
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

NAME: R. Kelly Raley

eRA COMMONS USER NAME: KRALEY

POSITION TITLE: Professor, Department of Sociology

EDUCATION/TRAINING

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX	BA	05/89	Sociology
University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI	MS	05/91	Sociology
University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI	PhD	08/94	Sociology
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC	Postdoc	08/97	Demography

A. Personal Statement

I am a family demographer whose research investigates family trends, the social determinants of family formation and stability, and the consequences of family change for well-being. My research on family formation and stability focuses on the influence of social contexts on relationship formation and stability. Core to family demography, my research has used population representative data to describe change and variation in the family and household experiences of children and adults. Over the next 5 years I will continue this line of research by using data from the 2008 and 2014 SIPP panels to describe variation in children's household experiences from birth to age 16 by race-ethnicity and maternal education with support from NICHD (R03, Pending, scored 8%). I have recently submitted a proposal (R01) for a project that will contribute to the demographic understanding of health disparities by linking the National Survey of Families and Household (NSFH) to the NCHS National Death Index. Additional planned projects will link the NSFH to other administrative data sources. My research fits within the primary research areas of Demography: Family Demography and Intergenerational Relationships and Population Health. I am the Associate Director of the PRC, serve on the Advisory Committee of the Scientific and Technical Core (STC), am Director of the Texas Federal Statistical Research Data Center (RDC) Branch at UT Austin, slated to be operational in the summer of 2017, and I also organize and lead the working group for research on families (FAMDEM). PRC services and support have been crucial for my research. The administrative core provides critical support for grant preparation and management. The STC creates data security plans and maintains data security for my many projects based on restricted-use and confidential data. The location of an RDC branch in the PRC will greatly enhance my access to restricted use SIPP data. Finally, throughout my career, the Development core has helped strengthen my research proposals, first through the summer bootcamp and most recently through the workshop-that-grant program.

B. Positions and Honors**Positions and Employment**

1988 Research Assistant, Population Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin
1989-1992 Research Assistant, Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin at Madison
1992-1994 Predoctoral Trainee, Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin at Madison
1994-1996 Postdoctoral Fellow, Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
1996-1997 Research Associate, Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
1997-Present Faculty Research Associate, Population Research Center, The University of Texas
1997-2002 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, The University of Texas at Austin
2002-2004 Associate Training Director, Population Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin
2003-2004 Associate Chair, Department of Sociology, The University of Texas at Austin
2004 Interim Executive Director, Institute for Public School Initiatives, UT System
2003-2009 Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, The University of Texas at Austin
2008-Present Training Director, Population Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin
2009-Present Professor, Department of Sociology, The University of Texas at Austin

Honors, Other Experience, and Professional Memberships

1992-1994 Predoctoral Traineeship, Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin Madison

1993 Student Intern, *American Sociological Review*

1993 Student Intern, *American Sociological Review*

1994-1996 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

1998 Summer Research Award, Faculty Development Program, The University of Texas at Austin

2000 Member, Nomination Committee, Population Section, American Sociological Association

2000 Discussant, Session on Family Demography, American Sociological Association

2000 Organizer, Session on Cohabitation: Meanings and Implications for Adults and Children, Population Association of America

2001 Dean's Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts, The University of Texas at Austin

2001 Member, William J. Goode Book Award Committee, Family Section, American Sociological Association

2001 Discussant, Session on Family Composition and Well Being Across the Life Course, American Sociological Association

2001 Discussant, Session on Cohabitation, Population Association of America

2002 Member, Membership Committee, Population Studies Section, American Sociological Association

2003 Discussant, Session on Economic Foundations of Marriage, Population Association of America

2003 Organizer, Session on Marital and Cohabiting Unions, Family Section, American Sociological Association

2003-2006 Elected Member, Family Section Council, American Sociological Association

2004 Chair, Committee for Family Section Distinguished Career Award, American Sociological Association

2004 Organizer, Session on Union Formation, Population Association of America

2004 Review Panel, Sociology Dissertation, National Science Foundation

2005 Discussant, Family Section panel on Cohabiting Unions, American Sociological Association

2005 Member, Family Section Goode Book Award Committee, American Sociological Association

2005-2007 Member, Sociology Dissertation Review Panel, National Science Foundation

2006-2009 Member, Editorial Board, *Sociology of Education*

2007 Chair, Nominations Committee, Family Section, American Sociological Association

2007 Ad Hoc Reviewer, National Institutes of Health

2007-2010 Council Member, Population Section, American Sociological Association

2007-2011 Member, Committee on Population Statistics, Population Association of America

2007-2012 Deputy Editor, *Population Research and Policy Review*

2008 Organizer, Session on Household Configurations and Reproductive Life and Discussant, Session on Cohabitation, Population Association of America

2008 Organizer, Session on Fertility, American Sociological Association

2009 Organizer, Session on Future of Survey Research, Population Association of America

2009-2012 Member, Standing Review Committee, National Institutes of Health

2010-2012 Editorial Board, *Demography*

2010-2012 Editorial Board, *Journal of Marriage and Family*

2010 Invited Speaker, National Family Symposium, Penn State University

2010 Invited Speaker, National Academies of Science workshop on "The Science of Family Research."

2011 Invited Speaker Counting Couples, Counting Families. Organized by the National Center for Family and Marriage Research. July 19-20, Washington D.C.

2011-present Editorial Board, *Social Science Research*

2012 Editor Elect, *Journal of Marriage and Family*

2013-2016 Editor, *Journal of Marriage and Family*

2014 Chair, Population Section, American Sociological Association (elected)

2014-2017 Board Member, Population Association of America

Present Member, Population Association of America; Population Section and Family Section, American Sociological Association; National Council on Family Relations; Council on Contemporary Families

C. Contributions to Science

1. The Contribution of Occupational Characteristics to Educational and Racial Variation in Marriage

Over the past 50 years marriage has been delayed to later ages, non-marital fertility has rapidly increased, and levels of divorce have remained steady at high levels. Yet, not all population subgroups have experienced these shifts equally, and over this time educational disparities in family formation and stability have grown. Between 1970 and 1995, among women age 25-34 with less than a high school degree, the proportion who are single-mothers doubled from 12 to 24 percent. The increase among similarly aged women with a college degree was much more modest, from 6 to 8 percent (Blau 1998). These disparities have continued to increase since 1995 (Ellwood and Jencks 2004).

Our analyses found that occupational characteristics are associated with the timing of first marriage, especially for women. Specifically, we found that earnings are positively associated with marriage and that this association is as strong for women as men in their mid-to-late twenties. Additionally, occupational autonomy—having the control over one’s own work structure—facilitates entry into first marriage for women in their mid-to-late-20s but, for men, occupational autonomy is not associated with marriage at these ages. These results suggest that even as women’s earnings are increasingly important for marriage, other aspects of work are also important for stable family formation.

In addition, we found that occupational education (the proportion of workers in an occupation that hold a Bachelor’s degree or more) is positively associated with transitioning to first marriage and with marrying a college-educated partner for women but not for men. Moreover, occupational education is positively associated with marriage over cohabitation as a first union for women. Our findings call attention to an unexplored, indirect link between education and marriage that, we argue, offers insight into why college educated women in the United States enjoy better marriage prospects.

Publications

Kuo, Janet Chen-Lan and R. Kelly Raley. 2016. “Is it All about Money? Work Characteristics and Women’s and Men’s Marriage Formation in Early Adulthood.” Journal of Family Issues. DOI: 10.1177/0192513X14530973 PMID: PMC4856051.

McClendon, David, Janet Chen-Lan Kuo, and R. Kelly Raley. 2014. “Opportunities to Meet: Occupational Education and Marriage Formation in Young Adulthood.” Demography. " DOI: 10.1007/s13524-014-0313-x. PMID: PMC4133976

2. The Social Context of High Schools and Adolescent Relationship Formation

African Americans marry later and are more likely never to marry than non-Hispanic whites, and consequently a high proportion—over two-thirds—of black children are born outside of marriage to unmarried mothers. From the many previous studies that have investigated black-white differences in marriage timing, we have strong evidence that economic factors, specifically high rates of unemployment and low earnings among black men, explain some of the race gap. However, black-white differences in marriage remain after multivariate models control for race differences in employment and earnings, indicating that these economic factors are not a complete explanation. Alternative explanations focus on demographic and social factors, such as the lower ratio of men to women and norms about marriage and family life. This study focused on the economic, demographic, and social factors that contribute to race and ethnic differences in relationship formation that are evident in adolescence.

We found that black girls were less likely than white girls to form romantic relationships in adolescence and romantic involvement during adolescence predicted accelerated marriage in early adulthood. We investigated the contribution of two broad types of social-demographic factors to race-ethnic differences in adolescent relationship formation, population composition and normative climate. Drawing from Blau (1977), we expected that the tendency of white girls to be more often romantically involved than black girls would be especially pronounced in schools where blacks were a smaller minority. Drawing from Coleman (1961) we expected that the social climate in schools would shape the characteristics of adolescent romantic relationships. Results support the population composition hypotheses but not the idea that race-ethnic differences arise because of differences in normative climate. In fact we found very little evidence to support that the normative climate had any influence on romantic involvement, despite testing a wide range of measures.

Publications

- Raley, R. Kelly, Sarah Crissey, & Chandra Muller. 2007. "Of Sex and Romance: Adolescent relationships in the transition to adulthood." Journal of Marriage and Family 69: 1210-1226. PMID: PMC2835313
- Cavanagh, Shannon, Sarah Crissey, and Kelly Raley. 2008. Family Structure and Adolescent Opposite Sex Relationships. Journal of Marriage and Family. 70: 698-714.
- Raley, R. Kelly and M. Kate Sullivan. 2010. Social-Contextual influences on Adolescent Romantic and Sexual Activity. Sociological Spectrum, 30: 65-89. DOI: 10.1080/02732170903346205 PMID: PMC2792937
- Raley, R. Kelly and Charles E. Stokes. 2011. Kin Connection: Kin Involvement While Growing Up and Marriage in Adulthood. Social Science Research 40(2): 433-443. DOI: 10.1016/j.ssresearch.2010.09.005 PMID: PMC3048466

3. Implications of rising cohabitation for child well-being.

Since 1980 an increasing proportion of children live with a cohabiting parent. Cohabitation in many ways resembles marriage and so we might expect children with cohabiting parents to have similar outcomes as children with married parents. However, because cohabiting unions are typically unstable and more likely to involve high levels of conflict, these living arrangements might be harmful to children and present problems for children's transitions to adulthood, potentially more so than if they lived in single parent families. Our analyses showed that, among children born to mothers less than 30 years old, adding transitions into and out of cohabitation increases our measure of family instability by 30 percent for White children and over 100 percent for Black children. Furthermore children who live with a cohabiting mother experience much higher levels of family instability than children whose parents are not married but whose mother never cohabits.

We also found that maternal cohabitation is associated with poor educational outcomes for children, as predicted by the family instability hypothesis. In addition, compared to having a birth while single, having a nonmarital birth during cohabitation is associated with poorer mental health for mother. Cohabiting women experience remarkable declines in social and psychological well-being even controlling for their (often lower) level of well-being prior to the birth of the child. That is, cohabitation is associated with particularly problematic mental health outcomes for new mothers. This suggests that an explanation for poorer educational outcomes for children of cohabiting mothers may involve the mental health of the mother.

Publications

- Raley, R. Kelly and Wildsmith, Elizabeth. 2004. "Cohabitation and Children's Family Instability" Journal of Marriage and the Family. 66:210-219
- Woo, Hyeyoung & and R. Kelly Raley. 2005. A Small Extension to "Costs and Rewards of Children: The Effects of Becoming a Parent on Adults' Lives." Journal of Marriage and Family 67: 216-221. DOI: 10.1111/j.0022-2445.2005.00016.x
- Raley, R. Kelly, Michelle Frisco, & Elizabeth Wildsmith. 2005. "Maternal Cohabitation and Educational Success" Sociology of Education. 78: 144-164.

4. Change in US Families and Households

Investigating trends in patterns of family formation including marriage, cohabitation, and non-marital fertility, we found that cohabitation continued to offset declines in marriage. In addition, a rising proportion of births occurred to cohabitators. This increase was not due to an increase in the propensity for cohabitators to have children but rather to a simple rise in the proportion of women cohabiting.

- Raley, R. Kelly. 2001. "Increasing Fertility in Cohabiting Unions: Evidence for the Second Demographic Transition in the United States?" Demography, 38(1):59-66. DOI: 10.2307/3088288
- Raley, R. Kelly. 2000. "Recent Trends in Marriage and Cohabitation: The United States" in Linda Waite, Christine Bachrach, Michelle Hindin, Elizabeth Thomson, and Arland Thornton, (Eds). Ties that Bind: Perspectives on Marriage and Cohabitation (pp. 19-39). Hawthorne: Aldine de Gruyter.

Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/myncbi/r..raley.1/bibliography/41148218/public/?sort=date&direction=descending>

D. Research Support

Ongoing Research Support

R21HD083845 (R. Crosnoe and R.K. Raley, PIs)

06/01/15-05/31/17

Work-Family Dynamics and Women's Transition into Parenthood

This project explores how the work conditions of new mothers affect the stress that they feel when their children are young, with a special focus on those whose children have special health and developmental challenges and on differences among women who are single or involved in various kinds of romantic partnerships.

Role: Principal Investigator

Responsibilities: Collaborate with graduate research assistants to achieve specific aims, particularly the first and third aims. She will write about the results of the project for presentation at workshops, scholarly meetings, and for publication.

T32 HD007081 (R.K. Raley, PI)

05/01/13-04/30/18

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Training Program in Population Studies

This grant provides research support to various federally funded projects at the PRC and trains graduate students in the methodology employed in population and demographic research.

Role: Principal Investigator

Responsibilities: Oversee the graduate training program, including review of trainees, selecting fellowship participants, ensuring training seminar includes responsible conduct of research.

Completed Research Support

R01HD061551 (C. Muller PI).

07/1/10-10/31/16

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Education and the Transition to Adulthood

This project will add detailed information on postsecondary education for the National Longitudinal Study of Youth of 1997 (NLSY97) respondents, culled from transcripts and other administrative records of test scores and postsecondary enrollment histories.

Role: Co-Investigator

Responsibilities: Supervising research on the connections between postsecondary education and family experiences. Organize NLSY Postsecondary Transcript Network.

R21 HD068807 (R.K. Raley, PI)

03/04/11-01/31/13

National Institutes of Health

Using O NET to Investigate Sources of Educational & Racial Variation in Marriage

This study investigates the potential for work characteristics to explain educational and racial disparities in marriage and cohabitation by linking data from the O*NET, 2000 Census, and the 1997 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth.

Role: Principal Investigator

Responsibilities: Direct and supervise quantitative analyses, write papers, complete annual reports.