

## **Curriculum Vitae Amanda Jayne Miller**

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### **EDUCATION**

PhD, Sociology, Ohio State University, expected summer, 2009  
Dissertation Title: *Playing House? The Paid Work and Domestic Divisions of Working Class, Class-Straddling, and Middle Class Cohabiting Couples*  
Committee: Sharon Sassler and Elizabeth Menaghan (co-chairs), and Liana Sayer

MA, Sociology, Ohio State University, 2005  
Thesis Title: *The Construction of Gender among Cohabiting Couples*  
Committee: Sharon Sassler (chair), Elizabeth Menaghan, and Liana Sayer

MSW, Social Work, University of Southern Indiana, 2002  
Thesis Title: *The Gendered Implications of a School-Based Substance Abuse Intervention Program*

BA magna cum laude with departmental honors, Sociology, Gender Studies, and Psychology, Indiana University, 2000

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Gender, Family, Union formation and progression, Demography

### **TEACHING INTERESTS**

Introductory Sociology, Gender, Family, Social Problems, Research Methods, Demography, Statistics, Qualitative Methodology

### **RESEARCH AND OUTSIDE/CONSULTING EXPERIENCE**

Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University. Worked for Professor Sharon Sassler, interviewing, transcribing, coding interviews with cohabiting couples, 2004-2005

Sage Publication, Creation of Ancillaries and Marketing Materials for Ballantine and Roberts' *Our Social World*, 2006-2008

Smart Revenue Market Research (Ethnography and Interview), Columbus, OH, 2006

Counseling for Change, Evansville, IN, 2005; Created two modules for domestic violence offender program, "The Trilogy of Violence" and "A Culture of Patriarchy"

Therapist and Training Coordinator, Evansville (Indiana) Public Housing Authority and Evansville Treatment Center (a methadone maintenance program), 2001-2003

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Departmental Graduate Teaching Coordinator, Ohio State University, 2006 to Present.

Instructor, World Population Problems, Ohio State University. 2006; 2008.

Instructor, Introduction to Sociology

Capital University- Spring and Fall, 2008

Columbus State Community College- Winter, 2006 Spring and Autumn, 2007; Spring, 2008

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Introduction to Sociology Recitation (an introduction to social theory). Capital University, SP 2008.

Graduate Teaching Coordinator and Recitation Instructor, Introduction to Sociology, Ohio State University. 2005- 2006.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Sassler, Sharon, Amanda Miller, and Sarah Malackany. Forthcoming, 2009. "Planned Parenthood? Fertility Intentions and Experiences among Cohabiting Couples." *Journal of Family Issues*.

## **PAPERS UNDER REVIEW**

Miller, Amanda and Sharon Sassler. "Stability and Change in the Division of Labor among Cohabiting Couples". Revise and Resubmit at *Journal of Marriage and Family*

Miller, Amanda and Sharon Sassler. "The Construction of Gender among Cohabiting Couples." Revise and Resubmit at *Journal of Family Issues* (Previous version presented at the 2006 American Sociological Association meeting)

Sassler, Sharon and Amanda Miller. "Waiting to be Asked: Gender, Power, and Relationship Progression among Cohabiting Couples" Revise and Resubmit at the *Journal of Marriage and Family* (Previous version presented at the 2006 American Sociological Association meeting)

Miller, Amanda. "Cohabiting Men's Preferences for and Perceived Roles in Determining Pregnancy Outcomes." (To be presented at the 2008 meetings of the American Sociological Association; Previous version presented in a poster session at the 2008 Population Association of America meeting)

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

Miller, Amanda. *Playing House? The Paid Work and Domestic Divisions of Working Class, Class-Straddling, and Middle Class Cohabiting Couples*. Book Prospectus.

Miller, Amanda and Sharon Sassler. "Who Doesn't Cohabit? Cohort Changes in Premarital Behavior." (Presented at the 2008 Population Association of America meeting)

Miller, Amanda and Sharon Sassler. "Cross-Cohort Changes in Attitudes about Intimate Relationships: Growing Liberalization, or Polarization?" (Previous versions presented at the 2008 Eastern Sociological Association meeting and 2007 Population Association of America meeting)

Miller, Amanda. "Generational Differences in Gendered Attitudes: Findings from the Wave 1 and Focal Child Samples of the NSFH."

## **TEACHING PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Miller, Amanda and McCloud, Laura. 2006; 2008. *Instructor's Resources Manual*, "Test Bank", and "Student Study Website", supplementary pieces to accompany *Our Social World: Introduction to Sociology* (first and second editions) by Jeanne Ballantine and Keith Roberts. Sage Publications.

Miller, Amanda. 2007. Created and facilitated interactive departmental orientation for new teaching assistants.

Miller, Amanda. 2006. "Preparing for the First Day of Class." Presented at Departmental Orientation, The Ohio State University.

## **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

Sassler, Sharon and Amanda Miller. 2006. "From Sexual Involvement to Coresidential Unions: New Findings from the 2002 NSFG" Presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada, August, 2006

Sassler, Sharon, Sarah Favinger, and Amanda Miller. 2006. "The Duration from Sexual Involvement to Union Formation: Patterns and Predictors." Poster Session at the Annual Meetings of the Population Association of America, Los Angeles, CA, April 2, 2006

Miller, Amanda and Sharon Sassler. 2005. "Waiting to be Asked: The Construction of Gender among Cohabiting Couples." Family roundtable discussion. Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, forthcoming August 15, 2005

Sassler, Sharon, Anna Cunningham, Sarah Favinger, and Amanda Miller. 2004. "Cohabitation and Childbearing Decisions: Does Marriage Matter?" Presented at departmental brownbag, The Ohio State University.

## **AWARDS AND GRANTS**

Outstanding Doctoral Student (faculty selected), 2007-2008  
Outstanding Service to Graduate Students (graduate student selected), 2007-2008  
Best Poster, 2008. Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America  
Faculty and TA Development Grant, \$10,000 (Pam Paxton, PI), 2007-2008  
Preparing Future Faculty Fellow, 2006-2007  
Graduate Teaching Fellowship Grant, \$1000, Ohio State Teaching Enhancement Programs, 2006-2007  
Best Poster, 2006, Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America  
Methods Training Grant, \$1800, Ohio State University, 2005 (Attended week long qualitative methods training at Indiana University)  
University Fellowship, Ohio State University, 2003-2004  
Outstanding Graduate Student (faculty selected), University of Southern Indiana 2002  
Phi Beta Kappa, Inducted 2000

## **UNIVERSITY/DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

Reviewer for *American Sociological Review*, 2008  
Departmental Instructional Development Committee, 2007-2008  
University Model Course Initiative Group, 2006-2007  
University Women in Development Executive Board Member, 2006-2008  
Departmental Teaching Working Group organizer, 2006-2007  
Departmental Graduate Student Sociology Association, 2004-present  
Elections Committee, 2006-2007  
Teaching Committee Chairperson, 2007-2008  
Alpha Kappa Delta speaker on applying to graduate schools, 2005  
Undergraduate student volunteer mentor, 2005-present  
Graduate student volunteer mentor, 2004-2006

## **MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Sociological Association  
Population Association of America  
Midwestern Sociological Association

## REFERENCES

Sharon Sassler  
Dept. of Policy, Analysis, and Management  
Cornell University  
(607) 254-6551  
ss589@cornell.edu

Elizabeth Menaghan  
Dept. of Sociology  
The Ohio State University  
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(614) 292-8402  
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## DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

Over the past few decades the proportion of young adults who live together without marriage has increased markedly, with the majority of all marriages now preceded by a period of cohabitation. Past research has suggested that cohabitators have more egalitarian beliefs than those couples who marry without first living together. However, despite their relatively egalitarian attitudes, cohabiting women, especially working class cohabiting women, are disadvantaged in that they do much of the work expected of wives, but receive few of the benefits that married women gain from their nuptials. Here, I use interviews with 61 cohabiting couples to investigate the class-based similarities and differences in gendered power through examining couples' work orientations, financial arrangements and control, and divisions of household labor.

I find that cohabiting couples are doing (or undoing) conventional gender roles in one of four primary ways. Many are replicating *conventional* divisions of labor in which the male partner pays the majority of the household bills, and, in exchange, his female partner often privileges his job or takes on a larger proportion of the domestic work. Among other couples, at least one partner (generally the female) is *contesting* a traditional division of labor, with middle class and class straddling women having more success than their working class counterparts at getting their partners to share fairly equally in the domestic and financial obligations. Still others have *counter conventional* arrangements in which the female partner pays the majority of the household expenses and, among the working and class straddling couples (couples in which only one partner has completed a 4-year degree), often also does the majority of the household chores. Finally, a few (n=3) middle class couples are engaged in *egalitarian* exchanges. These couples practice an effortless egalitarianism in which each partner shares in the division of labor without intense negotiations required to ensure their exchanges remain equitable.

I find that working class women in particular experience the most inequity within their unions; though middle class women also experience quite a bit of inequality in their divisions of labor, they feel that their arrangements are relatively fair. Many of these 61 couples anticipate that their household relationships will become more conventional over time. Results suggest that, despite the growing shares of cohabiting couples, few models exist for creating a division of labor that is somewhere between completely conventional and truly egalitarian. As a result, couples must constantly negotiate their paid and domestic arrangements. Still, few couples are intentionally trying to create relationships that are free of conventionally gendered practices, despite the "less institutionalized" nature of their unions.