

KAREN L. CHRISTOPHER

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CURRENT POSITION

Associate Professor of Sociology and Women's & Gender Studies, University of Louisville

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Sociology and Women's & Gender Studies, University of Louisville
(2002-2006)

Assistant Professor of Sociology and Teaching Faculty in Women's Studies,
University of Pittsburgh (2000-2002)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (2000)

Sociology, University of Arizona. Tucson, Arizona

Title: "The Effects of Family, Work, and Welfare on Mothers' Poverty in the U.S. and Across Western Nations"; Chairs, Paula England and Richard Arum

M.A. (1996)

Sociology, University of Arizona. Tucson, Arizona

Title: "Explaining The Recent Employment Gap Between Black and White Women"
Chair, Paula England

B.A. (1994)

Sociology and Spanish

Emory University. Atlanta, Georgia

Magna Cum Laude graduate, Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Kappa Delta

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

Recipient, Internal Research Initiative Grant, University of Louisville, Fall 2008 for \$2094 and Fall 2003 for \$3034

Recipient, Arts & Sciences Internal Research Grant, University of Louisville, Spring 2007, \$1900

Faculty Favorite Teaching Recognition, 2010-11, 2013-4

Recipient, University of Pittsburgh FAS Faculty Type I Research Grant, \$4000, April 2001

Recipient, Pre-doctoral Fellowships from the MacArthur Research Network on the Family and the Economy, \$17,000 each, October 1998-June 1999 and July 1999-June 2000

Recipient, 1999 Social and Behavioral Sciences Graduate Teaching Award

Recipient, 1999 Sociology Department Graduate Teaching Award

Recipient, 1998 Sociology Department Dissertation Award

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Sociology of Families; Gender and Work; Gender, Race, and Class; Motherhood;
Research Methods; Qualitative Methods; Stratification; Masculinities

COURSES TAUGHT

University of Louisville

Sociology of Families
Feminist Research Methods in the Social Sciences (graduate)
Masculinities
Gender and Work
Gender, Work and Families (graduate)
Motherhood: Myth and Realities (graduate)
Gender, Race, Work, and Welfare (graduate)
Introduction to Women in American Culture
Global Issues and Feminism
Gender and Health Care

University of Pittsburgh

Research Design (graduate)
Sociology of Gender
Social Research Methods

University of Arizona, graduate instructor

Minority Relations in Urban Society
Sociology of Gender
Sociology of Women
Sociology of Sexuality

WORKS PUBLISHED

Conditionally accepted, 2017. Brittany Williams, Karen Christopher, and Jennifer Sinski.

"Celebrity mom profiles and mothers' accounts of their postpartum bodies," at
Sexualization, Media, & Society.

Forthcoming, 2017. "Family-friendly Working Conditions," for *Female Counterparts: Gender, Equity and Survival in the Academy*, edited by Sherwood Thompson. Rowman & Littlefield publishers, expected publication March.

2016 "Paid Leaves as Buffer Zones: Policy contexts and work-life balance among Canadian mothers." *Journal of Research on Women & Gender*, (on-line), June.

2013 "African American and Latinas' Mothering Scripts: An Intersectional Analysis." *Advances in Gender Research*, Volume 17: 189-210.

- 2012 "Extensive Mothering: Employed Mothers' Constructions of the Good Mother." *Gender & Society*, 26(1):73-96.
- 2012 With Avery Kolers. "Halving it Both Ways: Co-parenting in an academic couple," in *Academic motherhood in a post-second wave context: Challenges, strategies and possibilities* (298-308), Demeter Press.
- 2009 "Mother as Provider: Student welfare recipients' narratives of paid and unpaid work." *Race, Class & Gender* 16(3-4): 185-202.
- 2007 "Reassessing Welfare Reform Data: A Response to Cherry." *Feminist Economics* 13(2):197-202.
- 2006 "The Poverty Line Forty Years Later: Alternative Poverty Measures and Women's Lives". *Race, Class & Gender*, 12(2):33-51. (Printing delayed due to Hurricane Katrina)
- 2005 "Welfare Recipients Attending College: The Interplay of Oppression and Resistance." *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, 32(3):165-185.
- 2005 "A 'Pauperization of Motherhood'? : Single Motherhood and Women's Poverty over Time" in *Journal of Poverty* 9(3):1-23.
- 2005 "Momentary Pleasures: Encounters and Fleeting Relationships At a Singles Dance." Irene Beattie, Karen Christopher, Dina Okamoto, and Sandra Way. Pp. 46-65 in *Together Alone: Personal Relationships in Public Places*, edited by Calvin Morrill, David Snow, and Cindy White. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
- 2004 "Welfare as We Don't Know It: A Review and Feminist Critique of Welfare Reform Research," at *Feminist Economics*, July 10(2):143-171.
- 2002 "The Gender Gap in Poverty in Modern Nations: Single Motherhood, the Market and the State." Karen Christopher, Paula England, Timothy Smeeding, Katherin Ross Phillips (Karen Christopher first author). In *Sociological Perspectives*, 45(3):219-242.
- 2002 "Caregiving, Welfare States, and Mothers' Poverty." Pp. 113-128 in *Child Care and Inequality: Re-thinking Carework for Children and Youth*, editors Francesca Cancian, Demi Kurz, Andrew London, Rebecca Reviere and Mary Tuominen. New York: Routledge.
- 2002 "Single Motherhood, Employment, or Social Assistance: Why are U.S. Women Poorer than Women in Other Affluent Nations?" *Journal of Poverty* 6(2):61-80.
- 2002 "Welfare State Regimes and Mothers' Poverty." In *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State and Society*. 9(1):60-86.

- 2002 "Family Friendly Europe." *The American Prospect* 13(7), April 8.
- 2004 Reprinted in *Solutions to Social Problems, Lessons from Other Societies*, 3rd edition. D. Stanley Eitzen and Craig Leedham, pp. 107-111. Boston: Pearson.
- 2001 "Gender Inequality in Poverty in Affluent Nations: The Role of Single Motherhood and the State." Karen Christopher, Paula England, Sara McLanahan, Katherin Ross, and Timothy Smeeding (Karen Christopher first author). Pp. 199-219 in *Child Well-being, Child Poverty, and Child Policy in Modern Nations*, edited by Koen Vleminckx and Timothy Smeeding. Bristol UK: The Policy Press.
- 1999 "How Do Intersections of Race, Ethnicity and Gender Affect Pay Among Young Cohorts of African Americans, European Americans, and Latino/as?" Paula England, Karen Christopher, and Lori Reid. Pp. 139-182 in *Race, Gender and Economic Inequality: African American and Latina Women in the Labor Market*, edited by Irene Browne. NY: Russell Sage.
- 1996 "Explaining the Recent Employment Gap Between Black and White Women." *Sociological Focus* 29(3):263-280.
- 1996 "On the Road to Equity in the Labor Market." Paula England and Karen Christopher. Pp.83-90 in *Arizona Women's Town Hall: The 21st Century Workforce*. 1996. The University of Arizona.

Research Reports:

- 2016 "Job Dissatisfaction among KentuckyOne Nurses." Submitted to KentuckyOne Health, March 2016. Cited in the *Louisville Courier Journal* June 25, 2016.

Works Submitted/Under Peer Review:

"Rogovin and the Forgotten Women." Chapter under review for book manuscript accepted at *University of Kentucky Press*.

GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORSHIP

Major M.A. Advisor:

Teela Davis, M.A. Sociology 2003, Natalie Call, 2004, M.A. in Sociology, Cara Tuttle Bell, M.A. in WGST Spring 2006, Stacia Kock, M.A. in WGST Spring 2006, Erin Ridelle, M.A. in WGST, Spring 2008, Sonita Arnold, M.A. In Soc, Spring 2011
 Erin Herbert, M.A. in Soc, Spring 2011, Kelsie Patton, M.A. in WGST, Spring 2012, Jennifer Welch, M.A. in WGST, Spring 2012, Brittany Williams, M.A. in WGST, Spring 2013, Jessy Lyons, M.A. in WGST, Fall 2013, Shritha Vaseduvan, M.A. in WGST, Spring 2014

Major Ph.D. Advisor:

Cheryl Crane, Ph.D. in Sociology, defended December 2016

SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSION

Service to the University:

1. Departmental

Admissions Committee, WGS, 2010-present

Personnel Committee, WGS, alternate member, 2003-5, 2009-11, 2014

Chair, 2006-8. 2012, 2013

Personnel Committee, Sociology, 2003, 2010, 2013, 2017

Graduate Committee, Sociology, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

WGST Advisor, 2006- Spring 2008.

Curriculum Committee, Women's Studies, 2001- 2007

Maddox Prize, Women's Studies, Spring 2003, 2017

Campus Preview Day Representative, Fall 2003

Curriculum Committee, Sociology, 2001-2003; Chair, 2004-05

2. College (A & S)

Chair, Faculty Assembly (decision-making body of 375 Arts & Sciences Faculty), 2016-7

Speaker, Meet the Professor Series, December 2015

Admission and Appeals Committee, 2006, Co-chair 2007-8; 2016-7

A&S Diversity Awards Committee, 2010

Yocom Scholarship Committee, 2005-2016 (every year)

Phi Beta Kappa Speakers Committee, 2010, 2011, 2014

Faculty Mentor for Research Experiences for Undergraduates, an NSF-sponsored program, summer 2006

3. University Wide

Faculty Mentor for Brown Fellows, 2011-2015

Faculty Grievance Committee, 2014, 2016-7

Chair of Family-Friendly Policies Committee under Great Places to Work Program in Provost's Office. Fall 2009-Spring 2010; member 2011-2014

Member, 21st Century Committee on Engagement, 2013-2014

Speaker: for Commission on the Status of Women, 9/16; On film *Four Little Girls*

9/14; On "Gender, Women, Violence, & Poverty" at Conversation Café series

sponsored by First-Year Initiatives and PEACC Center at Cultural Center, 10/12;

On "Women, Work and Poverty" for Feminist Alliance, 10/08; On "Why I am a

Feminist" for the Faculty Research Forum, Commonwealth Center for the

Humanities, 2/06; On "Women and Work" for Diversity Committee of the School of

Public Health and Information Sciences, 11/06; On "Gender Privilege" for Gen 101,

9/03; For National Forum for Black Public Administrators, 11/22/02; For Intensive

English Program's Conference on American Culture, 11/8/02

Service to the Community

Member of Site-Based Decision-Making Council, Hawthorne Elementary, 2011-13.
Speaker, State of Affairs, Local Radio show, on the Shriver Report on Women & Work. 3/10.
Volunteer at Hawthorne Elementary, Every1Reads program, 2013.
Seven speeches for community groups from 2003-2010.
Advised Women 4 Women's Strategic Planning Committee, spring/summer 2010.
Board member of Women in Transition, an organization comprised of current and former welfare recipients, 2004-2007. Volunteer for WIT, 2008-2010.

Service to the Profession

Discussant for 2010 ESS session, Construction and Negotiation of Femininities.
Discussant for 2007 ASA session, "Gender and the Welfare State."
Discussant and Presider for 2003 ASA session, "Welfare Reform"
Discussant and Presider for 2002 ASA session, "Gender, Race and the Welfare State"
Discussant and Presider for 2002 ASA Gender Roundtable Session on "Gender, Adolescence, and Family Issues"

Editorial Reviewer, *Journal of Poverty* (2002-2012).

Reviewer for *Gender & Society*, *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, *Social Problems*, *Feminist Economics*, *Journal of Women's History*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *American Sociological Review*, *Hypatia*, *Pittsburgh Undergraduate Review*, National Science Foundation (2003).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SINCE 2000)

- 2016 Motherhood Institute for Research and Community Involvement (MIRCI), (Toronto, Canada). "'You are angry at the world': Work-to-family Conflict in the Nursing Profession."
- 2014 Southern Sociological Association (Charlotte, NC). "'The year leave is Amazing: North American mothers' accounts of paid leaves."
- 2013 Southern Sociological Association (Atlanta). Invited. "On the question of having it all: Female professors discuss work-family balance."
- 2011 American Sociological Association. (Las Vegas). "'But I'm in Charge'": Extensive Mothering among Employed Mothers."
- 2010 Eastern Sociological Association. (Boston). "Extensive Motherhood: Employment and Caregiving Narratives among Mothers with Young Children."
- 2009 Pacific Sociological Association. (San Diego). "Shifting policies and heightened inequalities."
- 2008 Rouge Forum. (Louisville, KY). "Mother as provider: Student Welfare Recipients' Narratives of paid and unpaid work."
- 2007 American Sociological Association (New York) "Welfare recipients in the university: Resisting and reflecting dominant discourses on paid and unpaid work."

- 2006 American Sociological Association. "Parenthood in the University: Contradictions among Welfare-Recipient Students"
- 2004 International Association of Feminist Economics Annual Meeting. (Oxford, England) "Welfare as We Don't Know It: A Review and Feminist Critique of Welfare Reform Research."
- 2003 American Sociological Association (Atlanta, GA) "Welfare as We Don't Know It: A Review and Feminist Critique of Welfare Reform Research"
- 2002 American Sociological Association (Chicago, IL). "A 'Pauperization of Motherhood'? U.S. Mothers' Poverty Over Time."
- 2001 (Invited) Women's Studies Lecture Series, University of Louisville (Louisville, KY) "Single Mothers, Welfare and Work: Why are U.S. Mothers Poorer than Their Western Counterparts?"
- 2001 Institute for Women's Policy Research Conference (Washington D.C.) "A 'Pauperization of Motherhood'? Mothers' Poverty in the U.S. Over Time."
- 2000 Carework Conference (Washington D.C.) "Caregiving and Social Policy: Are 'Breadwinner' Welfare States Friendly to Mothers and Single Mothers?"

REFERENCES

Patricia Gagne, PhD
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