

Robert W. Turner II

Graduate Center, CUNY
Arnold L. Mitchem Dissertation Fellow, Marquette University



Robert Winston Turner II

American Sociological Association: Minority Fellowship Program (NIMH Funding)

Arnold L Mitchem Dissertation Fellowship: Marquette University

Robert is a doctoral candidate in sociology at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. His dissertation, "Not For Long: The life of the NFL athlete," examines how the structural inequalities of the NFL—particularly those of economics and race—impact athletes after leaving the game. The project draws largely on in-depth interviews and observations conducted with 120 present and former

NFL athletes and members of the NFL community, highlighting athletes' labor struggles against management, economic hardship, forced retirement, physical and mental health problems, and family conflicts. Along with receiving a four-year athletic scholarship and earning a degree in communications from James Madison University, Robert played football professionally for three different leagues over a four-year span. In addition to attending graduate school, Robert serves on the board of director of the Reaching Out Together Foundation, a non-profit organization that works with present and former NFL athletes to encourage academic achievement, health promotion, social responsibility, and general life skills awareness among student athletes from economically disadvantaged communities. Robert was born in Newark, NJ, and attended Piscataway High School in Middlesex County, NJ.



Eye in the Sky: Discipline and the Black NFL Athlete

Monday, April 5, 2010

11:30 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.

140 Prospect, Room 102B

Workshop in Urban Ethnography