

Jessica Polos

Institute for Policy Research
Northwestern University
2040 Sheridan Road
Chicago, IL 60208
W: www.jessicapolos.com
E: jessica.polos@northwestern.edu
P: 224-875-5377

EDUCATION

- 2020 Ph.D., Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
 Predoctoral Trainee, Center for Demography and Ecology and Center for the Demography of Health and Aging, Supported by the National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development (T32) and the National Institute on Aging (T32)
 Dissertation: “Population Perspectives at the Intersection of the Epidemiologic Transition and the Gender Revolution: Essays on Fertility, Child Health and Caregiving”
 Committee: Jason Fletcher (chair), Jenna Nobles, Michal Engelman, Deborah Ehrenthal (Population Health Sciences) and John Mullahy (Population Health Sciences)
 Preliminary exams: Demography and Ecology; Sociology of the Family
- 2010 Master of Public Policy, University of Chicago
- 2004 B.A., Anthropology, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
 B.A., International Studies, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
 Summa cum laude

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2020 – 2022 Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for Policy Research (IPR), Northwestern University
 Mentor: Prof. Thomas McDade, Department of Anthropology and IPR

PUBLICATIONS

- Polos, Jessica**, Thomas McDade, and Stephanie Koning. “Do Intersecting Identities Structure Social Contexts to Influence Life Course Health? The Case of School Peer Economic Disadvantage and Obesity.” (*forthcoming in Social Science & Medicine*)

Ophir, Ariane and **Jessica Polos**. 2021. "Care Life Expectancy: Gender and Unpaid Work in the Context of Population Aging." *Population Research and Policy Review*.

Winner of the Best Student Paper Award, Sociology of Population Section, American Sociological Association

Polos, Jessica and Jason Fletcher. 2019. "Caesarean Section and Children's Health: A Quasi-Experimental Design." *Population Studies*.

Fletcher, Jason and **Jessica Polos**. 2018. "Nonmarital and Teen Fertility." In *The Oxford Handbook of Women and the Economy*. Ed. Susan L. Averett, Laura M. Argys, and Saul D. Hoffman: Oxford University Press.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Koning, Stephanie, **Jessica Polos**, Kiarri Kershaw, and Thomas McDade. "Racial inequalities in low birth weight among college-educated mothers in the United States: The role of life-course SES." (*R&R, American Journal of Preventive Medicine*)

Polos, Jessica. "Consequences of Medical Labels for Mothers and Infants: Structural Stigmatization or Beneficial Treatments?"

Winner of the Best Poster Award, PAA 2021

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER PREPARATION

Polos, Jessica. "Breastfeeding Promotion Programs as Intensive Parenting Treatments: Impacts on Class Convergence in Parenting Style, Child Development, and Maternal Mental Health."

Polos, Jessica. "Super-Structural Discrimination in the Generation of Health Inequalities."

PRESENTATIONS

2021 **Polos, Jessica**, Stephanie Koning, and Thomas McDade. "Do Intersecting Identities Structure Social Contexts to Influence Life Course Health? The Case of School Peer Economic Disadvantage and Obesity." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (virtually held). Paper Session on Health, Mortality, and Inequality.

2021 **Polos, Jessica**. "Consequences of Medical Labels for Mothers and Infants: Structural Stigmatization or Beneficial Treatments?" American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (virtually held). Roundtable Session on Social Construction of Bodies and Health.

- 2021 **Polos, Jessica.** “Consequences of Medical Labels for Mothers and Infants: Structural Stigmatization or Beneficial Treatments?” Population Association of America Annual Meeting (virtually held). Poster Presentation.
- 2021 **Polos, Jessica,** Stephanie Koning, and Thomas McDade. “Intersecting Identities and Contextual Disadvantage: Paradoxical Implications for Life Course Obesity.” University of Chicago Demography Workshop, Chicago, IL. (invited presentation)
- 2020 **Polos, Jessica.** “Feedback Consequences of Spurious Associations of Advantage,” IAPHS Annual Meeting, Online due to Covid-19. (poster presentation)
- 2020 **Polos, Jessica.** “Linking Kin Networks and Mortality in the Context of the U.S. Demographic Transition,” Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (poster presentation; withdrawn due to Covid-19)
- 2020 Ophir, Ariane and **Jessica Polos.** “Lifelong Caring: Caregiving across the Life Course in the Context of Population Aging,” CDHA 20th Anniversary Symposium, Madison, WI.
- 2018 Ophir, Ariane and **Jessica Polos.** “Lifelong Caring: Caregiving across the Life Course in the Context of Population Aging,” Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- 2016 **Polos, Jessica** and Jason Fletcher. “Cesarean Section, the Gut Microbiome and Children’s Health: A Quasi-Experimental Design,” Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 2015 **Polos, Jessica.** “Breastfeeding and the Black-White Education Gap,” Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. (invited presentation)

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2021 Best Poster Award, Population Association of America
- 2020 Best Student Paper Award, Sociology of Population Section, American Sociological Association
- 2019 – 2020 National Institute on Aging Traineeship
- 2015 – 2019 National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Traineeship
- 2015 – 2016 Graduate Student Fellow, Institute for Research on Poverty
- 2008 – 2010 University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy, Irving B. Harris Fellowship
- 2004 Phi Beta Kappa
- 2004 University of Illinois, University/Bronze Tablet Honors
- 2000 – 2004 University of Illinois, James Honors Scholar

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIPS

- 2020 – 2021 Member, IAPHS
- 2020 – 2021 Mentorship Program, IAPHS
- 2019 – 2020 Aging, Health, and Place Working Group, UW-Madison
- 2014 – Present Member, Population Association of America

2018 – 2020 Member, Center for Reproductive Equity
2014 – 2019 Member, WiscPAL
2016, 2020, 2021 Member, American Sociological Association
2009 Leadership in Chicago Fellow

SERVICE

2021 American Sociological Association Conference Table Presider
2020 Search Committee, Department of Sociology
2020 Peer Reviewer, *Demography*, *Social Science and Medicine*, *Social Science and Medicine - Population Health*, *Child and Youth Services Review*
2015, 2017 Mentor, Department of Sociology, UW Madison

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2010 – 2014 University of Chicago
Founding Associate Director, Energy Policy Institute at Chicago, 2011-2014
International Program Coordinator, 2010-2011

- Established collaborations with external research and funding agencies, including NORC, Argonne National Laboratory, and the Illinois Science and Energy Innovation Foundation
- Assisted in writing grant proposals to NSF, EPA, DOE, and foundations
- Coordinated programs and training opportunities, including annual conferences, lecture series, academic courses, and experiential learning opportunities
- Diplomatically managed critical relationships with students, advisory board members, donors, university leaders, and external business and policy collaborators

2005 – 2008 Illinois Office of the Comptroller
Policy Analyst, 2006 – 2008
Government Career Trainee, 2005

- Conducted financial and legislative research to analyze complex public policy issues and presented findings at state conferences and meetings
 - Evaluated and prepared policy initiatives on public-private partnerships, Medicaid reform, state funded stem-cell research, and K-12 and higher education, resulting in legislative changes and revised policy outlooks
 - Crafted press releases and communications to convey important policy issues to the public
-

SKILLS & SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Languages: Spanish (fluent); French (basic)
Statistical Programs: STATA, R

REFERENCES

Jason Fletcher
Professor of Public Affairs and Sociology
University of Wisconsin-Madison
jason.fletcher@wisc.edu
Phone: 608-262-4436

Jenna Nobles
Professor of Sociology
University of Wisconsin-Madison
jnobles@ssc.wisc.edu
608-262-4024

Michal Engelman
Associate Professor of Sociology
University of Wisconsin-Madison
mengelman@ssc.wisc.edu
Phone: 608-262-9856

Thomas McDade
Professor of Anthropology
Northwestern University
t-mcdade@northwestern.edu
847-467-4304