].

**McKeon, K.** (2023). Presidential speech acts in the digital age: The illusion of authenticity. *Columbia Undergraduate Law Review*, 18(1), 53–84. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5cb4>

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## PRESENTATIONS

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**McKeon, K.**, Eom, K., NeMoyer, A., Kreimer, R., Hare, N., Kessler, J., Gray, E., & Goldstein, N. E. (2024, March 21-23). From care to consequences: How child welfare services relate to rearrest and school dropout among dually involved youth. Paper to be presented at the annual conference of the *American Psychology-Law Society*, Los Angeles, CA.

Totton, R. & **McKeon, K.** Unexpected Judgements: Gender Identity and Provocation on Mock Jury Decisions. (2024, April 18-20). Paper to be presented at the 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the *Midwestern Psychological Association*, Chicago, IL.

**McKeon, K.** & Totton, R. (2022, May 6). A problematic provocation: The role of gender identity on assessments of guilt and criminal culpability in a mock jury decision-making paradigm. Poster presented at the *Amherst College Psychology Honors Student Poster Presentation Day*, Amherst, MA.

**McKeon, K.** & Totton, R. (2022, April 14-15). A problematic provocation: The role of gender identity on assessments of guilt and criminal culpability in a mock jury decision-making paradigm. Panel Presentation. *Harvard Undergraduate Scholarship and Social Justice Conference*. Virtual.

**McKeon, K.** & Totton, R. (2022, February 16-19). A problematic provocation: The role of gender identity on assessments of guilt and criminal culpability in a mock jury decision-making paradigm. Poster presented at the annual convention of the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology*, San Francisco, CA.

**McKeon, K.** & Totton, R. (2021, November 12). A problematic provocation: The role of gender identity on assessments of guilt and criminal culpability in a mock jury decision-making paradigm. Data Blitz presented at the Trends in Psychology Summit, hosted by *Harvard Women in Psychology*. Virtual.

Parent, M., Hynes, K., Radavich, R., Stanley, J., **McKeon, K.**, & Twyman-Ghoshal, A. (2019, July 24). Contemporary Maritime Piracy. Poster presented at the *Stonehill College Undergraduate Research Program's Poster Session*, Easton, MA.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA  
Juvenile Justice Research and Reform Lab

Aug. 2022 – Present

*Graduate Research Assistant*; Supervisor: Naomi Goldstein, Ph.D.

- Serving as the graduate student lead for three projects related to legally involved youth
- Planned and implemented a convening of professionals from across the country to discuss challenges faced by youth involved in both the juvenile legal and child welfare systems; generated survey to understand participants' perspectives on the most pressing barriers for dually involved youth; supervised graduate student assistants taking notes during the convening; assisting in the drafting of a position paper based on convening takeaways
- Contribute to implementation evaluation of a novel initiative that provides additional supports to youth and families during the arrest and booking process; analyze data and create user-friendly results summaries; conduct interviews with youth support workers
- Generated survey for youth participating in prosecutor-led diversion programs in two counties; planned and prepared for project meetings with a community advisory board consisting of youth with lived expertise of legal system experience.
- Assist in recruitment and consenting of community members pursuing criminal record clearing to participate in a longitudinal study focused on record clearing outcomes.

Master's Thesis (in preparation): From care to consequences: How child welfare services relate to rearrest and school dropout among dually involved youth

**Amherst College**, Amherst, MA

**Feb. 2021 – May 2022**

**Department of Psychology**

*Research Intern*; Supervisor: Rebecca Totton, Ph.D.

- Helped design and conduct quantitative and qualitative studies on anti-transgender bias in the media, perceptions of transgender defendants, how often transgender individuals are seen as untrustworthy compared to other groups, and perceptions of nonbinary identities

**Stonehill College**, Easton, MA

**Jun. 2019 – Aug. 2020**

**Criminology Department**

*Legal Research Intern*; Supervisor: Anamika Twyman-Ghoshal, Ph.D.

- Conducted in-depth legal research and analysis into prosecution of Somali nationals accused of piracy around the world
- Summarized case information; collected and inputted data based on more than 40 criteria
- Independently analyzed international piracy proceedings and statutes; identified jurisdictional inconsistencies that obstructed justice, fairness, equity, and humane treatment for Somali defendants

## **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

**South Boston TMS**, East Bridgewater, MA

**Feb. 2021 – Aug. 2022**

*TMS Coordinator*

- Administered NeuroStar Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) treatments and Beck Depression Inventory
- Coordinated patient health questionnaires, scheduled patient appointments, followed up on patient referrals, and documented treatment notes
- Reviewed patient toxicology reports and oversaw current opioid medication prescriptions and prescription history
- Conducted social media marketing, industry networking, and community outreach

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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<b>Drexel University, Kline School of Law, Philadelphia, PA</b>	<b>Jan. 2024 – present</b>
<i>Dean’s Scholar: Criminal Law</i>	
<b>Drexel University, Graduate College, Philadelphia, PA</b>	<b>Jan. 2024 – present</b>
<i>Teaching Assistant: General Psychology</i>	
<b>Drexel University, Kline School of Law, Philadelphia, PA</b>	<b>Aug. 2023 - Dec. 2023</b>
<i>Dean’s Scholar: Torts</i>	
<b>Drexel University, Kline School of Law, Philadelphia, PA</b>	<b>May 2023 – Aug. 2023</b>
<i>Dean’s Scholar: Legal Methods I</i>	

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Psychology-Law Society, Campus Representative	<b>Sept. 2023- present</b>
American Psychology-Law Society, Student Member	<b>Jan. 2024 – present</b>

## **WORK AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

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<b>Faerieworks of New England, West Bridgewater, MA</b>	<b>Jun. 2019 – present</b>
<i>Small Business Owner</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Independently founded a vegan and cruelty-free crystal candle company focused on helping clients relax and reduce anxiety; established an Etsy shop; created Shopify website</li> <li>● Design and manufacture products by hand, package and ship orders, coordinate supply orders, maintain books, provide customer service, manage social media and marketing</li> <li>● Organized liability insurance; developed shipping contracts; created legally compliant labels</li> </ul>	
<b>New Vision Organization, Inc., Brockton, MA</b>	<b>Jun. 2021 - Aug. 2022</b>
<i>Legal Outreach Intern</i>	

- Served as a legal advocate for two clients incarcerated in Massachusetts state prisons
- Contacted civil rights attorneys, private investigators, local politicians, and criminal justice organizations on clients' behalf
- Coordinated legal representation in civil lawsuits

**Amherst College Department of Psychology, Amherst, MA**  
**Committee on Inclusion and Belonging**

**May 2021 - May 2022**

*Member*

- Served on a faculty/student committee focused on fostering inclusion and belonging within the Amherst College Department of Psychology
- Planned events and department-wide initiatives cultivating community and diversity; provided student support and identified ways to increase psychology students' engagement with, and understanding of, issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion

**Criminal Justice Policy Coalition, Boston, MA**

**Jun. 2021 – Aug. 2021**

*Volunteer*

- Compiled a monthly criminal justice news digest for organization newsletters, searched for articles about criminal justice policies in Massachusetts

**The Lionheart Foundation, Dedham, MA**

**Jun. 2021 – Aug. 2021**

*Marketing and Outreach Intern*

- Served as Search Engine Optimization (SEO) specialist to help develop and market prevention and rehabilitation programs to trauma-impacted populations
- Created updated sitemap; developed alternative text for images on company's website

## **SKILLS**

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Computer: Java, C++, R, SPSS

Languages: Proficient in reading Latin; basic Arabic and Spanish (reading and speaking)

Certifications: CITI – Social Behavioral, GCP, COI; Neurostar TMS Clinical Operator, CPR/AED First Aid