

DARA SHIFRER

Houston Education Research Consortium
Kinder Institute for Urban Research
Rice University

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EDUCATION

2012	Ph.D. in Sociology	University of Texas at Austin
2008	M.A. in Sociology	University of Texas at Austin
2003	Teacher Certification	Education Service Center Region XIII, Austin, TX
1998	B.A. in Mathematics	University of Nevada, Las Vegas

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Education, Race, Social Stratification, Mental Health, Social Psychology, Math and Science, Learning Disabilities, Segregation, Gender

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2012-current	POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW – Houston Education Research Consortium, Kinder Institute for Urban Research, Rice University, Dr. Ruth López Turley
2007-2012	RESEARCH ASSISTANT – Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Chandra Muller
2008-2011	PROJECT COORDINATOR – Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Chandra Muller
2007-2008	RESEARCH ASSOCIATE – Unbundling Youth, Family and Community Involvement in College Access: On the Ground in Austin, Texas, Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Amy Langenkamp
2006-2007	RESEARCH ASSOCIATE – Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Chandra Muller

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2011	ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR – Education and Society, Department of Sociology, UT Austin
2007	TEACHING ASSISTANT – Sociology of Criminal Justice, UT Austin
2006	TEACHING ASSISTANT – Introduction to Sociology, UT Austin
2002-2006	MATH TEACHER – West Ridge Middle School and Mendez Middle School, Austin TX

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Shifrer, Dara and April Sutton. 2014. "Region-Urbanicity Differences in Locus of Control: Social Disadvantage or Cultural Exceptionalism?" *Sociological Inquiry* 84(4): 570-600.
- Shifrer, Dara. 2013. "Stigma of a Label: Educational Expectations for High School Students Labeled with a Learning Disability." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 54(4):462-480. (featured in a podcast)
- Shifrer, Dara, Rebecca Callahan, and Chandra Muller. 2013. "Equity or Marginalization? The High School Course-Taking of Students Labeled with a Learning Disability." *American Educational Research Journal* 50(4):656-682.
- Shifrer, Dara. 2013. "Learning Disabilities and Inequality." *Sociology Compass* 7/8:656-669.
- Shifrer, Dara, Jennifer Pearson, Chandra Muller, and Lindsey Wilkinson. 2012. "College-Going Benefits of High School Sports Participation: Race and Gender Differences over Three Decades." *Youth & Society* (published online).
- Shifrer, Dara, Chandra Muller, and Rebecca Callahan. 2011. "Disproportionality and Learning Disabilities: Parsing Apart Race, Socioeconomic Status, and Language." *Journal of Learning Disabilities* 44(3):246-257.
- Shifrer, Dara and Rebecca Callahan. 2010. "Technology and Communications Coursework: Facilitating the Progression of Students with Learning Disabilities through High School Science and Math Coursework." *Journal of Special Education Technology* 25(3):65-76.

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

- Shifrer, Dara, Ruth López Turley, and Holly Heard. Revise and resubmit from *American Educational Research Journal*. "Effect of Receiving Financial Awards on Teachers' Retention, Attendance Rates, and their Students' Achievement Gains."
- Callahan, Rebecca and Dara Shifrer. Revise and resubmit from *Educational Administration Quarterly*. "Leading Secondary Schools toward Equitable Access for EL Students: Course Taking as a Manageable EL Program Metric for School Leaders."
- Shifrer, Dara. Under review at *Learning and Instruction*. "Stigma and Stratification Limiting the Math Course Progression of Adolescents Labeled with a Learning Disability."
- Shifrer, Dara. Under review at *Social Problems*. "Clarification of the Social Roots of the Disproportionate Labeling of Racial Minorities and Males with Learning Disabilities."
- Langenkamp, Amy and Dara Shifrer. Under review at *Social Problems*. "Family Legacy or Family Pioneer? Class Differences in the Social Construction of College-Going."
- Shifrer, Dara and Rachel Fish. Under review at *Educational Researcher*. "Variation in the Relationship between Race and Educational Disability Categories in a Majority-Minority District."

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Shifrer, Dara and Rachel Fish. 2014. *Racial Disproportionality in Special Ed Largely Explained by Correlates of Race Rather than Racially Biased Categorizations*. Houston, TX: Houston Education Research Consortium. (research brief)

Shifrer, Dara and Ruth López Turley. 2013. *Houston Independent School District's Aspire Program: Estimated Effects of Receiving Financial Awards: 2010-11 ASPIRE Program*. Houston, TX: Houston Education Research Consortium. (policy report / research brief)

Shifrer, Dara, Ruth López Turley, and Holly Heard. 2013. *Houston Independent School District's Aspire Program: Estimated Effects of Receiving Financial Awards: 2009-10 ASPIRE Program*. Houston, TX: Houston Education Research Consortium. (policy report / research brief) (reviewed by external peers)

Shifrer, Dara. 2013. "The Coleman Report." *Sociology of Education: An A-to-Z Guide*, edited by James Ainsworth. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Shifrer, Dara. 2013. "Meritocracy." *Sociology of Education: An A-to-Z Guide*, edited by James Ainsworth. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Shifrer, Dara. 2013. "Oppositional Culture." *Sociology of Education: An A-to-Z Guide*, edited by James Ainsworth. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Callahan, Rebecca and Dara Shifrer. 2012. "High School ESL Placement: Practice, Policy and Effects on Achievement." Pp. 19-37 in *Linguistic Minority Students Go to College: Preparation, Access, and Persistence*, edited by Yasuko Kanno and Linda Harklau. New York, NY: Routledge.

Shifrer, Dara, Chandra Muller, and Rebecca Callahan. 2010. "Disproportionality: A Sociological Perspective on the Identification by Schools of Students with Learning Disabilities." Pp. 279-308 in *Research in Social Science and Disability Series, Volume 5: Disability as a Fluid State*, edited by B. M. Altman and S. Barnartt. Bingley, United Kingdom: Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Langenkamp, Amy G., Jim Walker, Dara Shifrer, and Kelly Fulton. 2009. *Final Report: Unbundling Youth, Family, and Community Involvement in College Access: on the Ground in Austin, Texas*. Austin, TX: Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project (CTSIP), The Education Research Institute (TERI), and Social Science Research Council (SSRC).

Shifrer, Dara, Chandra Muller and Simon Barnes. 2008. *Report on Faculty Climate Survey at the University of Texas at Austin, Fall 2007*. Austin, TX: Gender Equity Task Force, University of Texas at Austin.

Shifrer, Dara. 2008. "Educating with Consistent Cultural Capital in a Mennonite Community." *Research Reports from the Programme for Belize Archaeological Project, Volume Two*, edited by Fred Valdez, Jr. Austin, TX: Mesoamerican Archaeological Research Laboratory.

PAPERS IN PREPARATION

Shifrer, Dara. "Parent and Peer Influences Mediating the Association between Adolescents' Socioeconomic Status and Locus of Control."

Shifrer, Dara, Ruth López Turley, and Holly Heard. "Performance Pay for Teachers in High Need Schools."

Shifrer, Dara and Rachel Fish. "Differences Across Schools in Similar Students' Likelihood of Placement into Special Education."

Fish, Rachel and Dara Shifrer. "Qualities of Students and their Schools that Differentiate the Effect of Special Education Services"

Chukhray, Irina and Dara Shifrer. "Race and Gender Congruence: Effects of Teacher-Student Pairing on Student Test Score Gains."

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2014 Paper at the American Sociological Association: "The Stigmatizing Influence of Learning Disability Labels for Adolescents' Progression through Math Coursework."
- 2014 Roundtable at the American Sociological Association: "Do Teacher Financial Awards Motivate Teachers and Boost Student Achievement in an Urban Disadvantaged School District?"
- 2014 Paper at Society for the Study of Social Problems: ""Parent and Peer Influences Mediating the Association between Adolescents' Socioeconomic Status and Locus of Control"
- 2014 Paper at Society for the Study of Social Problems: "Evidence for the Social Roots of Special Education Labels within a Large Urban School District"
- 2014 Paper at Society for the Study of Social Problems: "Race and Gender Congruence: Effects of Teacher-Student Pairing on Student Test Score Gains"
- 2014 Paper at American Educational Research Association: "Stigma and Stratification Related to the Learning Disability Label: High School Students' Progression through Math Coursework"
- 2014 Poster at American Educational Research Association: "Effect of Receiving Financial Awards on Teachers' Retention and Attendance Rates and Their Students' Achievement Gains"
- 2014 Paper at Sociology of Education Association: "Financial Awards for Teachers & Student Achievement Gains."
- 2014 Poster at Sociology of Education Association: "Effects of Teacher-Student Race or Gender Congruence on Student Test Score Gains."
- 2013 Roundtable at American Sociological Association: "Effect of Receiving Financial Awards on Teachers' Retention, Attendance Rates, and their Students' Achievement Gains."
- 2012 Poster at National Science Foundation Joint Annual Meeting: "The Label of Learning Disability and College Enrollment."
- 2012 Paper at American Sociological Association: "Stigma of a Label: Educational Expectations for High School Students Labeled with a Learning Disability."
- 2012 Paper at Society for the Study of Social Problems: "Stigma of a Label: Educational Expectations for High School Students Labeled with a Learning Disability."
- 2012 Paper at Society for the Study of Social Problems: "The Structural and Social Roots of the High School Learning Disability Label."
- 2012 Poster at Population Association of America: "Parent and Peer Influences Mediating the Association between Adolescents' Socioeconomic Status and Locus of Control."
- 2012 Paper at American Sociological Association: "Parent and Peer Influences that Mediate between Adolescents' Socioeconomic Status and Locus of Control."

- 2012 Poster at Population Association of America. "Social and Structural Factors Underlying the High School Label of Learning Disabled."
- 2012 Roundtable at American Educational Research Association. "Stigma of a Label: The Educational Expectations of High School Students Labeled with Learning Disabilities."
- 2011 Invited presentation at the National Science Foundation REESE PI Conference: "Students with Learning Disabilities: STEM Pathways in the Social Context."
- 2011 Paper presentation at American Sociological Association: "Social Influences on the Attitudes and Behaviors of High School Students Identified with LD."
- 2011 Paper at American Sociological Association: "Resistance, Compromise, and Ideological Work: Strategies for Preservation in an Intentional Community."
- 2011 Paper at American Sociological Association: "Developing a College-Going Habitus: How Families and Schools Influence First Generation Students."
- 2011 Poster at National Science Foundation Joint Annual Meeting: "Perceptions of Disability: The Influence of Expectations, Attitudes and Behaviors on the End of High School Outcomes of Students Identified with a Learning Disability."
- 2011 Invited presentation at the National Science Foundation Joint Annual Meeting: "Students with Learning Disabilities: STEM Pathways in the Social Context."
- 2011 Roundtable at American Educational Research Association: "The High School Course-taking of Students Identified with a Learning Disability."
- 2010 Poster at 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Population Research Center: "Social Influences on the Attitudes and Behaviors of Students Identified with Learning Disabilities."
- 2010 Paper at American Sociological Association: "Don't Get Above Your Raisin': The Destiny of Southern Students."
- 2010 Roundtable at American Sociological Association: "The High School Course-taking of Students Identified with Learning Disabilities."
- 2010 Paper at National Science Foundation Joint Annual Meeting: "The Learning Disability Label and College Enrollment."
- 2010 Paper at American Educational Research Association: "Disproportionality and Learning Disabilities: Parsing Apart Race, Socioeconomic Status, and Language."
- 2009 Paper at Southern Demographical Association: "'American by Birth, Southern by the Grace of God': The Destiny of Southern Students."
- 2009 Paper at American Sociological Association: "Identifying the Causes of Gender Inequality in Compensation among Faculty at the University of Texas."
- 2009 Poster at National Science Foundation Joint Annual Meeting. "Disproportionality: A Sociological Perspective of the Identification of Students with a Learning Disability."
- 2009 Poster at Population Association of America: "Variation by Race and Gender in the College-Going Benefits of High School Sports."
- 2009 Paper at American Educational Research Association: "Accounting for Selection and Variation by Race and Gender in the Academic Impact of High School Sports."

- 2009 Paper at Second Annual Teacher Education Symposium hosted by The Consortium for Research in Teacher Education and The College of Education at The University of Texas at Austin: "Cultural Capital and Educational Relationships: Minority-Culture Teachers in a Mennonite School."
- 2009 Paper at Practice What We Teach conference hosted by the Center for Health and Social Policy (CHASP), LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin: "A Sociological Perspective of the Identification of Students with Learning Disabilities."
- 2009 Paper at Sociology of Education Association: "Individual and School Characteristics of Students Identified with a Learning Disability."
- 2008 Roundtable at American Sociological Association: "Accounting for Selection in the Academic Impact of High School Sports on Black Males."
- 2008 Paper at Society for the Study of Social Problems: "Educating with Consistent Cultural Capital in a Mennonite Community."
- 2008 Paper at the 15th Annual Emerging Scholarship in Women's and Gender Studies Conference, The University of Texas at Austin. "Do the Traditional Academic Benefits of High School Sports Also Apply to Girls?"
- 2008 Paper at Sociology of Education Association: "How Social Support Influences Students' Plans After High School: Differences for First-Generation College-Going Youth."
- 2007 Paper at National Association for College Admission Counseling National Conference, Austin, TX. "Promoting College Access through Community Connections."

HONORS

Featured in a podcast for *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* (2013)

Featured on the UT College of Liberal Arts, Public Affairs website, "Emerging Sociology Scholars Showcase their Works at Prestigious ASA Conference." <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/public-affairs/features/Web-Spotlights/Emerging-Sociology-Scholars-Showcase-their-Works-at-Prestigious-ASA-Conference-.php> (2012)

Graduate Student Professional Development Award (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012)

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Predoctoral Traineeship, Awarded by the Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin (\$21,772, declined) (2012)

Passed Comprehensive Exams with distinction (2009)

Letter of commendation for quality research collaboration from Austin Independent School District (AISD) and Jim Walker, Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project (CTSIP) (2008)

Who's Who among American Teachers (2007)

Preemptive University Fellowship (2006)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad-hoc reviewer

American Journal of Preventative Medicine
American Journal of Sociology
European Journal of Psychology of Education
Intersections
Israel Science Foundation
Journal of Health and Social Behavior
Journal for Educational Research Online
Research in Social Science and Disability Series
Social Science and Medicine
Sociological Inquiry
Sociological Insight
Sociological Perspectives
Sociology of Education
Sport in Society: Cultures, Commerce, Media, Politics
Youth & Society

Editorial

Intersections

Conferences

Session Presider, American Sociological Association (2011, 2012, 2014)
Session Presider, Society for the Study of Social Problems (2014)

Professional Service

Member of the Houston Education Research Consortium research team (2012-current)
Member of the Education and Transition to Adulthood Group (2006-2012)
Member of CMERT Discussion Group (2006-2012)
Student mentor for first year graduate students (2007-2011)
Methodological presentations for other graduate students, UT Austin (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)
Invited participant in National Science Foundation webinar (2010)
Student member of UT Austin Faculty Gender Equity Task Force (2007-2008)
Invited presentations of research for other graduate students, Department of Sociology, UT Austin (2007, 2008)
Member of SCHEME Discussion Group (2006-2007)

Professional Membership

American Sociological Association, Population Association of America, American Educational Research Association, Sociology of Education Association, Society for the Study of Social Problems

Media Engagement

Austin Business Journal, The Daily Texan, Education Week, High Beam Research, Houston Chronicle, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* podcast, KUHF News - Houston Public Radio, Liberal Arts Insider, MSPnet, PsyPost.org, University of Georgia coeNEWS, The University of Texas at Austin - College of Liberal Arts - College News, The University of Texas at Austin – Population Research Center – Featured Publications Webpage, The University of Texas at Austin - Public Affairs – News

Mentor

Michelle Ming, Clements Capstone high school student

REFERENCES

Dr. Ruth López Turley, Associate Professor, turley@rice.edu
Department of Sociology, Houston Education Research Consortium, Rice University

Dr. Chandra Muller, Professor, cmuller@prc.utexas.edu
Department of Sociology, Population Research Center, UT Austin

Dr. Catherine Riegle-Crumb, Associate Professor, riegle@austin.utexas.edu
Department of Sociology, College of Education, Population Research Center, UT Austin

Dr. R. Kelly Raley, Professor, kraley@prc.utexas.edu
Department of Sociology, Population Research Center, UT Austin

Dr. Rebecca Callahan, Assistant Professor, callahan@prc.utexas.edu
College of Education, Population Research Center, UT Austin