

# Valerie Wexler

## SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

Investigative research

Written and verbal  
communication

Project management

Strategic planning

Organizing and advocacy

Policy analysis

Editing and proofreading

Narrative construction

Media monitoring

Twitter

Facebook

Instagram

Action Network

Slack

WordPress

Squarespace

LexisNexis

Congress.gov

FEC records

EDGAR (SEC)

Public records requests

IRS form 990 databases

State and local databases and  
records

PACER

Archive.org

Washington, DC

[ValerieWexler.com](http://ValerieWexler.com)

## EXPERIENCE

2016-2018, 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' backgrounds, financial history, and areas of controversy. Included competitive House races in PA, IL, and MI.
- Investigated outsourcing by federal contractors for client organization Good Jobs Nation.
- Examined ties between police foundations and corporations for client organization Ekō.
- Conducted investigations and produced a report on the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' lobbying activities for client organization Catholics for Choice.
- Investigated voter suppression and gerrymandering, focusing on the work of Thomas Hofeller, for documentary project Draw the Line. Research included examinations of Hofeller's consulting firms, associates, and private redistricting files.
- Currently a policy advocacy consultant with the organization Masa Group.
- Advise clients and provide guidance on types of narratives that can be constructed.

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 on the DC government to divest from the DC Metropolitan Police Department.
- Developed comprehensive guidance that helped thousands of community members craft budget and policy 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.
- Designed research trainings tailored for organizers and researched and analyzed policy.
- Draft and pitch op-eds, write press releases, talking points, and social media toolkits.
- Field press requests and maintain relationships with media.

2018-2020

Washington, DC

### Political Research Manager, Human Rights Campaign

- Led in-depth research on federal judicial nominees and used research to assist HRC staff preparing to testify before the Senate.
- Conducted research and wrote research briefs on Senate, House, and state candidates identified as targets by HRC, and consulted with state organizers.
- Managed cross-department work in support 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 the Koch brothers and Koch Industries, the NRA's ties to the gun industry, and the right-wing organizations behind anti-abortion legislation.
- 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 Barlett and Jim Steele, NYT bestseller *What Went Wrong: The Betrayal of the American Dream* (Hachette, 2012).
- 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*.