

Melencia M. Johnson

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. – In Progress **Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC)**, Carbondale, Illinois
Department of Sociology
Dissertation Chair: Rachel Bridges Whaley, Ph.D.
Dissertation Title: Macro-Structural Study of Women’s Crime Rates: An Investigation using NIBRS
Description: A quantitative assessment of the structural factors that contribute to variation in women’s crime rates using National Incident Based Crime Reporting System and US Census data.
GPA: 3.8 (4.0 scale)
Expected Degree Date: May 2010.

Graduate Certificate **Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC)**, Women’s Studies
– August 2008 Advisor: Joan McDermott, Ph.D.

M.A. –December **Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC)**
2006 Department of Sociology
Thesis Chair: Michelle Hughes Miller, Ph.D.
Thesis Title: The Effects of Household Division of Labor, Status Differences, and Religion as Factors Contributing to Male and Female Perpetration of Intimate Partner Violence
GPA: 4.0 (4.0 scale)

B.A. – May 2005 **Norfolk State University**, Norfolk, Virginia
Department of Sociology
Emphasis in Criminal Justice
Summa Cum Laude

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Criminology, Female Crime and Violence, Intersection of Race/Ethnicity/Class/Gender and Crime, Sociology of Gender

TEACHING INTERESTS

Criminology; Race and Crime; Feminist Criminology; General Sociology; Women, Crime and Justice; Research Methods; Sociology of Gender; Sociology of Deviance; Sociology of Religion

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Graduate Assistant, University Women's Professional Advancement, SIUC, Fall 2007-Fall 2009

- Performed research related to women's professional advancement, work/life balance, dual career programs, and institutional grants. Assisted in the development of new policies and procedures.
- Assisted in clerical, professional, and teaching related duties. Assisted with the correction and typing of documents required for use within the university.
- Assisted in the development and implementation of the Second Mentor Program to encourage female faculty mentoring relationships. Coordinated Second Mentor Program.
- Performed research surveys on faculty and staff needs and requirements. Collected field data, drafted reports, and provided feedback to supervisors.

Graduate Assistant, Center for Rural Violence and Justice Studies, SIUC, Spring 2007-Fall 2007

- Performed telephone interviews with victim advocates to discuss the barriers to rural victim advocacy. I transcribed digitally recorded interviews and focus groups before entering it into a qualitative analysis program (NVIVO).
- Formulated a report that we presented at a national criminological conference.

Guided Researcher, Dr. Scott Beck, Sociology and Anthropology Department, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, Summer 2004

- Researched misdemeanor intimate partner violence offenders in a small county. I manually looked through paper probation files to determine the physical and social characteristics of misdemeanor domestic violence offenders that were on probation. I documented the investigative and court findings for my report.
- Performed quantitative assessment of offender characteristics. After formulating a report from the court and police records I presented the information at a regional conference.

Research Assistant, Dr. Elizabeth McCord, Family Medicine Department, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN, Summer 2003

- Reviewed journal articles on domestic violence offenders from psychological and physiological perspectives. I organized these journals to be used in further research by the principle investigator. I formulated a literature review on the characteristics of perpetrators of intimate partner violence.
- Categorized and transcribed focus group data from domestic abuse and anger management programs.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Johnson, Melencia, Shelly A. McGrath, Jennifer L. Dunn, and Michelle H. Miller. "Mediating Ruralness: Victim Advocates Responses to the Ecology of Rural Domestic Violence." Expected journal submission date November 2009.

- Using the results from telephone surveys and focus groups of rural victim advocates in sixteen rural counties of the Mississippi Delta Region, the authors discuss what advocates believe to be barriers for providing effective victim advocacy services, and how advocates mediate these barriers for their clients.

McGrath, Shelly A., Michelle H. Miller, Jennifer L. Dunn, and **Melencia Johnson**. "An Ecological Model of the Challenges to Effective Rural Victim Advocacy." Expected journal submission date October 2009

- This study expands the Ecological Model to analyze the challenges rural victim advocates experience while trying to be effective in their work. Based on telephone interviews with victim advocates in sixteen rural counties within the Mississippi Delta Region, the analysis examines challenges such as transportation, high poverty rates, and community attitudes to understand the context of victim advocacy in rural areas.

Johnson, Melencia. "The Effects of Household Division of Labor, Status Differences, and Religion As Factors Contributing To Male and Female Perpetration of Intimate Partner Violence." Expected journal submission date December 2009.

- This study quantitatively analyses the National Survey of Families and Households to explore how the amount of work and the type of household work, difference in partner occupational status, and partner religion differences predict the perpetration of male and female intimate partner violence.

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Johnson, Melencia, Shelly A. McGrath, Jennifer L. Dunn, and Michelle H. Miller. 2007. "An Ecological Model of Barriers to Effective Intimate Partner Violence Victim Advocacy in Rural Counties." American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, Georgia.

Miller, Michelle H., Jennifer L. Dunn, Shelly A. McGrath, and **Melencia Johnson**. 2007. "An Ecological Model of the Challenges to Effective Rural Victim Advocacy." Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, New York City, New York.

Johnson, Melencia. 2006. "Household Division of Labor and Religion as Factors Contributing to Male and Female Perpetration of Intimate Partner Violence." University Professional Advancement Program, Carbondale, IL.

Johnson, Melencia. 2006. "The Effects of Household Division of Labor, Status Differences, and Religion as Factors Contributing to Male and Female Perpetration of Intimate Partner Violence." Mid-South Sociological Association Annual Conference, Lafayette, LA.

Johnson, Melencia. 2005. "Police Officers' Attitudes Toward Domestic Violence in a Rural Midwestern County." Qualitative Methodology Seminar, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL.

Johnson, Melencia. 2005. "Double Consciousness and the African Diaspora: Evidence from Nicolás Guillén." 'Diasporations' Aspiration for Self-Actualization throughout the African Diaspora Conference, Norfolk, VA.

Johnson, Melencia. 2005. "Perceived Factors that Contribute to Domestic Violence in Heterosexual African American Couples." Annual Senior Project Dinner, Norfolk, VA.

Johnson, Melencia. 2004. "Tougaloo College in the Protest Era." National Association of African-American Honors Programs, Norfolk, VA.

Johnson, Melencia. 2004. "Factors Contributing to the Completion of Probation for Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Offenders in Washington County, Tennessee." Annual conclusion banquet of the Ronald McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN.

Johnson, Melencia. 2004. "Characteristics of Men Who Batter: Risk Factors for African American Men and Strategies for Intervention." Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta, GA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Sociology of Deviance, SOC 303, Department of Sociology, SIUC, Fall 2009

- Responsibilities: Designed course – chose textbook and articles, constructed syllabus, designed lectures, assignments, and tests. Graded, met with students, and conducted class with 35 students.
- SOC 303 is designed to provide an extensive overview of social deviance and theories of social deviance and to familiarize students with major forms of deviance in American society.
- Utilize Blackboard to post discussion topics, assignments, and grades.

Invited Lecture, Criminology, SOC 372, SIUC, Spring 2009

- Presented a PowerPoint presentation on the quantitative trends in female crime rates from past to present along with YouTube video representations of female robbers to a class of 40 students.

Invited Lecture, Introduction to Sociology, SOC 108, SIUC, Spring 2007

- Presented a lecture on "Deviance" to a class of 35 students supplemented by PowerPoint and an in class activity in which we determined the statistical variance of students who had ever cheated and/or had tasted alcohol within the classroom.

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Sociology, SOC 108, Fall 2005-Spring 2007

- Responsibilities: Taught 80 or more students per semester once a week in separate discussion sections of the lecture course. I created in-class assignments, readings, and assessments for these courses in addition to other TA responsibilities of grading lecture assignments and seeing students for counsel during office hours.
- Utilized Blackboard and WebCT to post student grades, discussion topics, and assignments.

AWARDS & HONORS

Outstanding Core Curriculum Teaching Assistant SIUC (2007)

- Nominated for this university-wide teaching assistant award by the lead instructor for Introduction to Sociology.

Proactive Recruitment of Multicultural Professionals of Tomorrow (PROMPT) (2005-2007)

- Competitive fellowship/assistantship open to qualified graduate students.

Ronald McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program Scholar (2003-2004)

- I performed guided and independent research on domestic violence treatment programs and misdemeanor domestic violence offenders at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee.
- Government TRIO program

GRADUATE MENTORING

“Buddy,” Underserved Fellowship Office, Graduate School (2007-2010)

- Provide assistance to new graduate students who received funding from the Underserved Fellowship Office
- Under direction of Pat McNeil, Assistant Dean of Graduate School

Peer Mentor, Department of Sociology (2008-2010)

- Provide assistance to incoming graduate students in Sociology Department

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & MEMBERSHIP

2009-2010: Member, Southern Sociological Society

2009-2010: President, Tennis Club SIUC

2009: Treasurer, Tennis Club SIUC

2008-2009: Ph.D. Representative, Sociology Department Meetings

2007: Chair, session on Barriers to Victims, annual meeting of American Society of Criminology

2007-2010: Member, American Society of Criminology

2007-2010: Member, American Society of Criminology, Division of Women and Crime

2007-2008: Graduate Student Representative, Sociology Faculty Search Committee

2007-2008: President, Alpha Kappa Delta SIUC

2007-2008: Secretary, Black Graduate Student Association SIUC

2006-2007: Mid-South Sociological Association
2006-2007: National Black Graduate Student Association
2006-2007: Vice-President, Graduate Student Sociology Club SIUC
2006-2007: Member, Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences SIUC
2005-2009: Member, Black Graduate Student Association SIUC
2004-2005: Member, Southern Sociological Society
2003-2009: Member, Alpha Kappa Delta International Honor Society (sociology honor society)
2003-Present: Member, Golden Key International Honour Society

REFERENCES

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