

SCHUBERT CENTER *for*
CHILD STUDIES

conference materials

NEW DIRECTIONS IN POLICY-RELEVANT RESEARCH ON ADOLESCENCE:
PERSPECTIVES FROM PSYCHOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY
NOVEMBER 7-8, 2008

NEW DIRECTIONS IN POLICY-RELEVANT RESEARCH ON ADOLESCENCE: PERSPECTIVES FROM PSYCHOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY
SUPPORTED BY THE LEMELSON/SOCIETY FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY CONFERENCE FUND AND THE SCHUBERT CENTER FOR
CHILD STUDIES. CO-SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE CHILDHOOD STUDIES INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM.

welcome

Welcome to the Schubert Center for Child Studies' Conference, **New Directions in Policy-Relevant Research on Adolescence: Perspectives from Psychological Anthropology**. We look forward to an exciting and stimulating day and a half of working together on issues of interest to us all.

At this meeting, we hope to facilitate engaged discussion and connections that highlight the links between research and policy in contemporary work on adolescence. As you will see in the following biographies of our presenters and abstracts of their presentations, we have with us nationally and internationally known researchers and policy experts on human development, childhood, and adolescence. Importantly to the Schubert Center, members of the campus and wider Cleveland community have joined us today as have our graduate and undergraduate students.

This working conference features presentations of cutting edge research on adolescence, presentations from policy experts, considerations of methodological approaches, and time for discussion. We seek the linkages, and potential linkages, among research and policy. As the organizing discipline for this conference, psychological anthropology contributes long-standing interests in human development and eco-cultural contexts. Researchers in psychological anthropology and related fields will consider how their work has contributed to policy-relevant work on adolescence. Policy experts will contribute perspectives on how research is utilized in policy, philanthropy, and advocacy on behalf of adolescents.

We are very pleased to acknowledge the support for this working conference from the newly established Lemelson/Society for Psychological Anthropology Conference Fund. Our conference was one of three funded nationally in the first cycle of this prestigious new opportunity. The Schubert Center also provided support for this meeting. We also acknowledge the co-sponsorship of the Department of Anthropology and the Childhood Studies Interdisciplinary Program.

We hope that this conference will promote and stimulate ideas and connections for continued discussion and activity.

On behalf of the Schubert Center for Child Studies,

Conference Organizers:

Eileen P. Anderson-Fye, Ed.D.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, SCHUBERT CENTER FOR CHILD STUDIES | ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Jill E. Korbin, Ph.D.

DIRECTOR, SCHUBERT CENTER FOR CHILD STUDIES | PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
ASSOCIATE DEAN, COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Eileen P. Anderson-Fye, Ed.D.

Claudia Coulton, Ph.D.

Ronald E. Dahl, M.D.

Marcia Egbert, J.D.

Jerry Floersch, Ph.D., LISW-S

Robin Harris

Jill E. Korbin, Ph.D.

Rebecca J. Lester, Ph.D., MSW, PLCSW

Robert A. LeVine, Ph.D.

Robert Lemelson, Ph.D.

Thomas McDade, Ph.D.

David B. Miller, Ph.D.

Amy Swanson, MPA

Thomas S. Weisner, Ph.D.

Brian L. Wilcox, Ph.D.

Carol M. Worthman, Ph.D.

Eileen P. Anderson-Fye, Ed.D.

Assistant Professor of Anthropology | Associate Director of the Schubert Center for Child Studies



BIOSKETCH Eileen P. Anderson-Fye, Ed.D., is a psychological and medical anthropologist. She is Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Associate Director of the Schubert Center for Child Studies at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). Dr. Anderson-Fye is interested in adolescent mental health and well-being in contexts of rapid cultural change. She has worked for a dozen years in Belize, Central America. She also continues to collaborate with the Center for Culture and Health at UCLA on a project with African-descended immigrants in Los Angeles. At CWRU, she has recently begun a project (together with Jerry Floersch, Ph.D., and Jes Sellers, Ph.D.) investigating students' experiences of psychiatric medication and college mental health services usage during the transition to college. Dr. Anderson-Fye completed a Foundation for Psychocultural Research postdoctoral fellowship at UCLA in interdisciplinary studies of culture and neuroscience in the Center for Culture, Brain, and Development where she was awarded the Chancellor's Award for Postdoctoral Research. Her dissertation work won the Society for Psychological Anthropology's Condon Award. Dr. Anderson-Fye has been funded by the Spencer Foundation, SSRC, NIH, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, the Harvard Eating Disorders Center/MGH, and a CWRU Presidential Research Initiative Grant among others. Her work has appeared in anthropology and psychiatry journals and edited volumes including *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*, *Ethos*, *the Journal of Addictive Diseases*, and the *Handbook of Obesity and Eating Disorders*. Dr. Anderson-Fye completed her master's and doctoral degrees at the interdisciplinary program of Human Development at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and her bachelor's degree in American Civilization at Brown University.

Dr. Anderson-Fye completed a Foundation for Psychocultural Research postdoctoral fellowship at UCLA in interdisciplinary studies of culture and neuroscience in the Center for Culture, Brain, and Development where she was awarded the Chancellor's Award for Postdoctoral Research. Her dissertation work won the Society for Psychological Anthropology's Condon Award. Dr. Anderson-Fye has been funded by the Spencer Foundation, SSRC, NIH, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, the Harvard Eating Disorders Center/MGH, and a CWRU Presidential Research Initiative Grant among others. Her work has appeared in anthropology and psychiatry journals and edited volumes including *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*, *Ethos*, *the Journal of Addictive Diseases*, and the *Handbook of Obesity and Eating Disorders*. Dr. Anderson-Fye completed her master's and doctoral degrees at the interdisciplinary program of Human Development at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and her bachelor's degree in American Civilization at Brown University.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION **Never Leave Yourself: Gender, Culture, and Well-Being in Schools**

ABSTRACT Worldwide, approximately 20% of adolescents are thought to suffer from disabling mental conditions (WHO, 2003). Many more face sub-clinical disorder and distress. Moreover, adolescents—who face a unique set of stressors in the face of rapid globalization and who may be “wired” to internalize stress more acutely than at other life cycle phases—make up a greater proportion of the world's population than at any other time in history. In addition, more of those adolescents are spending time in schools, with formal schooling becoming increasingly important to participation in the global economy. In context of my research with adolescents undergoing rapid economic and socio-cultural change in Belize and part of the “new immigration” in Los Angeles, I argue that mental health and well-being is of critical importance to educational institutions serving adolescents. Mental health is also intimately related to academic achievement in multiple ways. This paper reflects upon the widespread importance of locally-relevant policy and practice regarding mental health in school contexts and argues that integration of mental health practices in school contexts is of vital importance in today's increasingly global societies.

SUGGESTED READINGS

- Anderson-Fye, E. P. (2003). *Never Leave Yourself: Ethnopsychology as Mediator of Psychological Globalization among Belizean Schoolgirls*. *Ethos* 31(1); 77-112.
- Anderson-Fye, E. P. (2004). A Coca-Cola Shape: Cultural Change, Body Image, and Eating Disorders in San Andrés, Belize. *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry*, 28: 561-595.
- Anderson-Fye, E. P. (2008). Cross-Cultural Issues in Body Image and Eating Problems Among Children and Adolescents, pp. 144-174. In L. Smolak and J.K. Thompson (eds.), *Body Image, Eating Disorders, and Obesity in Youth: Assessment, Prevention, and Treatment*, APA Press.
- Suárez-Orozco, M. (2001). *Globalization, Immigration, and Education: The Research Agenda*. *Harvard Educational Review*, 71(3): 345-365.
- World Health Organization (2003). *Caring for Children and Adolescents with Mental Disorders: Setting WHO Directions*. Geneva: Author.

Claudia Coulton, Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Research and Training | Co-director, Center on Urban Poverty & Community Development
Lillian F. Harris Professor of Urban Research & Social Change | Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences



BIOSKETCH Claudia Coulton is the Lillian F. Harris Professor of Urban Social Research in the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University. As co-director of the Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change, she is engaged in research, evaluation and policy analysis related to urban poverty and community development. The Center serves as the data intermediary for the Northeast Ohio Region and operates NEO CANDO (NorthEast Ohio Community And Neighborhood Data for Organizing), a web portal/data warehouse for neighborhood indicators and property information. She also serves as an evaluation advisor to a number of community initiatives, including the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Making Connections program and Aspen Institute's Roundtable on Comprehensive Community Initiatives. She is a founding member of the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership. Dr. Coulton is the author of numerous publications on neighborhoods and social policy.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION Neighborhood Contextual Influences on Adolescent Well-Being: Research and Policy Implications

ABSTRACT The influence of the neighborhood context on child and youth well-being has experienced a resurgence of interest in recent years. Research has yielded a myriad of findings on the connections between neighborhoods and child and adolescent outcomes. While adverse outcomes for youth tend to be concentrated in neighborhoods with constellations of risk factors, the precise processes and pathways by which neighborhoods impact children, youth, and families remain somewhat elusive. A range of data sources, from administrative data to individual perceptions, and multiple methods in studying youth in neighborhoods will be considered, as will the utility and meaningfulness of neighborhood as a unit of analysis. Better understanding of the neighborhood contexts in which adolescents live, work, play, and interact with others raises important policy questions for program and intervention strategies.

SUGGESTED READINGS

- Coulton, C.J. & Irwin, M. (2008). Parental and Community Level Correlates of Participation in Out-of-School Activities Among Children Living in Low Income Neighborhoods, *Children and Youth Services Review*.
- Coulton, C.J., Crampton, D., Irwin, M., Spilsbury, J., and Korbin, J.E. (2007) How Neighborhoods Influence Child Maltreatment: A Review of the Literature and Alternative Pathways. *Child Abuse and Neglect* 31:1117-1142.
- Barnes, J., Katz I., Korbin, J.E., and O'Brien, M. (2006) *Children and families in communities: Theory, research, policy and practice*. West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons.
- Coulton, C., Korbin, J.E, Chan, T. & Su, M. (2001). Mapping residents' perceptions of neighborhood boundaries. A methodological note. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 29, 371-383.
- Korbin, J.E., & Coulton, C.J. (1997). Understanding the neighborhood context for children and families: Epidemiological and ethnographic approaches. In J. Brooks-Gunn, L. Aber & G. Duncan (Eds.), *Neighborhood poverty: Context and consequences for children* (pp. 77-91). New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Ronald E. Dahl, M.D.

Staunton Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics | Professor of Psychology, University of Pittsburgh



BIOSKETCH Ronald E. Dahl, M.D., is the Staunton Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics and Professor of Psychology at the University of Pittsburgh. He is a pediatrician with long-standing research interests in the areas of sleep/arousal and affect regulation and its relevance to development of behavioral and emotional disorders in children and adolescents. His work focuses on early adolescence and pubertal maturation as a developmental period with unique opportunities for early intervention in relation to a wide range of behavioral and emotional health problems. Dr. Dahl has co-directed a large program of research focusing on child/adolescent affective disorders with more than a decade of funding from the NIMH, and has received an NIH Independent Scientist Award focused on the interface of sleep, arousal, and affect regulation during adolescent development. His research is interdisciplinary and bridges between basic developmental research and the direct clinical translation regarding early intervention for affective disorders. He has published extensively on adolescent development, sleep disorders, and behavioral/emotional health in children, and on the policy implications of this work.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION **Adolescent Brain Development—A Period of Vulnerabilities and Opportunities: Policy Implications**

ABSTRACT Adolescent development is a period of special opportunities as well as vulnerabilities with respect to a wide range of behavioral and emotional problems in youth. This presentation considers the role of brain/behavior/social-context interactions during pubertal maturation that can influence these developmental trajectories in positive and negative ways. A model is described that focuses on neurobehavioral changes at puberty that lead to an increased tendency toward risk-taking and sensation-seeking in adolescence. These biologically-based changes in drives, emotions and motivations (“igniting passions”) often emerge early in adolescence in association with pubertal maturation, whereas the gradual and relatively prolonged maturation of self-regulatory skills and judgment continue to develop through late adolescence. This may be particularly relevant to adolescents living in social contexts that create challenges to the gradually emerging skills in self-control. Data in support of key aspects of this model are described. The clinical and social policy implications of this model—and its relevance to early interventions—are also discussed.

SUGGESTED READINGS

- Dahl RE: Adolescent Brain Development: A Period of Vulnerabilities and Opportunities. Keynote Address. In: Adolescent Brain Development: Vulnerabilities and Opportunities. Ronald E. Dahl, M.D., and Linda Patia Spear, Ph.D., (eds.). *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, 1021:1-22, 2004.
- Dahl RE: Biological, Developmental, and Neurobiological Factors Relevant to Adolescent Driving Risks. *Am J Prev Med* 2008; 35 (3S): S278-S284
- Steinberg L, Dahl RE, Keating D, Kupfer DJ, Masten A, and Pine D: Psychopathology in Adolescence: Integrating Affective Neuroscience with the Study of Context. In: *Developmental Psychopathology, Vol. 2: Developmental Neuroscience*. D. Cicchetti, Ph.D. and D. Cohen (eds.), Wiley, New York, NY, pp. 710-741, 2006.
- Windle, M, Spear, LP, Fuligni, AJ, Angold, A, Brown, JD, Pine, D, Smith, GT, Dahl, RE: Transitions into Underage and Problem Drinking: Developmental Processes and Mechanisms between Ages 10-15. *Pediatrics* Vol. 121 Supplement April 2008, pp. S273-S289.
- Forbes, EE., Hariri, AR., Martin, SL., Silk, JS., Moyles, DL., Fisher, PM., Brown, SM., Ryan, ND., Birmaher, B., Axelson, DA., Dahl, RE: Altered Striatal Activation Predicting Real-World Positive Affect in Adolescent Major Depressive Disorder. *American Journal of Psychiatry* (in press).

Marcia Egbert, J.D.

Senior Program Officer for Human Services | The George Gund Foundation



BIOSKETCH Marcia Egbert is the Senior Program Officer for Human Services at The George Gund Foundation in Cleveland, Ohio. In that capacity, Marcia supervises the Foundation's grantmaking program of approximately \$4 million annually in the health and human services arena. This includes evaluating over 250 proposals submitted annually by nonprofit organizations at the local, state and national level. The docket places particular emphasis on the intersection of public policy and child and family well-being, particularly early childhood development.

Marcia is active in a number of local, state and national organizations of grantmakers including, the Early Childhood Funders Collaborative; Grantmakers Income Security Task Force (funders concerned about poverty and income issues), Grantmakers for Children, Youth and Families; Funders Concerned About AIDS; Funders Network on Reproductive Health and Rights; Public Policy Committee of Ohio Grantmakers Forum; and the Community Vision Council of United Way.

Marcia currently serves as a board member for the Ohio Brain Injury Association of Ohio. She previously served as a founding board member of the Health Policy Institute of Ohio and as a trustee of the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation. From 2000-2003, Marcia was a founding Board member of the Ohio Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Foundation, charged with managing distribution of a significant portion of the state's tobacco settlement funds.

In addition, Marcia has served as adjunct faculty at the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Marcia was Vice President of the National Urban Policy Institute, a social policy analysis and lobbying firm based in Columbus, OH. Marcia also served as the Government Relations Director for the Cuyahoga County Commissioners for four years and worked for the Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives for three years. In addition, Marcia served in management positions for a dozen political campaigns at the national, state and local levels.

Marcia is a two-time alumni of The Ohio State University, having received both B.A. and J.D. degrees from that institution.

In real life, Marcia is married to Jeff Hagan and the happy mother of a busy nine year-old son, Will.

Jerry Floersch, Ph.D., LISW-S

Associate Professor | Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences



BIOSKETCH Jerry Floersch has twenty years of direct practice experience. He is a 1998 University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration, Ph.D. graduate and he earned his M.S.W. from the University of Kansas. He is the author of numerous articles and Columbia University Press has published his first book, *Meds, Money, and Manners: The Case Management of Severe Mental Illness*, where, through comparing the oral and written narratives of case managers, he examines the rise of community support services, the rise of the case manager and case management, and the limits of management models in providing effective services. Dr. Floersch completed a three-year study of a new case management model called recovery. The results will be published in a forthcoming co-authored book with Columbia University Press, *On Being and Having a Case Manager: A Guide to Mental Health Recovery and the Relational Method*, which uses clinical theory to understand the nature of case management relationships. He is a recent NIMH K08 recipient (2004-2009) focusing on developing the qualitative methods to study youth subjective experience of psychotropic treatment. In 2008, he was recipient of a CWRU Presidential Research Initiative award, where as Co-PI, he will collaborate in a two-year investigation of college student use of mental health services, including psychiatric medications.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION

Out of the Clinic and into the Medicine Cabinet: Adolescent Mental Health in a Psychopharmacological Environment

ABSTRACT In this presentation, I present a conceptual framework for understanding the use of psychiatric medication among adolescents in a psychopharmacological environment. I avoid an upbeat optimism, which would uncritically argue that medications are wonderful. I also avoid a downbeat pessimism, where medications are believed to have destroyed everything good about traditional mental health practice and they merely represent a quick fix with devastating side effects that only benefit the 'industrial-academic-regulatory complex' or 'psychopharmacology industrial complex.' Instead, I use data from my recent and ongoing research on psychotropic treatment to propose an account of the adolescent's desire for psychiatric medication. In short, regardless of the social and economic policies that encourage the billions of dollars that will be spent developing new psychiatric medications and re-developing old ones, for the medicated, there will always be the need to interpret medication effects because it is quintessentially a personal experience. I will use illustrations from current research to identify tensions among the adolescent's personal medication experience and those of significant others in their network (e.g., parents, friends, siblings, teachers, and mental health providers) to highlight policy questions regarding the social and psychological side effects of psychotropic treatment. For example, should unintended social and psychological side effects be assessed alongside physical side effects? If so, would this suggest that the FDA

should consider including social and psychological side effect warnings alongside medical warnings?

SUGGESTED READINGS

- Editorial. (2008). Credibility crisis in pediatric psychiatry. *Nature Neuroscience*, 11(9): 983.
- Frosch, D. L., Krueger, P. M., Hornik, R.C., Cronholm, P.F., & Barg, F.K. (2007). Creating demand for prescription drugs: A content analysis of television direct-to-consumer advertising. *Annals of Family Medicine*, 5(1): 6-13.
- Floersch, J. (2003). The subjective experience of youth psychotropic treatment, *Social Work in Mental Health*, 1(4), 51-69.
- Longhofer, J., Floersch, J., & Jenkins, J. (2003) The social grid of community medication management. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 73 (1), 24-34.
- Pruett, K. & Marin, A. (2003). Thinking about prescribing: The psychology of psychopharmacology. In, *Pediatric Psychopharmacology: Principles and Practice*, edited by A. Martin, L. Scahill, D. Charney, & J. Leckman. Oxford University Press. Pp. 417-425.

Robin Harris

Health and Human Services Policy Executive Assistant | State of Ohio

BIOSKETCH Robin Harris is the Health and Human Services Policy Executive Assistant for Governor Ted Strickland. Prior to joining the Strickland Administration, Robin was Director of Public Policy and Acting President and CEO of the Ohio United Way. The United Way's public policy agenda priorities during Robin's tenure focused on early care and education and health care issues.

Robin has more than 20 years experience work in fiscal and social service policy. Her public service spans from a seven-year stint at the Ohio Office of Budget and Management to another seven-years doing research and as Poverty Advocate with the Children's Defense Fund-Ohio.

She has also worked at a community action agency, leading their state Head Start program, and spent nearly two years working with the wonderful social workers at the Institute of Human Services.

Jill E. Korbin, Ph.D.

Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences | Director, Schubert Center for Child Studies | Professor of Anthropology



BIOSKETCH Jill E. Korbin, Ph.D. is Associate Dean, Professor of Anthropology, Director of the Schubert Center for Child Studies, and Co-Director of the Childhood Studies Program in the College of Arts and Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. Korbin earned her Ph.D. in 1978 from the University of California at Los Angeles. Her awards include the Margaret Mead Award (1986) from the American Anthropological Association and the Society for Applied Anthropology; a Congressional Science Fellowship (1985-86) through the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Society for Research in Child Development (Office of Senator Bill Bradley); the Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching at Case Western Reserve University (1992); and a Fulbright Senior Specialist Award (2005). Korbin served on the National Research Council's Panel on Research on Child Abuse and Neglect, and the Institute of Medicine's Panel on Pathophysiology and Prevention of Adolescent and Adult Suicide. Korbin's research interests include culture and child maltreatment, fatal child abuse, the impact of neighborhood context on child well-being and child maltreatment, Ohio's Amish population, and cross-cultural childhood studies.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION Neighborhood Contextual Influences on Adolescent Well-Being: Research and Policy Implications

ABSTRACT The influence of the neighborhood context on child and youth well-being has experienced a resurgence of interest in recent years. Research has yielded a myriad of findings on the connections between neighborhoods and child and adolescent outcomes. While adverse outcomes for youth tend to be concentrated in neighborhoods with constellations of risk factors, the precise processes and pathways by which neighborhoods impact children, youth, and families remain somewhat elusive. A range of data sources, from administrative data to individual perceptions, and multiple methods in studying youth in neighborhoods will be considered, as will the utility and meaningfulness of neighborhood as a unit of analysis. Better understanding of the neighborhood contexts in which adolescents live, work, play, and interact with others raises important policy questions for program and intervention strategies.

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- Coulton, C.J., Crampton, D., Irwin, M., Spilsbury, J., and Korbin, J.E. (2007) How Neighborhoods Influence Child Maltreatment: A Review of the Literature and Alternative Pathways. *Child Abuse and Neglect* 31:1117-1142.
- Barnes, J., Katz I., Korbin, J.E., and O'Brien, M. (2006) *Children and families in communities: Theory, research, policy and practice*. West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons.
- Coulton, C., Korbin, J.E, Chan, T. & Su, M. (2001). Mapping residents' perceptions of neighborhood boundaries. A methodological note. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 29, 371-383.
- Korbin, J.E., & Coulton, C.J. (1997). Understanding the neighborhood context for children and families: Epidemiological and ethnographic approaches. In J. Brooks-Gunn, L. Aber & G. Duncan (Eds.), *Neighborhood poverty: Context and consequences for children* (pp. 77-91). New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Rebecca J. Lester, Ph.D., MSW, PLCSW

Assistant Professor of Anthropology | Washington University in St. Louis



BIOSKETCH Rebecca Lester is a medical and psychological anthropologist and a practicing clinician. She is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis, and also holds joint appointments in the departments of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, American Culture Studies, and Religion. She is on the board of the Society for Psychological Anthropology and serves as national conference chairperson for 2008.

Her work concerns the intersections of institutional practices and individual subjectivities in psychiatry and religion. She is particularly interested in how subjective experiences change over time and come to be felt as “authentic,” and the ways in which the body is enlisted in these engagements. To this end she attends to systemic, interpersonal, and intra-psychic processes as they unfold in different social and cultural contexts, bringing anthropological and psychological theories and methods to bear her research. She has engaged these questions in such locales as a community psychiatric center in New York, a Roman Catholic convent in Mexico, and eating disorder clinics in the US and Mexico. Her current ethnography traces the development of a practical ethics of care at an American eating disorder clinic, where clinicians struggle to care for clients in the midst of competing ethical demands regarding health and healing.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION

How Do I Code for Black Fingernail Polish?: Finding the Disappearing Adolescent in Managed Mental Health Care

ABSTRACT This paper suggests that managed mental healthcare in the United States reifies an ideal of rational adulthood as the paragon of health, thereby systematically displacing questions of adolescent development and rendering service providers unable to provide optimal care. Drawing on both ethnographic and clinical work with adolescents at eating disorder clinics in the US and Mexico, as well as research with American Latina teens who have attempted suicide, I explore the policy and practice implications of a healthcare system driven by economic indicators and rational choice theories. Adolescents generally figure in these discourses as little more than failed adults, with the special concerns and productive possibilities of adolescent development largely elided and ignored. I propose several points of intervention where research, practice, and advocacy can collaborate to build upon the unique developmental opportunities of adolescence as resources for healing.

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- Lester, R. J. (2007). Critical therapeutics: Cultural politics and clinical reality in two eating disorder clinics. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, 21(4), 369-387.
- Lester, R. J. (2008). Anxious bliss: A case study of dissociation in a Mexican nun. *Transcultural Psychiatry*, 45(1), 56-78.
- Lester, R. J. (under review). Crossing the event horizon: Borderline personality disorder and the ethics of care in an American eating disorder clinic. *Current Anthropology*.

Robert A. LeVine, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus of Education and Human Development | Harvard University
Visiting Professor of Anthropology | Boston University



BIOSKETCH Robert A. LeVine is Professor Emeritus of Education and Human Development at Harvard University and Visiting Professor of Anthropology at Boston University. He has studied parenting, child rearing and development in Africa, Latin America and Asia. His books (mostly co-authored) include *Child Care and Culture: Lessons from Africa* (1994), *Japanese Frames of Mind: Cultural Perspectives on Human Development* (2001), *Childhood Socialization: Comparative Studies of Parenting, Learning and Educational Change* (2003) and *Anthropology and Child Development: A Cross-Cultural Reader* (2008). LeVine has formulated a cultural approach to the life course and has studied the impact of women's schooling on maternal behavior in Nepal, Mexico, Venezuela and Zambia.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION **Traditions in Transition: Adolescents Re-Making Culture**

ABSTRACT Culture is not static and is best conceptualized as characterizing a particular birth cohort, with cultural ideas and practices changing from one cohort to the next. Social scientists have proposed and shown that adolescence is the critical period for this historical, i.e. cross-cohort, change. The paper provides examples of the processes involved from several parts of the world and explores its significance for psychocultural research on the life course in changing societies.

SUGGESTED READINGS

- LeVine, R.A. (1984). *Properties of culture: An ethnographic view*. In R. Shweder & R.A.
- LeVine (eds.), *Culture Theory: Essays on Mind, Emotion, and the Self*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- LeVine, R.A. (1980). *Adulthood among the Gusii of Kenya*. In N. Smelser & E. Erikson (eds.), *Themes of Love and Work in Adulthood*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- LeVine, R. A., and LeVine, S. E. (1991). *House design and the self in an African culture*. In L. B. Boyer and R. Boyer (eds.), *The Psychoanalytic Study of Society*, 16, 87-109.
- LeVine, R.A., LeVine, S. E. and Schnell, B. (2001). *Improve the women: Mass schooling, female literacy and worldwide social change*. *Harvard Educational Review*, 71 (1): 1-50.

Robert Lemelson, Ph.D.

Research Anthropologist, Semel Institute of Neuroscience at UCLA | Documentary Filmmaker



BIOSKETCH Robert Lemelson is an anthropologist and documentary filmmaker whose work focuses on the relationship of culture, psychology and personal experience in Indonesia. He received his M.A. from the University of Chicago and Ph.D. from the Department of Anthropology at the University of California, Los Angeles. He was a Fulbright scholar in Indonesia, exploring the relation of culture to mental illness, and has worked for the World Health Organization.

Lemelson's area of specialty is Southeast-Asian studies, psychological anthropology and transcultural psychiatry. He is currently a research anthropologist in the Semel Institute of Neuroscience at UCLA.

Robert Lemelson's work has been published in numerous scholarly journals. Recently, he co-edited a book titled *Understanding Trauma: Integrating Biological, Clinical and Cultural Perspectives*. Besides conducting research and producing films, Lemelson has founded and been involved in several philanthropic organizations. He is the president of the Foundation for Psychocultural Research, a research foundation that supports integrative research in the social and neurosciences. He is a director of the Lemelson Foundation, a family foundation whose mission is to support inventors and entrepreneurs, both in the United States and the developing world, focusing on innovations that address basic human needs, support sustainable development, and strengthen economic development.

Lemelson is currently working on a series of documentary films based on his research in Indonesia. He has been filming on the islands of Bali and Java in Indonesia since 1997, exploring the relation to culture to such disorders as schizophrenia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, Tourette's syndrome and post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Lemelson has just completed a feature-length documentary, *40 Years of Silence: An Indonesian Tragedy*, which follows the struggles of four families who survived the 1965 mass-killings of suspected communists in Indonesia and their current efforts at truth and reconciliation in a changing Indonesia. He's currently working on finishing two other documentaries about how two very different individuals and their communities deal with Tourette's syndrome. In the planning stages are three projects on psychosis outcome, gender-based violence, and trance and possession in Indonesia and the United States.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION 40 Years of Silence: An Indonesian Tragedy

ABSTRACT In 1965, following a purported "communist coup" (the September 30th movement, or the Indonesian acronym G-30-S) General Suharto began a bloody purge of suspected Communists which resulted in the deaths of approximately 500,000 Indonesians, making this one of the larger mass killings of the 20th century. Following the rise of Suharto's new Order regime, it became extremely politically dangerous to discuss or memorialize this event and its victims, if these differed from the state's official narrative. This film concerns the effects of this event and its aftermath on four Indonesian families, including a longitudinal view of a focal adolescent. It was shot over the course of 10 years, in both Central Java and Bali (the two regions, along with East Java, where the greatest bulk of the mass killings occurred) as part of ongoing anthropological research on culture, health and illness. The film follows these families in their recollections of the build up and events of 1965 and the subsequent mass killings, disappearances, and political imprisonments of family members. It then turns to explore aspects of life under the New Order regime, including state and village level stigmatization and brutalization of individuals and families perceived to have an "unclean environment" (tidak bersih lingkungan) because of alleged associations with the banned Indonesian Communist Party (PKI). The intergenerational effects of the violence are particularly visible in the lives of the documented adolescents. The film concludes with how these families have coped with the changing Indonesian social and political landscape following the fall of the New Order in 1998 and explores issues of revenge, retribution, "rehabilitation" and possible reconciliation with this troubled history.

Thomas McDade, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Anthropology | Faculty Fellow, Institute for Policy Research | Northwestern University



BIOSKETCH Thom McDade is a biological anthropologist specializing in human biology, and his research involves investigating how social and cultural environments affect human development, physiology, and health in diverse international and domestic settings. The development and application of minimally-invasive, “field-friendly” methods for assessing physiological function in non-clinical settings has been a major focus of his work. He uses these methods to investigate how globalization affects child health, with prior projects in Samoa and Kenya, and ongoing projects in Bolivia and the Philippines. In 2002 he received a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) to support this work. McDade also pursues integrative health research in the US, and he is the PI of a project to investigate the impact of social and economic stressors on biomarkers of health in a nationally representative sample of more than 20,000 individuals. The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health provides an opportunity of unprecedented magnitude to integrate detailed contextual and lifestyle information with objective physiological data, and McDade and collaborators are using these data to examine the mechanisms through which social contexts “get under the skin” to shape human physiology and health across the transition from childhood and adolescence to young adulthood.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION

The Ecology of Everyday Life: Bringing a Biocultural Anthropological Perspective to Research on Stress and Health

ABSTRACT Psychosocial stress is a significant public health issue, with demonstrated links to all-cause mortality, mental health, and multiple dimensions of physical health. Within a life course framework, the timing and intensity of stressor exposure may have lasting effects on health by establishing trajectories of physiological function, and by shaping expectations or patterns of behavior in the future. Recent interest in the origins of social gradients in health in the U.S. and U.K. have re-focused attention on socioeconomic status and the pathways through which it shapes individual and population health. Psychosocial stress may represent such a pathway, although proponents of the neo-materialist approach to health disparities underscore structural causes of inequality, and dismiss psychosocial approaches as having limited explanatory power as well as the potential for victim-blaming. Anthropology is uniquely positioned to reconcile and integrate these perspectives through the application of theory-based conceptual models and minimally-invasive biomarker measurement tools that can advance our understanding of the complex relationships among stratification, stress and health. In particular, an emphasis on the “ecology of everyday life” may provide a unifying framework for investigating the social and geographical distribution of risks and opportunities as transducers of differential resource access into disparities in health. Data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health are used to test hypotheses from this framework in an effort to pro-

mote innovative policy relevant research on stress and health across the life course.

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David B. Miller, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences | Councilman-At-Large, South Euclid, Ohio



BIOSKETCH David B. Miller, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences (MSASS). Dr. Miller teaches health policy, social policy analysis, and research methods. Dr. Miller joined MSASS in 1993. Dr. Miller's research includes resiliency in African American adolescents, the effects of chronic stressors on mental health status, and prostate cancer knowledge and awareness among African American males. Dr. Miller developed the Urban

Hassles Index, a measure assessing stressors unique to the urban environments. This measure has been requested and utilized by researchers from around the country.

Dr. Miller received his Bachelor of Science in Social Work from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, his Master of Social Work degree from the University of South Carolina. In 1993, he received his Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Public Health degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Miller has worked in variety of settings including adult correctional and child welfare.

A native of Reidsville, North Carolina, Dr. Miller is married to Alice L. Miller (Martin) and is the father of two children, Natasha and David.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION

Understanding the Effects of Chronic Stress on Adolescent Functioning: A Policy Advocacy Research Agenda

ABSTRACT The impact of chronic urban stressors has not been well studied relative to their impact on the psychosocial functioning of urban youth to include the development of maladaptive coping strategies. While the stressful life events model has provided a preponderance of our understanding relative to external stressors and mental health symptoms, research is calling into question the need to further examine chronic events, which cumulatively may provide a better of how stressors contribute to adjustment. Policy advocacy targeting contextual and environmental changes is required however, the need for increasing research into the effects of chronic stress in order to highlight for policymakers the myriad of challenges facing youth in urban settings. Through this presentation, practitioners, policymakers and researchers will gain additional insight into the nature of the stress process within the context of the urban environment and how young adults respond to the challenges of living in such environments. A direction for policy advocacy will also be presented within a theoretical framework of theoretical using community focused and culturally competent approaches.

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Amy Swanson, MPA

Executive Director | Voices for Ohio's Children



BIOSKETCH Amy is Voices' executive director, chief advocate, and voice to the community. In addition to overseeing the administration and finances of the organization, Amy works closely with the Board and Voices members—more than 100 across Ohio—to assure consistent, progressive organizational growth.

Amy works closely with child advocates throughout Ohio to advance Voices' legislative and budget agendas with the Ohio General Assembly, state appointed officials and Ohio's delegation to the U.S. Congress and local elected and appointed officials. She works with Voices members to organize and prepare testimony, legislative briefings and updates for legislators and aides. As Voices' Chief Advocate, serves in leadership positions on many local and statewide committees dedicated to children's well-being, including:

Elected Member, Voices for America's Children Membership Leadership Council
 Chair, Voices for America's Children Health Policy Committee,
 Appointed Member, Ohio Family and Children First Council Advisory Committee
 Appointed Member, Ohio Early Childhood Advisory Council
 Steering Committee Member, Groundwork.org, Ohio Early Care and Education Campaign
 Member, Ohio Social and Emotional Workgroup
 Member, Access to Better Care (ABC) planning group
 Past Chair, Build Ohio
 Past Member, State of Ohio Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Strategic Planning Task Force

Prior to Amy's work at Voices, she served as Vice President for Burges & Burges: Strategists, where she worked on candidate and issue campaigns, public sector marketing programs, research projects, community networking and grassroots organizing. Beginning in 1996, Amy worked as a consultant for the National Center for Tobacco Free Kids and the Coalition for a Healthier Ohio where she helped to build effective, statewide coalitions to prevent youth tobacco use. She worked with over 120 partners from across Ohio to help secure \$1.2 billion for Ohio's Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Foundation.

As a consultant, Amy also worked with the Trust for America's Health, a national program funded by the Pew Charitable Trust. Her team assembled a coalition of nearly 45 partners across Ohio to promote the need for a nationwide disease tracking system. Under Amy's leadership, they held several media events and public meetings, placed several public service advertisements, and placed dozens of letters to the editor.

Before joining Burges & Burges, Amy worked for the Summit County Executive and Department of Development, where she helped develop and implement comprehensive community housing and economic development plans. Active in politics since her college days, Amy has worked for Congressman Tom Sawyer, the Ohio Democratic Party, Pennsylvania State Senator Michael O'Parke, Ohio House of Representatives, candidate Bill Clinton, and numerous judicial and city and county council races.

Amy holds a bachelor of arts in Political Science from the University of Akron with a certificate of Applied Politics from the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics, and a master's in public administration, also from the University of Akron. She lives in Wadsworth with her husband, Eric, and their children Holden and Carlin.

Thomas Weisner, Ph.D.

Professor, Departments of Psychiatry and Anthropology | University of California, Los Angeles



BIOSKETCH Thomas S. Weisner, Ph.D. is Prof. of Anthropology, Departments of Psychiatry (Center for Culture and Health) and Anthropology at UCLA. His research and teaching interests are in culture and human development; medical, psychological and cultural studies of families and children at risk; mixed methods; and evidence-informed policy. His empirical research includes studies of working-poor parents and their children (with Greg Duncan, Aletha Huston, Hiro Yoshikawa, Bob Granger), a longitudinal study of families with children with developmental disabilities, and longitudinal field research in Western Kenya and Nairobi on sibling caretaking of children, and on the long-term consequences of urban migration for children and families. Weisner has been a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, a member of the MacArthur Foundation research network on successful pathways in middle childhood, is past President of the Society for Psychological Anthropology, and is a Senior Program Advisor to the William T Grant Foundation. He is the co-author of *Higher Ground* (2007) (with Duncan and Huston); co-editor of *Making it work* (with Yoshikawa & Lowe), (2006); editor of *Discovering successful pathways in children's development* (2005); and co-editor of *African families and the crisis of social change* (with Candice Bradley and Phil Kilbride) (1997).

TITLE OF PRESENTATION New Hope for Working Poor Families and their Children: Mixed Methods Evidence and Theory for a Successful Support Program for Parents and Children

ABSTRACT If you work full time, you should not be poor, and your children should be doing better. But how best to provide supports for the working poor that can deliver on this promise? The New Hope program is a social contract in which wage supplements, subsidized child care and health care, and intensive case management are provided in return for at least 30 hours of work a week. A comprehensive study of the participants in the New Hope program tracked parental work and children's development over eight years compared to a control group in a rigorous random-assignment experiment. Families in treatment and control groups participated in an ethnographic study as well.

The use of mixed methods proved crucial to understanding whether, how, and why New Hope delivered its promise. Ecocultural, economic, and developmental/parenting theories all were relevant for understanding elements of the impacts of New Hope. With the wage supplement, no parent working full-time lived in poverty. Poverty rates declined dramatically; employment and earnings increased among participants who were not initially working full-time; and children, particularly boys, performed better in school and acted out less. Unexpectedly, a number of positive impacts for adolescents were found, even five years after the program ended. The program even increased rates of marriage among single mothers. New Hope shows what this country could achieve to ensure that all children of working parents have an equal chance at success.

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Brian L. Wilcox, Ph.D.

Director, Center on Children, Families, and the Law | University of Nebraska, Lincoln



BIOSKETCH Brian Wilcox is currently Director of the Center on Children, Families, and the Law and Professor of Psychology at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, where he teaches courses on child and adolescent development and public policy. He has published in a number of areas related to child, youth, and family policy, including adolescent sexual behavior and risk-taking, youth violence, child maltreatment, child care, and children and media.

He is currently conducting HIV/AIDS prevention research and is involved in a multi-community positive youth development intervention project in Brazil, and is studying teen pregnancy prevention programs in several locations. He is also co-PI for a four-state study of the relationship between state policies and regulations and child care quality. Wilcox served on the Research and Effective Programs Task Force of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, is co-chair of the Society for Research on Adolescence's Social Policy Committee, and is president of the American Psychological Association's Division of Child, Youth, and Family Services.

Prior to coming to the University of Nebraska, Wilcox served as Director of Public Policy for the American Psychological Association, as a legislative assistant to Senator Bill Bradley, and as a member of the Psychology faculty at the University of Virginia. He received his doctorate in Community Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION **When Values Trump Science: Research, Policy and Abstinence Education**

ABSTRACT In 1981 Congress passed the Adolescent Family Life Act, which provided funding for small sexual abstinence education demonstration projects. In the intervening 27 years this effort has morphed into a significant and controversial program supporting sexual abstinence education efforts across the country.

In this presentation I will summarize the evolution of abstinence education policy at the federal level and will exam the relationship between the policy, as it has evolved, and relevant theory and research regarding adolescent development in general and adolescent sexual behavior in particular.

Additionally, I will describe efforts to communicate relevant theory and research findings to policymakers at both the state and federal levels, and in doing so will review developing theory and research on how and under what circumstances policymakers are more or less likely to become aware of and make use of research findings.

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Carol M. Worthman, Ph.D.

Professor of Anthropology | Director, Laboratory for Comparative Human Biology | Emory University



BIOSKETCH Carol M. Worthman is Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor, Department of Anthropology, Emory University, and director of the Laboratory for Comparative Human Biology. She takes a collaborative biocultural approach to pursuit of comparative interdisciplinary research on human development, reproductive ecology, and biocultural bases of differential mental and physical health. Research with adolescents includes the 16-year ongoing Great Smoky Mountains Study of developmental epidemiology of mental health, which focused initially on the bases of gender difference in rates of depression and latterly on cultural models of the life course; biocultural determinants of pubertal timing and adolescent socialization, behavior, and experience in Kenya and Papua New Guinea; allostatic load and mental health outcomes in street children and child soldiers in Nepal. Policy-related findings and efforts for youth include: low birth weight interacts with adverse post-natal experiences to drive risk for female depression at puberty; impact of social transformation and political violence on adolescent mental and physical health (gender discrimination, New Guinea; treatment of returned child soldiers, Nepal); sleeping arrangements affect adolescent state regulation (Egypt); use of integrated multi-systemic, biomarker-enhanced protocols for assessment of behavior interventions to reduce risk behavior and vulnerability to disease transmission (South Africa and Nepal).

TITLE OF PRESENTATION Inside/Out or Outside/In? Challenge and Collaboration for Youth Well-Being

ABSTRACT The human population is distinctly young: in 2006, over a third (34%, or 2.2 billion) were under age 18 and almost half were under age 25 years. Yet nearly the majority (47.6%) of the young people ages 15-24 live in extreme poverty (<\$2/day), 15% are undernourished (Curtain 2004), and 14.4% are unemployed (World Youth Report 2005). Nevertheless, only a minute fraction of adolescent development and mental health research originates from work in the developing countries where 85% of young people live, and has used an inside/out perspective. This paper draws upon our collaborative work to narrow that gap, by tracking biocultural pathways in human development and health disparities in those settings. The presentation will proceed from a developmental biocultural model and illustrate its application in work in Nepal. Our findings converge with other evidence for the powerful role of environment and hence culture in development and health (outside/in), and highlights the manifold linkages between physical and mental health. It also contributes to the ongoing revolution in understandings of biology, particularly the biocultural pathways to embodiment. Finally, it shows the value of fluid multi-disciplinary cross-institutional, theory-research-practice groups for this work. Implications for practice and policy in specific needs for adolescent welfare, trauma and refugee care, and integrated comprehensive health programs are discussed.



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Schubert Center for Child Studies
615 Crawford Hall
10900 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44106-7179

P 216.368.0540
www.case.edu/artsci/schubert