

Curriculum Vitae

**Matt Ventresca**, PhD

School of History and Sociology

Georgia Institute of Technology

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## EMPLOYMENT

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- 2016 to present      **Postdoctoral Fellow: Sports, Society, and Technology Program**  
 School of History and Sociology  
 Georgia Institute of Technology
- 2016                    **Term Adjunct Assistant Professor**  
 School of Kinesiology and Health Studies  
 Queen's University

## EDUCATION

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- 2010 - 2016            **Doctor of Philosophy: Socio-cultural Studies of Sport, Health and the Body - Queen's University**  
 Dissertation: *Mo Bros: Masculinity, Irony and the Rise of Movember*  
 Supervisor: Dr. Samantha King
- 2007 - 2009            **Masters of Arts in Popular Culture - Brock University**  
 Thesis: *'Bonds Away': Baseball Mythology and the 2007 Home Run Chase*  
 Supervisor: Dr. Nick Baxter-Moore
- 2002 - 2006            **Hons. Bachelor of Arts: Semiotics and Communication Theory**  
 University of Toronto

## RESEARCH

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### Journal Articles

- Ventresca, M.** & Bridel, W. (under review). "I weeded as needed:" Narrating the NFL's cannabis debates. *Sport in Society*.
- Ventresca, M.** (2018, in press). The curious case of CTE: Mediating materialities of traumatic brain injury. *Communication & Sport*.
- Ventresca, M.** & J. Brady (2015). Food for thought: Notes on food, performance, and the athletic body. *J. of Sport and Social Issues*, 39(5), 412-426.
- Norman, M., **Ventresca, M.**, Szto, C. & Darnell, S. (2015). Driving to the 'net: Blogs, frames and politics in the New York Islanders' stadium saga. *J. of Sport and Social Issues*, 39(1), 19-39.
- Brady, J. & **Ventresca, M.** (2014). 'Officially a vegan now:' On meat and renaissance masculinity in pro football. *Food & Foodways*, 22, 300-321.
- King, S., Carey, S., Jinnah, N., Millington, R., Philipson, A., Prouse, C. & **Ventresca, M.** (2014). When is a drug not a drug? Troubling silences and unsettling painkillers in the National Football League. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 31, 249-266.

**Ventresca, M.** (2011). "There's something about Barry: Media representations of a home run king." *NINE: A Journal of Baseball History and Culture*, 20(2), 56-80.

## **Books**

**Ventresca, M.** *Mo Bros: Ironic masculinity and the rise of Movember*. (Proposal accepted and submission of completed manuscript formally invited by McGill-Queen's University Press – Expected submission date: March 2018).

## **Book Chapters**

Brady, J., Millious, V. & **Ventresca, M.** (2016). Problematizing milk: Considering production beyond the food system. Anderson, C., Brady, J. & Levkoe, C. (eds.). *Conversations in Food Studies*. Winnipeg, MN: University of Manitoba Press, pp. 75-96.

## **Book Reviews and Unpublished Theses**

**Ventresca, M.** (2010). Review of the book *Canuck rock: A history of Canadian popular music* by R. Edwardson. *Popular Music and Society* 33(4), 571-573.

**Ventresca, M.** (2009). 'Bonds away': Baseball mythology and the 2007 home run chase. Master's thesis, Brock University, St. Catharines.

## **Fellowships, Grants, and Awards**

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| 2016        | <b>Faculty of Kinesiology Research Seed Grant</b> (\$50,000)<br>University of Calgary<br>Project Title: Investigating Sport-Related Concussion from a Socio-Cultural Perspective<br>Co-Investigator  |
| 2015        | <b>Sociology of Sport Journal Outstanding Article Award</b><br>North American Society for the Sociology of Sport<br>*For 2014 co-authored article, "When is a drug not a drug? Troubling silences and unsettling painkillers in the National Football League." |
| 2013 – 2014 | <b>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Fellowship</b><br>(\$20,000)  |

## **Selected Conference Presentations, Papers and Posters**

- Ventresca, M.** (2017). The more things change...: Debating hockey violence in a "concussion crisis." Ice in Our Veins: Sociological Examinations of Hockey Session, 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Windsor, ON (November 2017).
- Ventresca, M.** (2017). Reading Minds: Trauma and neuroscience in the age of CTE. Sport, Science and Technology Session, Society for the Social Study of Science and Technology Annual Conference, Boston, MA (August 2017).
- Ventresca, M.** & Bridel, W. (2017). "I Weeded as needed": Representing the NFL's cannabis debates. Representing/Producing Sports and Culture Session, 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Popular Culture Association of Canada, Niagara Falls, ON (May 2017).
- Ventresca, M.** (2016). "No conclusive evidence:" Traumatic brain injuries and epistemologies of ignorance. Sport, Science, and Technology Session, 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Tampa, FL (November 2016).

- Ventresca, M.** (2016). Movember and the limits of ironic masculinity. Masculine Insecurities – Physical Culture Session, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Symposium: Spaces of Gender and Sexual Security, Calgary, AB (June 2016).
- Ventresca, M.** (2015). Interrogating the “Holy Grail:” The cultural politics of concussion science. Sport, Science and Technology Session, Society for the Social Study of Science and Technology Annual Conference, Denver, CO (November 2015).
- Ventresca, M.** (2015). “Pink Concussions:” At the nexus of gender and neuroscience. Sport, Science and Technology Session, 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Santa Fe, NM (November 2015).
- Ventresca, M.** (2015). Investigating “Concussions Inc.” Sport, the commercialization of head injuries and the production of crisis. Communication and Commercial Practices in Sport Session, Canadian Communication Association Annual Conference, Ottawa, ON (June 2015).
- Ventresca, M.** (2015). Moustaches and violent gentlemen: Branding Movember in the culture of professional hockey. Sport, Politics and Commercialization Session, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Popular Culture Association of Canada, Niagara Falls, ON (May 2015).
- Ventresca, M.** (2014). Putting the “head” in *Head Games*: Representing the brain within a concussion “crisis.” Sport, Society and Technology Session, 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, Portland, OR (Nov. 2014).
- Ventresca, M.** (2014). The (hidden) costs of “moustache farming:” Movember, consumer culture and the future of brand activism. Consumer Culture and Commodification Session, Canadian Communication Association Annual Conference, St. Catharines, ON (May 2014).
- Ventresca, M.** (2013). “Our moustaches, ourselves:” Subjectivity and consumption in Movember’s online universe. Socio-technical Networks Session, Canadian Communication Association Annual Conference, Victoria, BC (June 2013).

### **Works in Progress**

- Ventresca, M.** Mo Bros: Ironic masculinity and the rise of Movember (book manuscript in production).
- Henne, K. & **Ventresca, M.** “Is CTE a defense for murder?” Aaron Hernandez, brain injuries, and the limits of causation (article manuscript in production – for submission to *Crime, Media, Culture*).
- Ventresca, M.** This is your pain on drugs: The re-framing of cannabis in professional football (article manuscript in production – for submission to *Social Studies of Science*)
- Ventresca, M.** Theorizing evidence in a “concussion crisis”: Somewhere between knowledge and ignorance (book chapter in production – for inclusion in *Sports, Science, and Technology* edited collection).
- Ventresca, M.** What is traumatic about traumatic brain injuries? (book chapter in production – for inclusion in *Critically Examining Sports’ Concussion Crises* edited collection).



## **SERVICE and PUBLIC OUTREACH**

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### **Committees and Board Memberships**

- 2014 - 17      **Director at Large** (elected)  
Popular Culture Association of Canada
- 2016            **Awards Committee Member**  
Sociology of Sport Journal Outstanding Article Award  
North American Society for the Sociology of Sport
- 2015            **Graduate Student Representative**  
Faculty Appointments Committee  
School of Kinesiology and Health Studies - Queen's University
- 2013 - 14      **Graduate Student Representative** (elected)  
Graduate Subcommittee  
School of Kinesiology and Health Studies - Queen's University
- 2013 - 16      **Organizer**  
*Men Who Like Feminism* - Queen's University
- 2012 - 14      **Graduate Student Representative** (elected)  
Academic Subcommittee  
School of Kinesiology and Health Studies - Queen's University
- 2012 - 13      **Graduate Student Representative** (elected)  
Popular Culture Association of Canada

### **Selected Mass Media Appearances**

**Ventresca, M.** (January 16, 2015). What male athletes can learn from women about concussions. *Washington Post* [online].  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2015/01/16/what-male-athletes-can-learn-from-women-about-concussions/>

**Ventresca, M.** (January 16, 2015). Concussions aren't only a medical issue. *The Conversation* [online].  
<https://theconversation.com/concussions-arent-only-a-medical-issue-35304>

### **Selected Online Writing and Features**

Bachynski, K., Henne, K., & **Ventresca, M.** (October 25, 2017). Brain Injury in Sport and its Effects: Entanglements of Science, Law, and Design. *Transmissions: A SSS Companion Blog*.

**Ventresca, M.** (February 20, 2017). Can technology alone solve the "concussion crisis"? *Engaging Sports (The Society Pages)*.  
<https://thesocietypages.org/engagingsports/2017/02/20/can-technology-alone-solve-the-concussion-crisis/>

**Ventresca, M.** (August 7, 2015). Gary Bettman and the politics of ignorance. *Hockey in Society*.  
<http://hockeyinsociety.com/2015/08/07/gary-bettman-and-the-politics-of-ignorance/>

## **Panel Discussions**

What I Wish I Knew When I Was a Graduate Student. Grad student luncheon and panel discussion. 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, November 2, 2017 (Windsor, ON).

Invention, Technology, Sport, and the Body. Lemelson Center Workshop: Invention, Sport, Technology, and Society. The Smithsonian National Museum of American History, September 7-8, 2017 (Washington, D.C.).

Next steps in a curious climate: Being a post-doc in the USA. Special Graduate Student Session: Grad studies, post-docs and beyond: National and international options in a risk society. 7th Annual Meeting of the Popular Culture Association of Canada, May 4, 2017 (Niagara Falls, ON).

Sharing is caring: Making you and your work accessible to the public. Grad student luncheon and panel discussion. 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport, November 5, 2015 (Sante Fe, NM).

IMPACT 2.0: Talking about Concussions. Queen's Concussion Awareness Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Speakers Series, March 19, 2015 (Kingston, ON).

"You Throw like a Feminist!:" Conversations on Sport and Masculinity. Men Who Like Feminism Lecture Series, March 13, 2014 (Kingston, ON).

"The Man Costume:" What it is and Why It's Important to Talk About. Men Who Like Feminism Talk Series, November 13, 2013 (Kingston, ON).

Graduate Student Professional Development Session: Navigating the Job Market (moderator), 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Popular Culture Association of Canada, May 10, 2013 (Niagara Falls, ON).

Activism for Better or for Worse?: Exploring Social Movements in Kinesiology and Health, Queen's University School of Kinesiology and Health Studies Graduate Seminar Series, November 28, 2012 (Kingston, ON).

Across Minds and Bodies: An Interdisciplinary Panel on Pain and the NHL's "Summer of Sorrow," Queen's University School of Kinesiology and Health Studies Graduate Seminar Series, January 25, 2012 (Kingston, ON).