

Valerie Wexler

SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

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

Twitter
Facebook
Instagram
Action Network
WordPress
Squarespace
Slack
Word

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

Washington, DC
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EXPERIENCE

2016-2017, 2020-Current
Washington, DC

Research and Strategy Consultant

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

- Wrote research books on congressional and state-level candidates, examining candidates' background, financial history, and areas of controversy. Included competitive House races in PA, IL, and MI.
- Assisted client organization Good Jobs Nation on strategy and provided research investigating outsourcing by federal contractors.
- Assisted client organization Sum of Us in examining ties between white nationalist organizations and police 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 from the information discovered.

2016-Current
Washington, DC

Community Organizer

Core organizer with DC organizations focused on racial justice, including Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) DC and Stop Police Terror Project (SPTP) DC.

- Led a campaign with other organizations to mobilize more than 16,000 DC residents in calling for divestment from the DC Metropolitan Police Department.
- Developed comprehensive guidance that helped thousands of community members craft budget demands around divesting from the DC MPD.
- Worked with SPTP-DC organizers on a successful campaign to fully fund the Neighborhood Engagement Achieves Results (NEAR) Act.
- Created an awareness campaign and training events around SURJ-DC's Alternatives To Calling The Police Resource Guide. Guide used as a template in cities including NY and LA.
- Conduct research and lead research teams on policing and other DC issues.
- Field press requests, manage social media, write press releases and op-eds.

2017-2020
Washington, DC

Political Research Manager, Human Rights Campaign

- Led in-depth research on federal judicial nominees
- Conducted research and wrote research briefs on 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 bills and policies.
- Monitored news events and managed rapid response
- Trained and supervised new and less experienced employees.

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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 workers' rights, voter suppression, and reproductive rights.
- Conducted and directed in-depth research investigating right-wing groups and funders, including corporate connections, allegations of wrongdoing, and sources of income.
- More than 19 reports published, including investigations into radical organizations behind state abortion restrictions, the NRA's ties to the gun industry, and the Koch brothers.
- 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.
- Tracked and monitored legislation.
- 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 Barlett and Jim Steele, *What Went Wrong: The Betrayal of the American Dream* (Hachette, 2012 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* (Hachette, 2014).

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*.