

Dr. Amy Cooter has been studying different groups connected to rightwing extremism for more than 15 years. Her general research interests examine the intersections of whiteness, masculinity, and nationalism. She has a BA in sociology and psychology from Vanderbilt University and a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Michigan. While at Michigan, she became one of only a few researchers to speak directly with militia members about their units and about their personal motivations for joining militia groups. Through interviews, and ethnographic fieldwork at militia events, she gained insights into how members understand their groups' ideology and actions and she continues to study the movement through present day. Dr. Cooter consults with academics, journalists, and law enforcement internationally, and is considered one of the foremost experts of the modern militia movement. Her work may be found in a variety of publications, including *The Conversation* and *Scientific American*.