
NIH BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH COMMON FORM

Name: Besbris, Max

 Persistent Identifier (PID) of the Senior/Key Person: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2166-0345>

Position Title: Associate Professor

 Organization and Location: University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, United States

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	Start Date	Completion Date	FIELD OF STUDY
New York University, New York, New York, United States	Doctor of Philosophy (PHD)	08/2010	05/2017	Sociology
New York University, New York, New York, United States	Master of Arts (MA)	08/2010	05/2012	Sociology
University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, California, United States	Bachelor of Arts (BA)	08/2004	05/2008	Sociology
University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, California, United States	Bachelor of Arts (BA)	08/2004	05/2008	Linguistics

Appointments and Positions

2020 - present Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, United States

2017 - 2020 Assistant Professor, Rice University, Houston, Texas, United States

Products

Products Closely Related to the Proposed Project

1. Mikulas A, Beck B, Besbris M. Home Price Change and Ethno-racial Residential Segregation: Temporal Relationships at the Metro Level. *Socius : sociological research for a dynamic world*. 2024; 10:1. Available from: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/23780231241261606> DOI: 10.1177/23780231241261606
2. Besbris M, Dempsey S, McCabe B. Pandemic Housing: The Role of Landlords, Social Networks, and Social Policy in Mitigating Housing Insecurity during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*. 2024; 10(4):207. Available from: <https://www.rsfsjournal.org/content/10/4/207.abstract> DOI: 10.7758/RSF.2024.10.4.10
3. Besbris M, Robinson JN, Angelo H. A sociology of real estate: Polanyi, Du Bois, and the relational study of commodified land in a climate-changed future. *Annual Review of Sociology*. 2024; 50:365. Available from: <https://www.annualreviews.org/content/journals/10.1146/annurev-soc-033022-035124> DOI: 10.1146/annurev-soc-033022-035124
4. Besbris M. Upsold. Chicago: University of Chicago Press; 2020.
5. Besbris M, Faber JW, Rich P, Sharkey P. Effect of neighborhood stigma on economic transactions. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2015 Apr 21;112(16):4994-8. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC4413302](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26441330/).

Other Significant Products Highlighting Contributions to Science

1. Rhodes A, Besbris M. A Rapidly Changing Ecology of Aid: Help-Seeking and Stigma in the Aftermath of Disaster. *Qualitative Sociology*. 2024; 47(3):465. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11133-024-09568-8> DOI: 10.1007/s11133-024-09568-8
2. Besbris M. What Is Sociological About Environmental Sociology?: Qualitative Methods in an Era of Rapid Environmental Change. *Qualitative Sociology*. 2024; 47(3):405. Available from: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11133-024-09579-5> DOI: 10.1007/s11133-024-09579-5
3. Rhodes A, Besbris M. Soaking the Middle Class. New York: Russell Sage; 2022.
4. Kuk J, Schachter A, Faber JW, Besbris M. The COVID-19 Pandemic and the Rental Market: Evidence From Craigslist. *Am Behav Sci*. 2021 Nov;65(12):1623-1648. PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC7992104](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34799210/).
5. Schachter A, Kuk J, Besbris M, Pekarek G. Inclusive but not Integrative: Ethnoracial Boundaries and the Use of Spanish in the Market for Rental Housing. *Sociological Science*. 2023; 10:585. DOI: 10.15195/v10.a21

Certification:

I certify that the information provided is current, accurate, and complete. This includes, but is not limited to, information related to current, pending, and other support (both foreign and domestic) as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 6605.

In accordance with Section 10632 of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (42 U.S.C. § 19232), each individual identified as a senior/key person must certify that they are not a party to a malign foreign talent recruitment program.

Research Security Training Requirement for Federal Award Personnel: In accordance with Section 10634 of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (42 U.S.C. § 19234), each individual identified as a senior/key person must certify that they have completed the requisite research security training that meets the requirements specified in Item 2 of Important Notice No. 149 within 12 months prior to proposal submission.

Misrepresentations and/or omissions may be subject to prosecution and liability pursuant to, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. §§287, 1001, 1031 and 31 U.S.C. §§3729-3733 and 3802.

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NIH BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH SUPPLEMENT

Name: Besbris, Max

Persistent Identifier (PID) of the Senior/Key Person: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2166-0345>

Position Title: Associate Professor

Organization and Location: University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, United States

Personal Statement

I am the H.I. Romnes Associate Professor of Sociology at UW-Madison and a sociologist with expertise in stratification and inequality, urban sociology, economic sociology, and mixed-methods study design. My dissertation work, which culminated in a book, *Upsold* (2020, The University of Chicago Press), focused on the effect of real estate agents on individual housing/neighborhood selection and valuation. I have also completed experimental research on neighborhood stigma and discrimination. In a recently concluded NSF funded study, I explored how different types of information shared in online advertisements for rental housing affect interest in and perceptions of housing units and neighborhoods. In another, funded by Russell Sage, I examined the residential mobility patterns of victims of Hurricane Harvey. This work was published as *Soaking the Middle Class* (2022, Russell Sage Press). Generally, I investigate how individuals make decisions in economic markets—particularly in the housing market—and how these decisions then produce demographic and spatial inequalities. I have been affiliated with CDE since 2021. I lead the professional development seminar (DemTraining) for CDE's training program and am a member of the Training Committee and Training Faculty. I co-lead the CDE working group on Economic Demography and I am actively involved in the Spatial Demography primary research area. I am also a faculty affiliate of the interdisciplinary Institute for Research on Poverty and an external affiliate of the University of Chicago's Stone Center for Research on Wealth, Inequality, and Mobility.

My research on post-disaster mobility has been funded by the Russell Sage Foundation and my research neighborhood stigma and housing selection has been funded by the National Science Foundation. I was also the interim associate director of the Center for Demography of Health and Aging, which demonstrates my ability to work in an interdisciplinary setting.

Honors

2024	Honorable Mention, Jane Addams Article Award, American Sociological Association
2023	Honorable Mention, Award for Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship on Population, American Sociological Association
2023	Early Career Public Sociology Award, Eastern Sociological Society
2022	Shortlist, Alice Amsden Book Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
2022	Distinguished Book Award, Midwest Sociological Society

Contributions to Science

1. My multiple publications on how real estate agents affect residential mobility make three main contributions to ongoing debates in urban sociology, economic sociology, and stratification research. First, they documents how real estate agents are key actors in creating the demographic makeup and cultural identity of particular neighborhoods, as well as in translating the value and meaning of different places to prospective homebuyers (see Besbris 2020). Agents upsell very wealthy buyers, which increases income and residential sorting and contributes to place stratification by reifying some neighborhoods as elite and exclusive residential environments and others as undesirable and less valuable. Second, the work argues that sociologists of markets have been too timid in tackling fundamental economic concepts like price. Indeed, the work reveals how prices are not just the outcomes of structural or cultural forces, but are also the products of interaction. It provides evidence that homebuyers' preferences about how much to spend are highly malleable and subject to particular patterns of interaction with real estate agents. Third, by uncovering how interactions between buyers and agents matter for outcomes like neighborhood value and housing prices, my work offers a novel perspective on markets (see Besbris, Robinson, and Angelo 2024). It demonstrates that the work of intermediaries is central to sustaining any market and creating inequalities within it (see Mikulas, Beck, and Besbris 2024). After the book's publication I was asked to testify before the New York State Senate on my findings and comment on novel proposed legislation regulating the real estate industry.

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