
ARA FRANCIS, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae
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CONTACT

Associate Professor of Sociology
Department of Sociology & Anthropology
College of the Holy Cross
One College Street
Worcester, MA 01610
Tel: (530) 574-8736
Email: afrancis@holycross.edu

EDUCATION

- 2008 Ph.D. Sociology, University of California-Davis.
2003 M.A. Sociology, University of California-Davis.
2000 B.A. Sociology, University of Colorado, Boulder, summa cum laude.
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APPOINTMENTS

- 2016-present Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, College of the Holy Cross.
2017-2020 Director, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, College of the Holy Cross.
2009-2016 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, College of the Holy Cross.
2008-2009 Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of California-Davis.
2001-2008 Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, University of California-Davis.
2000 English Instructor, Huaiyin Teacher's College, Jiangsu, China.
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AREAS OF INTEREST & EXPERTISE

Social Psychology/Micro-Sociology	Death and Dying
Trouble, Deviance, and Disruption	Gender, Parenthood, and Family
Health and Illness	Qualitative Methods

COURSES

- The Sociological Perspective
- Self and Society
- Deviance, Normalcy, and Social Control
- Death and Society (Montserrat Course)
- Sociology of End-of-Life Care
- End-of-Life Care (College Honors Course)
- Why We Age & How We Die (Co-taught College Honors Course)
- The Sociology of Trouble
- Sociology of Family
- Qualitative Methods
- Social Relationships

PUBLICATIONS

- Book. 2015. *Family Trouble: Middle-Class Parents, Children's Problems, and the Disruption of Everyday Life*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.
- Articles. In Press. "Gender and Legitimacy in Personal Service Occupations: The Case of End-of-Life Doulas and Death Midwives." *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*.
2012. "The Dynamics of Family Trouble: Middle-Class Parents Whose Children Have Problems." *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* 41 (4): 371-401.
- Reprint, 2013. "The Dynamics of Family Trouble," pp. 434-443 in S. Cahill, K. Sandstrom, and C. Froyum (eds.) *Inside Social Life: Readings in Sociological Psychology and Microsociology*. New York: Oxford University Press.
2012. "Stigma in an Era of Anxious Parenting and Medicalisation: How Proximity and Culpability Shape Middle-Class Parents' Experiences of Disgrace." *Sociology of Health and Illness* 34 (6): 927-942.
2010. "Losing the 'Normal' Child: Ramifications for Middle-Class Mothers." *Journal of the Motherhood Initiative* 1 (2): 68-83.
- Book Chapters & Essays. Forthcoming. "Social Constructionism in the Symbolic Interactionist Tradition" in Wayne Brekhus, Thomas DeGloma, and William Force (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Symbolic Interaction*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

2019. "Epilogue" Pp. 83-99 in *The Craft of Dying: The Modern Face of Death* (Anniversary Edition), by Lyn H. Lofland. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

2015. "Hurricane Katrina, Parenting Trouble, and the Politics of Suffering" with D. Harvey, Pp. 401-411 in R. Anderson (ed.) *World Suffering Book*. New York: Springer.

2013. "On (Not) Practicing What We Preach" with J. Bakehorn, *Pedagogies Essay, Contexts*, 12 (4): 80-83.

2013. "Normal Problems or Problem Children? Parents and the Micro-Politics of Deviance and Disability" Pp. 85-96 in J.R. McCarthy, C. Hooper, and V. Gillies (eds.) *Family Troubles? Exploring Changes and Challenges in the Family Lives of Children and Young People*. Bristol, UK: The Policy Press.

2013. "Family Trouble, Methods Trouble: Qualitative Research and the Methodological Divide" Pp. 59-69 in J.R. McCarthy, C. Hooper, and V. Gillies (eds.) *Family Troubles? Exploring Changes and Challenges in the Family Lives of Children and Young People*. Bristol, UK: The Policy Press.

Book Reviews
& Encyclopedia
Entries.

2019. "Discreditable Stigma" with S. R. Chaudoir and V. A. Earnshaw in G. Ritzer (Ed.), *Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology* (2nd Ed.). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.

2017. "Book Review: Doulas and Intimate Labor: Boundaries, Bodies and Birth." *Journal of the Motherhood Initiative*, 8 (1-2).

2014. "Book Review: Depression: Integrating Science, Culture, and Humanities." *Teaching Sociology*, 42 (3): 252-253.

2011. "Book Review: Self, Attitudes, and Emotion Work: Western Social Psychology and Eastern Zen Buddhism Confront Each Other." *Teaching Sociology* 39 (2): 216-217.

2010. "Mothering Children With Disabilities" in A. O'Reilly (ed.) *Encyclopedia of Motherhood*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS, PAPERS, & PRESENTATIONS

- September 2019. "Gender, Class, and Race in the Occupational Narratives of Alternative Death Care Pioneers." Paper presented at the 14th International Conference on the Social Context of Death, Dying, and Disposal. Bath, UK.
- March 2019. "Death & Dying," Invited Panelist, Presidential Thematic Conversation at the annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society. Boston, MA.
- June 2018. "Gender and Legitimacy in Alternative Death Care." Poster, presented at the annual meetings of the Center for Death and Society, University of Bath. Bath, UK.
- February 2018. "The Professionalization of Personal Care: The Case of Death Midwives and End-of-Life Doulas." Paper presented at a mini conference on carework at the annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society, Baltimore, MD.
- August 2017. "'How are you going to teach heart?' Alternative death care and the dilemma of professionalization." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. Montreal, Canada.
- February 2017. "Death Midwives and End-of-Life Doulas: An Exploratory Study." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society. Philadelphia, PA.
- February 2015. "'Those things you just kind of assume': Middle-Class Parents, Children's Problems, and Taken-for-Grantedness in Everyday Life." Invited paper presented at the annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society, Culture and Cognition Mini-Conference. New York, NY.
- August 2014. *Deviance and Disruption*. Session organizer at the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. San Francisco, CA.
- July 2014. "A Tale of Two Sorrows: Hurricane Katrina, Parenting Trouble, and the Politics of Suffering." Paper presented by coauthor Daina Harvey at the International Sociological Association Meetings, Session on Pain and Social Suffering Around the World. Yokohama, Japan.

- July 2014. *Troubled Youth, Troubled Families?* Session organizer at the International Sociological Association Meetings, Family Research Section. Yokohama, Japan.
- August 2013. "Interactionism, Emotion, and the Sociology of Suffering." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Society, Emotions Section Roundtable. New York, NY.
- March 2013. *The Sociology of Suffering*. Session organizer at the annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society. Boston, MA.
- August 2012. "Mom Can't Walk the Talk: The Chasm Between Sociological Knowledge and Lived Experience." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. Denver, CO.
- April 2012. "Interactionist Contributions to the Study of Suffering." Paper presented at the Couch-Stone Symbolic Interactionist Symposium. Evanston, IL.
- February 2012. "Toward a Generic Understanding of Suffering in Everyday Life: Proposed Research in the Micro-Sociology of Trouble." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Association, Regular Session. New York, NY.
- August 2010. *People in Trouble*. Session organizer at the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. Atlanta, GA.
- July 2010. "Normal Problems or Problem Children? Parents and the Micro-Politics of Deviance and Disability." Paper presented at Family Troubles? Exploring Changes and Challenges in the Lives of Children and Young People, hosted by the Family and Parenting Institute at Open University. London, UK.
- August 2009. "Putting Words to the Sociology of Trouble." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, Regular Session. San Francisco, CA.
- August 2009. "Parenting and Loss: What Children's Problems Tell Us About Motherhood and Fatherhood." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Regular Session. San Francisco, CA.

- August 2008. "Toward a More Nuanced Account of Intensive Mothering: The Case of Caring for 'Problem Children.'" Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Regular Session. Boston, MA.
- April 2008. "Signs of Trouble: How Parents Come to View Their Children as Having Significant Problems." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Pacific Sociological Association, Regular Session. Portland, OR.
- May 2007. "Understanding the Gendered Nature of Intensive Parenting: The Importance of Action and Interaction." Paper presented at Monitoring Parents: Childrearing in the Age of Intensive Parenting, hosted by the University of Kent. Canterbury, UK.
- April 2006. "'Of Course I Feel Guilty': The Experience of Parenting a Problem Child." Paper presented at the Eighth Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference, Roundtable Session. Chicago, IL.

GRANTS, HONORS & AWARDS

2019. Marshall Memorial Funds Recipient, College of the Holy Cross, small grant to support community-based learning.
2018. Marshall Memorial Funds Recipient, College of the Holy Cross, small grant to support community-based learning.
2017. Agnes Williams Career Development Grant, College of the Holy Cross.
2018. Marshall Memorial Funds Recipient, College of the Holy Cross, small grant to support community-based learning.
2016. Research and Publication Award (October), College of the Holy Cross.
2016. Research and Publication Award (April), College of the Holy Cross.
2015. Research and Publication Award, College of the Holy Cross.
2014. Batchelor-Ford Summer Faculty Fellowship, College of the Holy Cross.
2012. Faculty Development Grant, Center for Teaching, College of the Holy Cross.

2011. Batchelor-Ford Summer Faculty Fellowship, College of the Holy Cross.
2011. Ardizzone Junior Faculty Research Award, College of the Holy Cross.
2006. Institute for Governmental Affairs Dissertation Improvement Award, University of California-Davis.
2006. Department of Sociology Block Grant, University of California-Davis.
2005. First Place, Annual Feminist Essay Prize, University of California-Davis.
2000. Val Fisher Award for outstanding scholarship and community service as an undergraduate sociology major, University of Colorado, Boulder.

SERVICE

- 2021-Present. Member of the Editorial Board for *Journal of Aging Studies*.
- 2021-Present. Chair of the Working Group tasked with developing a grievances process for the Holy Cross Committee on Faculty Affairs.
- 2020-2021. Member of the Editorial Board for *Social Psychology Quarterly*, published by the American Sociological Association.
- 2019-2021. Elected member of the Committee on Faculty Affairs, College of the Holy Cross.
- 2017-2018. Member of the Health Professions Advising Committee, College of the Holy Cross.
2017. Helena Lopata Mentor Excellence Award, Selection Committee Chair, Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction.
- 2013-2016. Faculty Advisor for Women's Forum, a feminist student group, College of the Holy Cross.
- 2010-2015. Member of the Health Professions Advising Committee, College of the Holy Cross.
- 2013-2015. Member of the Sexual Assault Facts, Education, and Resources (SAFER) Committee, College of the Holy Cross.

- 2012-2015. Faculty Representative for Alpha Kappa Delta, an international sociological honor society, Holy Cross chapter.
- 2014-2015. Member of the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Executive Committee, College of the Holy Cross.
- 2014-2015. Chair of the Honors Program Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, College of the Holy Cross.
- 2008-2009. Mentor for the Guardian Scholars Program at the University of California, Davis (supports undergraduate students who were previously in the foster care system).
- 2004-2005. Editorial Associate, *Theory and Society: Review and Critique in Social Theory* (peer-reviewed journal).
- 2003-2004. Graduate Student Representative, Undergraduate Program Committee, University of California-Davis.
- 2002-2003. Co-Chair, Graduate Student Sociological Association, University of California-Davis.
- 2002-2003. Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Program Committee, University of California-Davis.
2000. Student Representative, Undergraduate Program Committee, University of Colorado, Boulder.
- 1999-2000. President, Alpha Kappa Delta, Sociological Honor Society, University of Colorado, Boulder.

REFERENCES

Eviatar Zerubavel
 zerubave@rci.rutgers.edu
 Board of Governors Professor of Sociology 848-932-4029
 Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
 26 Nichol Avenue New Brunswick
 New Jersey 08901

Lyn Lofland
 lhlofland@ucdavis.edu
 Research Professor of Sociology 530-752-1585
 University of California, Davis

One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616

Ann Marie Leshkowich
aleskow@holycross.edu
Dean of Faculty
Associate Professor of Anthropology
College of the Holy Cross
1 College Street
Worcester, MA 01610

508-793-2788