

CALENDAR EVENT: April 29, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**“Side Hustle Safety Net:
How Vulnerable Workers Survive Precarious Times”**

KSQD 90.7FM “Be Bold America!” Sunday,

May 5, 2024 at 5:00pm (PT)

Back in 1929 when the market crashed and the Great Depression began, Uber, TaskRabbit, and the **gig economy were almost a century in the future**. So why are the laws we use to protect the workers who power those businesses **unchanged from 100 years ago?**

As we **learned with startling clarity** during the unprecedented economic upheaval of the pandemic, our social safety net legislation is divorced from **how Americans on the margins survive today**.

Government policies have not kept up with the changing nature of how we work, and **too many people—the forgotten jobless of the gig-economy who don’t qualify for government assistance—are falling through the cracks**. While the relief money provided during the

pandemic was a godsend for millions, for others, namely workers like drivers, delivery people, and handymen, **that vital assistance never came due to archaic and pro-business unemployment laws.**

Interview Guest:

Alexandrea Ravenelle, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in Sociology at the **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**. Her first book, *Hustle and Gig: Struggling and Surviving in the Sharing Economy* has been translated into Korean, Spanish, and Traditional Chinese.

Dr. Ravenelle's research has been published in *The New York Times*; *Regions, Economy and Society*; *Journal of Managerial Psychology*; *Consumption Markets and Culture*; and *New Media & Society*.

She is the recipient of grants from **the National Science Foundation and Russell Sage Foundation to study the impact of COVID-19 on precarious workers in New York**, and funding from **the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation to study the impact of elite gig work.**

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