

Native people are at grossly elevated risks of violence compared to the general U.S. population, with many communities at twice the risk of experiencing violence. There is very little research on programs and services for Native communities, as well as their needs and cultural resources. It is necessary to create resources derived from evidence-based research grounded in community-based research and based on the needs and voices of the community. My research is strongly informed by my time working as a direct service provider in the urban Indian community of Illinois. I was also a program manager. I wrote for, secured, and managed a \$500,000 Department of Justice cooperative to develop a human trafficking intervention program for Native adults and children.

I have continued my work in this area under the guidance of Dr. Campbell at Johns Hopkins University's School of Nursing and Dr. Jill Messing at Arizona State University's SSW as a research associate for the PAIRS and OurCircle study. In this role, I am responsible for developing relationships with tribal communities and leaders, studying conceptualization and design, data collection, qualitative and quantitative data analysis, big data management, and manuscript preparation. I have also been listed as a consultant for Dr. Jeneile Luebke's R061 human trafficking research project in the School of Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

My qualifying exam consisted of a scoping review examining how much human trafficking literature is based in the United States, including Native American participants in their demographic findings and reporting. It is currently being submitted to *Trauma, Violence, and Abuse* for publication review. For my dissertation research, I am doing a three-paper series. For the first paper, I am undertaking archival case research on Native women and femmes who have been fatally injured by intimate partner violence in the United States and reporting on the variables via quantitative analysis as well as the rate of commercial sexual exploitation among victims. For my second paper, I will be interviewing loved ones to build a better picture of the victim's life story to gather information on common themes and risk factors within the victim's stories. Lastly, for the third paper, I will be carrying out a mixed-methods study analyzing variables from both the interviews and archival research to assess what variables are associated with increased risk factors and if commercial sexual exploitation increases the risk of homicide. I was able to secure a \$10,000 dissertation award from the Center of American Indian and Indigenous Studies at the University of Washington, as well as three years of funding via the

Minority Fellowship Program from the Council of Social Work Education to support my research.

With many Indigenous women going missing or being murdered, I intend to create a career and framework of scholarship centered around Anishinaabe teachings in my work. The most important of these teachings is humility and the emphasis placed on what you can do for your community, not what your community can do for you. By creating Indigenous-centered and focused community research around violence, I intend to facilitate and disseminate research to the community led by the community.