

# Valerie Wexler

## EXPERIENCE

2016-2017, 2020-Current  
Washington, DC

### Consultant

Provide investigative, political, and opposition research, and strategic advice to progressive organizations and campaigns.

- Wrote research books on congressional and state-level candidates, each examining the candidate's background, financial history, and areas of controversy.
- Assisted client organization Good Jobs Nation on strategy.
- Assisted client organization Sum of Us in researching ties between police departments and white supremacist organizations and ties between police foundations and corporations.
- Assisted client organization Catholics for Choice in investigating the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' lobbying activities at federal and state levels.
- Advise clients and provide guidance on types of narratives that can be constructed.

2016-Current  
Washington, DC

### Organizer

Organizer with local groups in DC focused on racial justice, including Showing Up for Racial Justice DC and Stop Police Terror Project DC.

- Worked with organizers to lead a campaign to mobilize more than 16,000 DC residents in calling for divestment from the DC Metropolitan Police Department.
- Worked with SPTP-DC organizers on a successful campaign to fully fund the Neighborhood Engagement Achieves Results (NEAR) Act.
- One of the leaders of SPTP-DC 's campaign to ban stop-and-frisk in DC.
- Field press requests, manage social media, write press releases and op-eds.
- Conduct research and lead research teams on policing and other DC issues.
- Lead teams working to develop strategy and policy, and plan campaigns with partners.

2017-2020  
Washington, DC

### Political Research Manager, Human Rights Campaign

- Conducted and managed research on federal judicial nominees.
- Conducted research and wrote numerous research briefs on US Senate, House, and state candidates identified as targets by HRC, and consulted with state organizers.
- Managed and led work identifying people who had been affected by discrimination as part of HRC's campaign to pass the Equality Act.
- Investigated right-wing organizations behind anti-LGBTQ laws and policies.
- Monitored news events and managed rapid response.
- Trained and supervised new and less experienced employees.

## SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

Investigative research  
Strategic planning  
Written and verbal  
communication  
Project management  
Organizing  
Policy analysis and  
development  
Editing and proofreading  
Narrative construction

Twitter  
Facebook  
Instagram  
Action Network  
WordPress  
Squarespace

LexisNexis,  
Congress.gov  
FEC records  
EDGAR (SEC)  
Public records requests  
IRS form 990 databases  
Archive.org

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2013-2016  
Washington, DC

## Senior Research Associate, American Bridge 21st Century

- Managed, wrote, and edited major reports on issues such as voter suppression, climate change, workers' rights, and reproductive rights.
- Conducted and directed in-depth research investigating conservative groups and funders, including corporate connections, allegations of wrongdoing, and sources of income.
- Work cited or quoted in outlets including Bloomberg, CNN, NBC, AP, Politico, BuzzFeed, The Hill, The Huffington Post, The Washington Post, and The New York Times.
- Monitored news events and managed rapid response teams.
- Trained and supervised new and less experienced employees.

2012  
Chicago, IL

## Research Fellow, Obama for America

- Worked individually and with a team on in-depth research projects for OFA at Chicago HQ.
- Researched background of President Obama and his previous comments on issues.
- Researched backgrounds of high-profile Romney campaign supporters.

2010-2011  
Washington, DC

## Researcher, Investigative Reporting Workshop

- Researcher for IRW book collaboration with Donald Bartlett and Jim Steele, *What Went Wrong: The Betrayal of the American Dream* (2012 by Hachette and NYT bestseller).
- Assisted IRW executive editor Charles Lewis with in-depth research for his book, *935 Lies*. Research was featured by the National Press Club.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Article: "Follow the Money: The Real Reason Catholic Hospitals Fight for Exemptions," *Conscience Magazine*, CatholicsforChoice.org, November 2021.
- Research featured in *935 Lies: The Future of Truth and the Decline of America's Moral Integrity* (2014, Hachette).

## **EDUCATION**

2006-2010

### Washington College

- Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Minor in Creative Writing
- Merit-based \$40,000 Academic Tuition Scholarship.
- February through June 2009 studied at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa.
- Senior Capstone Project analyzed the influence of pharmaceutical corporations on U.S. policy toward Africa.
- Co-Founder/Editor college literary magazine, *The Colophon*.