

ALENA KUHLEMEIER

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Education

- 2021 (expected) Ph.D. in Sociology
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
Dissertation: *An Intersectional Mixed-Method Examination of Multi-Level Determinants of Adolescent Sexual Minority Health and Substance Use*
Committee: Dr. Jessica Goodkind (chair), Dr. Nancy Lopez, Dr. Kristin Barker, Dr. Cathleen Willging, and Dr. Katie Witkiewitz
- 2015 M.A. in Sociology
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
Thesis: *Relationally Constructing Sexual Identity: The Effect of Friendship Networks on Same-Sex Sexuality Development*
Committee: Dr. Kristin Barker (chair), Dr. Brian Soller, and Dr. Kimberly Huyser
- 2011 B.A. in Sociology, *magna cum laude*
Pomona College, Claremont, CA

Research Interests

Sociology of Health and Illness; Sociology of Gender and Sexuality; Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Zagona, Alison, Kirsten Lansey, Jennifer Kurth, and Alena Kuhlemeier. *forthcoming*. "Fostering Participation in Inclusive Classrooms for Students with Complex Support Needs: Educators' Strategies and Perspectives." *Journal of Special Education*.
- Soller, Brian, Jennifer E. Copp, Dana L. Haynie, and Alena Kuhlemeier. 2020. "Adolescent Dating Violence Victimization and Relationship Dissolution." *Youth and Society* 52(2): 187-208. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0044118X17736537>.
- Euler, Renee, Elizabeth Yakes Jimenez, Sarah Sanders, Alena Kuhlemeier, M. Lee Van Horn, Deborah Cohen, Diana Gonzales-Pacheco, and Alberta S. Kong. 2019. "Rural-Urban Differences in Baseline Dietary Intake and Physical Activity Levels of Adolescents." *Preventing Chronic Disease* 16: E01-E09.
- Sanders, Sarah R., Elizabeth Y. Jimenez, Alena Kuhlemeier, M. Lee Van Horn, Betty J. Skipper, Kriti Mishra, Tilly Ngo, Alberta S. Kong. 2019. "Estimated Physical Activity in

Adolescents by Wrist-worn GENEActiv Accelerometers.” *Journal of Physical Activity and Health* 16(9): 792-798.

Soller, Brian, Dana L. Haynie, and Alena Kuhlemeier. 2017. “Sexual Intercourse, Romantic Relationship Inauthenticity, and Adolescent Mental Health.” *Social Science Research* 64: 237-248.

Soller, Brian, and Alena Kuhlemeier. 2017. “Symmetric Versus Directed Intimate Partner Violence in Latino Immigrant Communities.” *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 35(1): 61-88. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-017-9370-9>.

Manuscripts under Review

Chang, Chi, Thomas Jaki, Muhammad Saad Sadiq, Alena Kuhlemeier, Daniel Feaster, Nathan Cole, Andrea Lamont, Daniel Oberski, M. Lee Van Horn. “A Permutation Test for Assessing the Presence of Individual Differences in Treatment Effects.” (Revise and Resubmit at *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*)

Kuhlemeier, Alena. “Effects of Friendship among Same-Sex Attracted Youth on Sexual Minority Identity Development in Adulthood.” (under review at *Journal of Homosexuality*)

Kuhlemeier, Alena. “Production and Maintenance of the Institutional In/visibility of Sexual and Gender Minority Students in Schools.” (under review at *Journal of Teacher Education*)

Kuhlemeier, Alena. “Advancing Quantitative Intersectionality through Invariance Testing in a Community Sample of High School Youth.” (under review at *Psychology of Women Quarterly*)

Kuhlemeier, Alena, Alexandra Agenbroad, Katie Witkiewitz, Thomas Jaki, Yu-Yu Hsaio, Chi Chang, and M. Lee Van Horn. “Individual Differences in the Effects of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Motivational Enhancement Therapy in the Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder.” (Revise and Resubmit at *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*)

Manuscripts in Progress

Coleman, Erin R., Alena Kuhlemeier, M. Lee Van Horn. “The Effects of State-level Social Determinants of the Status of Women on Women’s Mental Health.”

Gonzales-Pacheco, Diana, Elizabeth Y. Jimenez, Sarah R. Sanders, Monique K. Vallabhan, Alena Kuhlemeier, M. Lee Van Horn, Alberta S. Kong. “Anthropometric, Dietary Intake, and Physical Activity Predictors of Cardiometabolic Risk in Hispanic Adolescents with Overweight and Obesity.” (analysis completed)

Kong, Alberta S., Elizabeth Yakes Jimenez, Sarah G. Sanders, Monique K. Vallabhan, Alena Kuhlemeier, Grace L. McCauley, M. Lee Van Horn, Diana Gonzales-Pacheco, Jennifer Hettama, Jon Houck, Mary M. Ramos, Sally Davis, Sarah Feldstein Ewing. “Outcomes

of the ACTION PAC Cluster-Randomized Control Trial to Treat Adolescents with Obesity.” (analysis completed)

Kuhlemeier, Alena, Thomas Jaki, Elizabeth Yakes Jimenez, Alberta S. Kong, Chi Chang, M. Lee Van Horn. “Individual Differences in the Effects of the ACTION PAC Intervention in the Prevention and Treatment of Childhood Obesity.” (in preparation for *Preventive Medicine*)

Ramos, Mary M., Alena Kuhlemeier, Daniel Shattuck, Timothy Ozechowski, Dan Green, and Cathleen Willging. “School-Protective Factors in NSSI and Psychological Distress among Sexual Minority Youth.” (in preparation for *Journal for Adolescent Health*)

Awards for Manuscripts

Graduate Student Paper Award. 2020. “Production and Maintenance of the Institutional In/visibility of Sexual and Gender Minority Students in Schools.” Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico. (\$250)

Graduate Student Paper Competition. 2017. “Relationally Constructing Sexual Identity: The Effect of Friendship on Same-Sex Sexuality Development.” Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division, Society for the Study of Social Problems.

Graduate Student Paper Award. 2017. “Relationally Constructing Sexual Identity: The Effect of Friendship on Same-Sex Sexuality Development.” Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico. (\$250)

Grants and Fellowships

2019-2021 Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (F31MD014044)
Total Funding Amount: \$71,457

2019-2020 Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship
Office of Graduate Studies, University of New Mexico
Total Funding Amount: \$8,000

2017-2018 Evaluation Fellow
New Mexico Evaluation Lab, University of New Mexico
Funding Amount: \$1,000

2016 Student Research Grant
Graduate and Professional Students Association,
University of New Mexico
Funding Amount: \$460

2016 Professional Development Fellowship
Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico
Funding Amount: \$500

2011 Scholarship Award for Graduate Study
Phi Beta Kappa, Pomona College Chapter
Funding Amount: \$1,500

NIH-Funded Research Experience

2019-present **Implementing School Nursing Strategies to Reduce LGBTI Adolescent Suicide**

NICHHD 5R01HD083399

Role: Research Assistant

PIs: Cathleen Willging and Mary Ramos

Behavioral Health Research Center of the Southwest-Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation

Work with co-PIs, an anthropologist and a pediatrician, to analyze quantitative data from the RLAS trial. Design and execute analysis plans using both quantitative data from the RLAS sample as well as the New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey. Present findings to community advisory board of sexual minority youth stakeholders. Conduct outcomes analyses for the RLAS trial through the integration of these data sources.

2018-2019 Administrative Supplement to **Transdisciplinary Research, Equity, and Engagement Center for Advancing Behavioral Health**

NIMHD 3U54MD004811-07S1

Role: Research Assistant

PI: Lisa Cacari-Stone

TREE Center, University of New Mexico

Developed materials for workshop series on intersectionality and multi-level modeling. Worked with workshop participants from diverse fields and backgrounds to advance their understanding of the principles of hierarchical linear and non-linear modeling and their skills in using R to apply these methods and visualize their results. (Coleman et al.)

2017-2019 **ACTION PAC: Adolescents Committed to Improvement of Nutrition & Physical Activity**

NHLBI 5R01HL118734

Role: Research Assistant

PI: Alberta Kong

Department of Pediatrics, University of New Mexico

Worked with clinicians from the UNM Health Sciences Center to analyze control trial data from the cluster-randomized ACTION PAC study. Cleaned and managed daily accelerometry data from participants. Using multi-level modeling techniques, conducted outcomes analyses for the trial as well as intermediate analyses (Euler et al. 2017, Sanders et al. 2019)

Other Research Experience

2015-2019 Research Consultant and Data Analyst
Aspen Solutions, LLC

Analyze survey data from the annual New Mexico Community Survey and Strategies for Success survey, which measure substance use and mental health issues in adults and children,

respectively. Compile reports by county to be presented to substance abuse prevention programs across the state.

2014 - Research Assistant II
present Behavioral Health Research Center of the Southwest, Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation

Provide ongoing quantitative advisement and analysis associated with multiple ongoing NIH-funded projects.

2015-2017 Research Assistant
“Diabetes in American Indian/Alaska Native Communities: A Content Analysis of Academic Research.” (PI: Kimberly Huyser)
Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico

Compiled government reports (Healthy People) from 1975 to 2015 and academic articles from 1940 to 2015 that presented data related to American Indian/Alaska Native Health. Using NVivo, qualitatively coded all data sources. Worked with Dr. Huyser to develop an analysis of the ways that both the state and academia engage in colonialist racial projects in their portrayal of diabetes in American Indian/Alaska Native communities.

Presentations

Kuhlemeier, Alena. “Testing Invariance of Psychological Distress, Substance Use, and Adult Social Support in a Community Sample of High School Youth.” Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice, Coming Together for Action: Charlotte, NC 2020.

Kuhlemeier, Alena. “Production and Maintenance of the Institutional In/visibility of Sexual and Gender Minority Students in Schools.” Section on Sociology of Sex and Gender Session: Diverse Gender: Lived Experiences and Relations with Institutions. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association: San Francisco CA 2020.

Coleman, Erin and Alena Kuhlemeier. “Women's Empowerment and Mental Health: How State-Level Gender (In)equality Relates to Individual-Level Depressive Symptomology.” Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility Refereed Roundtable. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association: San Francisco CA 2020.

Kuhlemeier, Alena. “RLAS School Environment Survey: Progress at Year 3.” Reducing LGBT Adolescent Suicide (RLAS) Community Advisory Board Meeting. Behavioral Health Research Center of the Southwest—Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (BHRCS-PIRE), Albuquerque, NM January 2020.

Kuhlemeier, Alena. “An Intersectional Mixed-Method Examination of Multi-Level Determinants of Adolescent Sexual Minority Health and Substance Use.” Reducing LGBT Adolescent Suicide (RLAS) Community Advisory Board Meeting. Behavioral Health Research Center of the Southwest—Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (BHRCS-PIRE), Albuquerque, NM April 2019.

Van Horn, M. Lee, Erin R. Coleman, and Alena Kuhlemeier. "Multi-level Modeling: Assessing Contextual Effects." Three-part series on multi-level modeling for UNM Transdisciplinary Research Equity and Engagement (TREE) Center for Advancing Behavioral Health. Albuquerque, NM 2019.

Huyser, Kimberly R. and Alena Kuhlemeier. "Diabetes in American Indian/Alaska Native Communities: A Content Analysis of Academic Research." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association: Montreal, QC 2017.

Huyser, Kimberly R. and Alena Kuhlemeier. "Diabetes in American Indian/Alaska Native Communities: A Content Analysis of Academic Research." University of New Mexico Sociology Colloquium Series: Albuquerque, NM 2017.

Kuhlemeier, Alena. "Relationally Constructing Sexual Identity: The Effect of Friendship Networks on Same-Sex Sexuality Development." Section on Sexualities Refereed Roundtables. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association: Seattle, WA 2016.

Teaching/Mentorship Experience

2018-present Quantitative Methodology Consultant
The Methodology Group @ UNM
College of Education and Human Sciences, University of New Mexico

2016-2017 Lab Instructor
SOC 381: Sociological Data Analysis
Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico

2013-2016 Graduate Teaching Assistant
Courses Assisted: "From Childhood Misbehavior to Adult Offending;"
"Social Networks and Crime;" "Causes of Crime and Delinquency"
(Soller); "Sociology of Madness" (Whooley)
Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association
Sections: Race, Gender, and Class; Medical Sociology; Sociology of Sexualities
Phi Beta Kappa

Professional Service

Fall 2018 Graduate Student Representative, Hiring Committee (Maxine Baca Zinn
Endowed Faculty position)
Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico
2014-2017 Secretary, Sociology Graduate Student Association
Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico