Jeanne Brooks-Gunn  
**Session 189:** Parental Involvement in Diverse Family Forms  
**Time and Location:** Saturday, May 02, 12:30 PM - 2:20 PM, LaSalle A  
**Title:** Racial and Ethnic Gaps in School Readiness Using Fragile Families  
**Abstract:** A growing body of research indicates that large race/ethnic disparities in test scores exist at the time children enter elementary school. These gaps have been attributed to family background/socioeconomic status, neighborhood conditions, children's health, parenting and early childcare experiences. This paper utilizes longitudinal data from the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study to examine the role of family structure and parenting practices in accounting for gaps in school readiness among black, Hispanic and white children. We improve on previous studies by examining how fathers' characteristics and behavior, and a more detailed set of family and parenting characteristics, improve our understanding of school-entry disparities. Our sample also includes a large number of Hispanic children. Similar to previous research, we find that white children are more academically and behaviorally ready for school. Results suggest that while socioeconomic resources remain a key explanatory mechanism, family instability and parenting independently contribute to the gaps.  
**Contributors:** Audrey N. Beck, Princeton University; Carey E. Cooper, Princeton University; Sara McLanahan, Princeton University; Jeanne Brooks-Gunn, Columbia University

Thomas A. DiPrete  
**Session 58:** Access to and the Impact of College Education  
**Time and Location:** Thursday, April 30, 3:30 PM - 5:20 PM, Mackinac West  
**Title:** Race and the Growing Female Advantage in Educational Attainment: A Trend Comparison  
**Abstract:** Using data from the Census and the Current Population Survey, we find that the gender gap in college completion has evolved differently for whites and blacks. The relative (to men) educational position of black women has long been more favorable than that of white women, but the female-favorable educational trends of the past 60 years are far stronger for whites than for blacks. Continuing black female gains are due largely to their relatively higher rates of transition to postsecondary education. White female gains also stem from female favorable trends in four-year college completion, given secondary education. Both black and white males were more likely than females to delay completion of college in earlier years, but this gender difference has diminished. The general trend is for the black gender gap to resemble the white gender gap, even as overall rates of college completion by blacks remain far below those of whites of both genders.  
**Contributors:** Thomas A. DiPrete, Columbia University; Anne McDaniel, Ohio State University; Claudia Buchmann, Ohio State University; Uri Shwed, Columbia University

Ashley M. Fox  
**Session 30:** Socioeconomic Status, HIV/STIs and Safe Sexual Behavior  
**Time and Location:** Thursday, April 30, 10:30 AM - 12:20 PM, Duluth  
**Title:** Economic Inequality as an Underlying Cause of HIV in Africa? The HIV-Poverty Thesis Re-Examined  
**Abstract:** Contrary to theories of poverty as the underlying cause of HIV in Africa, an increasing body of evidence at the national and individual levels indicates that wealthier countries and individuals within countries, are at heightened risk for HIV. This study tests the hypothesis that HIV infection increases under conditions of socioeconomic inequality rather than poverty. Examining demographic and health survey data from 16 African countries, this study utilizes a multilevel model to assess the relationship between HIV infection and economic inequality. All multivariate models were run as a two-level, hierarchical random intercept and slope models in Stata adjusted for clustering at the regional level. Results from the two-level random intercept model demonstrated that individual wealth quintile and regional gini coefficient are positive and significant. As hypothesized, wealthier individuals are at higher risk for HIV infection and the probability of infection increases with rising regional (within-country) inequality.  
**Contributors:** Ashley M. Fox, Columbia University
Jemima Frimpong and Stéphane Helleringer

Session 158: Gender and HIV Risk in Understudied Populations

Time and Location: Saturday, May 02, 8:30 AM - 10:20 AM, Brule A

Title: Multiple Concurrent Partnerships in a Sub-Saharan Setting: Biases in Self-Reported Measures and Their Implications for HIV/AIDS Prevention

Abstract: Multiple concurrent partnerships (MCP) have been described as the "key driver" of generalized HIV epidemics, but comparative studies show that MCP are not more common in regions of Africa with high HIV prevalence than in concentrated epidemics. This might be due to systematic under-reporting of MCP during sexual behavior surveys. We use sexual network data from a small island on Lake Malawi, in conjunction with a simple model of HIV transmission, to assess whether self-reports of partnership concurrency possibly underestimate the contribution of MCP to HIV epidemics. We find that the prevalence of MCP was significantly higher in this population according to estimates derived from network data. Self-reported data underestimated the proportion of incident infections attributable to MCP by more than 50%. Our results emphasize the need for interventions addressing patterns of sexual networking at the population level rather than focusing on the transmission of HIV within stable cohabiting couples.

Contributors: Stephane Helleringer, Columbia University; Linda Kalilani-Phiri, University of Malawi; Jemima A. Frimpong, University of Pennsylvania; James Mkandawire, Montfort Hospital, Malawi

Irv Garfinkel, Amanda Geller, Ronald B. Mincy, Ofira Schwartz-Soicher

Session 148: Criminal Justice System Issues for Children and Youth

Time and Location: Saturday, May 02, 8:30 AM - 10:20 AM, Marquette A

Title: Fathers' Incarceration and Child Development

Abstract: High rates of incarceration among urban men, and high rates of fatherhood among men in prisons, have raised concerns about the effects of parental incarceration on children. We use a longitudinal survey of nearly 5,000 urban families to examine the effect of fathers’ incarceration on children’s socioemotional and cognitive development. Controlling for a rich set of potential confounders, and using lagged measures of child development and individual fixed effects, we find a significant effect of fathers’ recent incarceration on children’s externalizing behavior and attention problems. Placebo tests confirm that these relationships are unlikely to be due to unobserved heterogeneity between families. We anticipate that the effects are mediated by mental health difficulties among mothers left behind, and suggest that strengthened support for families left behind, coupled with a reduction in the use of incarceration where appropriate, may reduce the collateral harm to children of incarcerated fathers.

Contributors: Amanda B. Geller, Columbia University; Carey E. Cooper, Princeton University; Ofira Schwartz-Soicher, Columbia University; Irwin Garfinkel, Columbia University; Ronald B. Mincy, Columbia University

Wen-Jui Han and Jane Waldfogel

Session 129: Work and Family Issues

Time and Location: Friday, May 01, 2:30 PM - 4:20 PM, Ambassador Ballroom 3

Title: Public Policies and Women's Employment after Childbearing

Abstract: This paper provides new evidence about how public policies in the United States affect work by mothers during the first months and years following childbirth. We use data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study-Birth Cohort and simultaneously examine the effects of multiple policies (state parental leave laws, welfare work exemptions, transfer payment generosity, and child care subsidies) using a difference-in-difference (DD) strategy that exploits the fact that each policy we examine is likely to strongly affect some women but not others. We find that the policies providing strong or weak work incentives can have strong effects, particularly when changed in combination and for disadvantaged mothers. Policy packages designed to maximize the choices available to mothers have weaker effects, since some such policies promote early work while others operate in the opposite direction. Some policies, such as parental leave entitlements, have different effects immediately after birth and at later child ages.

Contributors: Wen-Jui Han, Columbia University; Christopher Ruhm, University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Jane Waldfogel, Columbia University; Elizabeth Washbrook, University of Bristol
Stéphane Helleringer  
Session 177: Partner Selection and Sexual Networks  
**Time and Location:** Saturday, May 02, 12:30 PM - 2:20 PM, Mackinac West  
**Title:** Selective Mixing Based on HIV Status in Sub-Saharan Populations? Some Indirect Evidence from Demographic and Health Surveys and Implications for HIV Prevention  
**Abstract:** While most studies of behavior change in Sub-Saharan countries have focused on abstinence, partner reduction or condom use, partner choices and selective mixing may also represent important strategies to reduce exposure to HIV in generalized epidemics. In this paper, we investigate whether individuals are more likely to form new relationships with sero-concordant partners. While this practice has been documented in high-risk groups in developed countries (e.g., serosorting among men who have sex with men), it has garnered little attention in Sub-Saharan Africa. It may however become more and more relevant as HIV testing becomes widespread. We use data from the Demographic and Health Survey to compare the proportion of concordant relationships among recent relations (i.e., formed within a year of the survey) to what would be expected under a baseline model of random mixing. Initial results suggest selective mixing among both HIV-positive and HIV-negative individuals. These results have strong implications for prevention and treatment programs.  
**Contributors:** Stephane Helleringer, Columbia University; Georges Reniers, Princeton University

Yao Lu  
Session 54: Assimilation of Rural-To-Urban Migrants around the World  
**Time and Location:** Thursday, April 30, 1:30 PM - 3:20 PM, Brule B  
**Title:** The Effect of Internal Migration in China on Socioeconomic Outcomes and the Level of Living  
**Abstract:** Using data from a just-completed 2007-2008 national probability sample of 3,000 Chinese adults that includes an oversample of internal migrants, this paper will use a fixed effects approach to study the consequences of migration for occupational position and the standard of living. Over the last two decades, China has experienced massive internal migration, with about 150 million people, 12% of the population, living in places other than where they are formally registered. While internal migration in China is complex, the bulk is rural-to-urban labor migration, driven by the demand for workers in cities and the lack of economic opportunities in the countryside. But, despite strong incentives to migrate, little is known about whether and to what extent labor migration results in an improvement in the lives of migrants. This paper will compare migrants and non-migrants at origin and destination with respect to a variety of socioeconomic outcomes.  
**Contributors:** Donald J. Treiman, University of California, Los Angeles; Yao Lu, Columbia University

Yao Lu  
Poster Session 5: Labor Migration and People Left Behind in China  
**Time and Location:** Friday, May 01, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Ontario Exhibit Hall  
**Abstract:** Migration and remittances have become a major household strategy and source of income in rural China. However, few studies examine the influence of migration on the well-being of household members left behind, and whether such effects extend to social welfare with respect to education and health. Using data from the first national representative study that collects comprehensive information on migration and health in China, we examine the relationship between labor out-migration and 1) different aspects of health of adults left behind (self-reports as well as biomarkers, and physical as well as mental health) and 2) children’s school attendance in rural communities. We further consider several competing possibilities through which migration may affect education and health, including improvement of household livelihood through remittances, and loss of social and physical support due to absence of household members.  

Kristin Mammen  
Session 41: Family and Aging  
**Time and Location:** Thursday, April 30, 1:30 PM - 3:20 PM, Mackinac East  
**Title:** The Long Term Effects of the Divorce Revolution: Health, Wealth and Labor Supply  
**Abstract:** During the “Divorce Revolution” of the late 1960s and early 1970s, a large number of states passed laws allowing for unilateral divorce, which made divorce easier by requiring the consent of only one spouse to dissolve a marriage. During the same period, the United States divorce rate doubled. This
paper examines the effects of divorce law liberalization on the later-life well-being of those who were young adults when the laws were changing. Experiencing a law change at ages 16-25 increased labor supply and financial status at older ages for women, but is associated with poorer health. Men exposed to the law change as young adults also have higher financial status and poorer health later in life, but show no effect on their labor supply. The results suggest that the policy change affected long-term outcomes even for those who did not divorce, with one channel being increased labor supply for young women around the time of the reform.

Contributors: Kristin Mammen, Columbia University

Lenna Nepomnyaschy
Session 113: Cross-National Differences in the Influence of Context on Children's Well-Being
Title: Race Disparities in Low Birth Weight in the South and the Rest of the Nation
Abstract: This paper explores the sources of race disparities in low birth weight by comparing the nature and size of disparities in the South with the rest of the nation. Using the Early Child Longitudinal Study-Birth Cohort, this paper examines the extent to which socioeconomic status (SES), demographic characteristics, maternal health and health behaviors explain disparities in birth outcomes by region (South vs. non-South) and by race (black vs. white) within regions and identifies whether the association between SES and low birth weight is similar for blacks and whites in the South, compared with the rest of the nation. Results indicate that race disparities in low birth weight are smaller in the South than in the rest of the nation, which may be explained by worse outcomes for whites in the South, and by a stronger association between SES and health for blacks in the South than in the rest of the nation.

Contributors: Lenna Nepomnyaschy, Rutgers University

John Santelli
Session 108: Unintended Pregnancies
Title: Exploring Key Dimensions of Pregnancy Dimensions
Abstract: Widely-used simple categorical measures of pregnancy intentions do not well represent the complexity of factors involved in women's intentions. We used a variety of exploratory statistical methods to examine measures of pregnancy intention in the 2002 National Survey of Family Growth (N=3,032 pregnancies). Factor analyses identified two key dimensions of pregnancy intentions: (1) Desire and (2) Mistiming, and two smaller non-dimensional categories (Overdue and Don't Care). Desire included both affective and cognitive variables, as well as partner-specific factors. Similar pregnancy intention dimensions were found for adolescent and adult women, across socioeconomic status, and among racial and ethnic groups. Both Desire and Mistiming were highly predictive of the decision to abort or continue the pregnancy. These analyses strongly support prior demographic thinking about the importance of both timing of pregnancy and wanting a baby, but call into question the use of simple categorical measures.

Contributors: John Santelli, Columbia University; Laura Lindberg, Guttmacher Institute; Mark G. Orr, Columbia University

John Santelli
Session 162: The Context and History of Adolescent Sexual Behavior Trends
Abstract: After declining dramatically from 1991-2005, teen birth rates rose in 2006. Using sexual behavior and contraceptive use data from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (N~125,000), we calculated changes in pregnancy risk over time. Our index of pregnancy risk declined between 1991 and 2003, closely following declines in teen birth rates. Improvements in contraceptive use between 1991 and 2003 were responsible for 70% of declining pregnancy risk. Between 2003 and 2007, sexual activity was unchanged and pregnancy risk based on contraceptive use increased (p=.06). Although pregnancy risk was higher among blacks and Hispanics compared to whites, differences in sexual activity between blacks and other groups declined over time. After improvement in the 1990s and early 2000s, sexual behavioral change related to teen pregnancy appears to have stalled or reversed after 2003. These behavioral trends portend stagnant or even rising teen birth and pregnancy rates through 2008.
Julien Teitler  
Session 154: Cross-National Patterns of Fertility  
Time and Location: Saturday, May 02, 8:30 AM - 10:20 AM, Nicolet B  
Title: Explaining Trends and Cross-National Differences in Teen Birth Rates in Developed Countries  
Abstract: In this paper, I use natality data from European countries and the U.S., over a 45-year period, to investigate (1) the effect of sex education on teen birth rates and (2) the effect of adult fertility patterns on teen birth rates. Preliminary findings suggest that the provision of sex education has little effect on teen birth rates and that much but not all of the between-country differences in teen birth rates and the within-country time trends in teen birth rates can be explained by changes in adult age norms associated with parenthood.  
Contributors: Julien O. Teitler, Columbia University

Jane Waldfogel  
Session 39: Public Policy and Child Outcomes  
Time and Location: Thursday, April 30, 1:30 PM - 3:20 PM, Ambassador Ballroom 3  
Title: Income-Related Gaps in School Readiness in the U.S. and the UK: An Analysis of the Mediating Factors  
Abstract: This paper documents the income-related gaps in school readiness among two recent nationally representative cohorts of children from the U.S. and the UK. We show that substantial differences in cognitive ability are apparent in preschool in both countries. We then conduct a decomposition of these income-related differences, with the aim of identifying the reasons that low-income children fall behind and the areas in which interventions may potentially be most effective. Factors we consider are demographic characteristics, parenting behaviors, maternal and child health and exposure to child care settings. Contrasting the relative importance of these factors across the two countries allows us to draw some conclusions as to whether the drivers of low-income children’s deficits are common, despite the very different public policy environments in the UK and the U.S.  
Contributors: Jane Waldfogel, Columbia University; Elizabeth Washbrook, University of Bristol (former visiting scholar to CPRC)