

## Christina J. Cross

Harvard University Department of Sociology  
Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies  
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### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2022 - Assistant Professor of Sociology, Harvard University  
2019 – 2022 Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Sociology, Harvard University
- Affiliate, Center for Population and Development Studies (2019-present)
  - Affiliate, Institute for Research on Poverty, Poverty and Family Functioning Research Network (2019-present)
  - Affiliate, Boston University Center for Antiracist Research (2021-present)

### EDUCATION

- 2019 PhD, Public Policy and Sociology, University of Michigan
- American Sociological Association 2020 Dissertation Award
  - ProQuest 2019 Distinguished Dissertation Award
- 2015 M.A., Sociology, University of Michigan  
2013 B.A., Sociology, Emory University

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Families and Children, Race/Ethnicity, Social Stratification, Social Demography, Education

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

**Cross, Christina J.** and Sherry Zhang. “Nonresident Social Fathering in African American Single-Mother Families”. In Press. *Online First, Journal of Marriage and Family*.

**Cross, Christina J.**, Paula Fomby, and Bethany Letiecq. “Interlinking Structural Racism and Heteropatriarchy: Rethinking Family Structure’s Effects on Child Outcomes in a Racialized, Unequal Society”. *Online First, Journal of Family Theory and Review*.

Taylor, Robert, J., Antonius Skipper, **Christina J. Cross**, Harry Taylor, and Linda M. Chatters. “Racial/Ethnic Variation in Family Support: African Americans, Black Caribbeans, and Non-Latino Whites.” *Online First, Journal of Marriage and Family*.

**Cross, Christina J.** and Natasha Pilkauskas. “Social Inequality & Families”. In Press. *Sage Handbook on the Sociology of Education*.

**Cross, Christina J.** “Beyond the Binary: Intra-racial Diversity in Family Organization and Black Adolescents’ Educational Performance”. *Online First, Social Problems*.

- 2020 James E. Gladwell Graduate Student Paper Award, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association

- 2020 Graduate Student Paper Award Honorable Mention, Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division, Society for the Study of Social Problems

Taylor, Robert, J., Linda M. Chatters, and **Christina J. Cross**. 2021. "Taking Diversity Seriously: Within-Group Heterogeneity in African American Extended Family Support Networks". *Journal of Marriage and Family* 83(5): 1349-1372.

Taylor, Robert, J., Linda M. Chatters, **Christina J. Cross**, and Dawne M. Mouzon. 2021. "Fictive Kin Networks among African Americans, Black Caribbeans, and Non-Latino Whites". *Journal of Family Issues* 43(1):20-46.

**Cross, Christina J.** "Racial/Ethnic Differences in the Association Between Family Structure and Children's Education". 2020. *Journal of Marriage and Family* 81(2):691-712.

- 2021 National Council on Family Relations Reuben Hill Award for Best Article in the Field of Family Studies
- 2020 Population Association of America Dorothy Thomas Paper Award
- 2020 American Sociological Association Family Section Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award
- 2020 American Sociological Association Children and Youth Section Graduate Student Paper Award
- 2019 Southern Sociological Society Howard Odum Award for Best Paper by a Graduate Student
- 2019 Midwest Sociological Society Graduate Student Paper Award: First Prize
- Covered in *The New York Times* (12/10/2019), WNOV 860 AM (12/12/2019), WEAA 88.9 FKM (12/19/2019), *Harvard Gazette* (1/15/2020), *Phys.org* (1/16/2020)

**Cross, Christina J.** 2018. "Extended Family Households among Children in the United States: Differences by Race/Ethnicity and Socio-Economic Status". *Population Studies* 72(2):235-251.

- 2018 Graduate Student Paper Award, Family Division, Society for the Study of Social Problems
- Covered in *WWJ Newsradio 950* (1/14/2019), *Phys.org* (1/15/2019), *Futurity: Research News* (1/15/219)

Pilkuskas, Natasha and **Christina J. Cross**. 2018. "Beyond the Nuclear Family: Trends in Children Living in Shared Households". *Demography* 55(6):2283-2297.

- Covered in *Phys.org* (9/26/18), *Futurity: Research News* (9/27/18), *The Aspen Institute, Five best ideas of the day* (9/28/18), *The Conversation* (11/7/18)

**Cross, Christina J.**, Ann Nguyen, Robert Joseph Taylor, and Linda Chatters. 2018. "Instrumental Social Support Exchanges in African American Extended Families". *Journal of Family Issues* 39(13):3535-3563.

**Cross, Christina J.**, Robert Joseph Taylor, and Linda M. Chatters. 2018. "Family Social Support Networks of African-American and Black Caribbean Adolescents". *Journal of Child and Family Studies* 27(9):2757-2771.

**Cross, Christina J.**, Robert Joseph Taylor, and Linda M. Chatters. 2018. "Ethnic and Gender Differences in Family Social Support among Black Adolescents". *Healthcare* 6(1):20-32.

Fomby, Paula and **Christina J. Cross**. 2018. "Parents Who Left College and Children's Postsecondary Educational Attainment". *Sociological Forum* 33(4):923-949.

#### Reference and Opinion Articles and Research Reports

- 2021 **Cross, Christina J.** "Why Living in a Two-Parent Family Isn't a Cure-All for Black Students". *Harvard Gazette, Unequal Series*, June 3.
- 2020 **Cross, Christina J.** "Race and Racism as Key Dimensions of Children and Youths' Developmental Contexts". *American Sociological Association Section on Children & Youth Late Summer/Fall 2020 Newsletter*, August 3.
- 2019 **Cross, Christina J.** "The Myth of the Two-Parent Home." *New York Times, Opinion Editorial*, December 10.
- 2017 **Cross, Christina J.** and Pamela J. Smock. "Single-Parent Family and Child Well-Being." *SAGE Encyclopedia of Abnormal and Clinical Psychology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- 2016 **Cross, Christina J.** and Jamie Moshin. "The Role of Research in Advancing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Higher Education: Proceedings". Ann Arbor, MI: National Center for Institutional Diversity.
- 2015 Frye, Joanna, **Christina J. Cross**, Mary Boyce and Lauren Barris. "University of Michigan 2015 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Data Report". Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan.

#### **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

##### External

- 2022 Institute for Research on Poverty, *Visiting Poverty Scholars Program*, Stanford University
- 2021 – 2023 William T. Grant Foundation and the Institute in Critical Quantitative, Computational, and Mixed-Methodologies, *Advanced Quantitative and Computational Scholars Program*
- 2019 – 2020 JPB Foundation and the Institute for Research on Poverty, *Emerging Poverty Scholars Fellowship*, \$20,000
- 2020 The Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology, *Workshop Travel Award*, \$1,000

2019 University of Michigan Population Studies Center, *National Institute of Aging Postdoctoral Fellowship*, \$100,000 (Declined)

2017 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, \$25,000

2017 American Sociological Association, *Minority Fellowship*, Alternate

2014 – 2017 National Science Foundation, *Graduate Research Fellowship*, \$102,000

2014 – 2017 Social Science Research Council, *Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant*, \$5,000

2015 Ford Foundation, *Predoctoral Fellowship*, Honorable Mention

2013 Teach for America, (Declined)

2012 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, *Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship*

2012 Emory University, *Community Building and Social Change Fellowship*, (Declined)

2012 Emory University, *Institute for Developing Nations Research Grant*, \$2,500

2011 U.S. Department of State, *Institute for International Public Policy Fellowship*, \$75,000

2009 – 2011 NAACP, *Freedom Scholarship*, \$4,500

Internal

2019 – 2022 Harvard University, *Department of Sociology Postdoctoral Fellowship*, \$274,000

2019 Harvard University, *Tenure-Track Faculty Publication Fund*, \$3,700

2019 Harvard University, *Manuscript Workshop Grant*, \$3,000

2013 – 2019 University of Michigan, *Rackham Merit Fellowship*, \$60,000

2014 – 2019 University of Michigan Institute for Social Research, *Population Studies Center Traineeship in Social Demography*

2015 – 2018 University of Michigan, *Rackham Conference Travel Grant*, \$4,150

2018 University of Michigan, *Family Complexity Research Grant*, \$1,044

2016 – 2017 University of Michigan, *Sociology Small Grant*, \$2,460

2017 University of Michigan, *Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant*, \$1,921

2017 University of Michigan, *Program for Research on Black Americans Conference Travel Grant*, \$700

2015 University of Michigan Population Studies Center, *Graduate Student Alumni Award*, \$1,865

2015 University of Michigan Population Studies Center, *Small Grant*, \$900

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

2021 National Council on Family Relations, *2021 Reuben Hill Award for Best Research Article in the Field of Family Studies*

2020 American Sociological Association, *2020 Dissertation Award*

2020 ProQuest Information Services, *2019 ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award*

2020 Population Association of America, *2020 Dorothy Thomas Paper Award*

2020 American Sociological Association, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, *2020 James E. Blackwell Graduate Student Paper Award*

2020 American Sociological Association, Family Section, *2020 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award*

2020 American Sociological Association, Children and Youth Section, *2020 Graduate Student Paper Award*

2020 Society for the Study of Social Problems, Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division, *2020 Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention*

2019 Southern Sociological Society, *2019 Howard Odum Award for Best Paper by a Graduate Student*

2019 Midwest Sociological Society, *2019 Graduate Student Paper Award: First Prize*

2018 Society for the Study of Social Problems, Family Division, *2018 Graduate Student Paper Award*

2018, 2019 Selected for the Gramlich Showcase for Outstanding Student Research, *Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy*

2016, 2017 Michigan Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate, *Helping Hand Award*

2013 Emory University, *Boisfeuillet Jones Medal for Leadership and Social Change*

2013 Alpha Kappa Delta Honor Society, *Inductee*

2013 Phi Sigma Iota Honor Society, *Inductee*

2012 Theta Alpha Kappa Honor Society, *Inductee*

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 Zhang, Sherry and **Cross, Christina J.** “Ethnoracial Disparities in Intergenerational Financial Exchanges Across the Transition to Adulthood”.
- American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, CA
- 2022 Parolin, Zachary, **Cross, Christina J.**, and O’Brien, Rourke. “Administrative Burdens and the Benefits Gap among Black, Latino, and White Families”.
- Population Association of America, Atlanta, GA
- 2021 **Cross, Christina J.** and Sherry Zhang. “Similarly, Structured, Functionally Different: Population Heterogeneity in Family Structure and Childrearing Arrangements”.
- Population Association of America, St. Louis, MO
- 2020 **Cross, Christina J.** and Sherry Zhang. “Examining (In)Consistency Between Young Adults’ Self-Reported Family Structure and Adult Caregivers”.
- American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA
- 2020 **Cross, Christina J.** “Beyond the Binary: Intra-racial Diversity in Family Organization and Black Adolescents’ Educational Performance”.
- Population Association of America, Washington, DC (*Cancelled due to COVID-19*)
  - American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA (*Cancelled due to COVID-19*)
  - Work and Family Researchers Network, New York, NY (*Cancelled due to COVID-19*)
- 2018 **Cross, Christina J.** “Racial/Ethnic Differences in the Association Between Family Structure and Children’s Educational Attainment”.
- American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA
  - Population Association of America, Denver, CO
- 2018 Fomby, Paula, Kelly Musick, and **Christina J. Cross.** “Changes in Children’s Family Complexity and Instability in the United States, 1970-2015”.
- Population Association of America, Denver, CO
- 2017 **Cross, Christina J.**, Ann Nguyen, Robert Joseph Taylor, and Linda Chatters. “Instrumental Social Support Exchanges in African American Extended Families”.
- National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL
- 2017 Pilkauskas, Natasha and **Christina J. Cross.** “Children Living in Extended Family Households: Trends, Correlates, and Composition”.
- Population Association of America, Chicago, IL
- 2016 - 2017 **Cross, Christina J.** “Extended Family Households among Children in the United States: Differences by Race/Ethnicity and Socio-Economic Status”.

- Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta, GA
  - Society for the Study of Social Problems, Seattle, Washington
  - American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada
- 2014 – 2016 Fomby, Paula and **Christina J. Cross**. “Parents’ Some College Experience and Children’s Educational Attainment”.
- Population Association of America, Washington, D.C.
  - American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL
  - Survey Research Center Research Symposium, University of Michigan
- 2015 Hahl, Jeannie M. and **Christina J. Cross**. “Voluntary Fatherhood: When Men Voluntarily Invest in Non-Biological Children”.
- Population Association of America, San Diego, CA
- 2013 **Christina J. Cross** “Building with Bravery: Nicaraguan Women in Peacebuilding”.
- Scholarly Inquiry and Research at Emory, Emory University
- 2012 – 2013 **Christina J. Cross** “Different Strokes for Different Folks: Socio-Cultural Factors Influencing Minority Student Participation in Study Abroad”.
- Social Science Research Council, Bryn Mawr College
  - Mellon Southeastern Regional Conference, Rice University
  - Mellon Mays Research Symposium, Emory University

### SELECTED INVITED TALKS

- 2022 “Racialized Returns: Examining Racial Variation in the Impact of Family Structure on Children’s Education”.
- Colloquium Series, Western University Department of Sociology and the Centre for Research on Social Inequality, London, ON, Canada, March 25, 2022
  - Speaker Series, Trinity College Dublin Department of Sociology, Dublin, Ireland, March 30, 22
  - Speaker Series, U.S. Census Bureau Center for Economic Studies, Washington, D.C., April 19, 2022
  - Opportunity Insights Seminar, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, April 20, 2022
  - Alumni Reunion, Program for Research on Black Americans, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, May 23, 2022
  - Poverty and Social Inequality Seminar, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, May 27, 2022
- 2021 “How the Measurement and Meaning of Family Structure Shape Research on Young Adult Racial Inequality”
- Inclusive Research Matters Series, University of Michigan Institute for Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI. Sept. 27, 2021

- 2021 “Color, Class, and Context: Examining Heterogeneous Family Structure Effects”
- Social Demography Seminar, Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Cambridge, MA. Jan. 28, 2021
  - PSID Seminar, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. Feb. 18, 2021
  - Poverty Center Seminar, Columbia University, New York, NY. Feb. 19, 2021
  - Institute for Research on Poverty Seminar, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. March 11, 2021
  - Speaker Series, Emory University Department of Sociology, Atlanta, GA. March 29, 2021.
  - Spring Seminar Series, Stanford Center for Education Policy Analysis, Stanford, CA, April 29, 2021
  - Population Studies Center Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, Oct. 11, 2021
  - Population Studies and Training Center Seminar, Brown University, Providence, RI, Oct. 18, 2021
- 2020 “Square Pegs in Round Holes: Extended Family Households among Children in the United States.”
- Notestein Seminar Series, Princeton University Office of Population Research, Princeton, NJ. Feb. 18, 2020
  - Speaker Series, Rice University Department of Sociology, Houston, TX. September 29, 2020
  - Speaker Series, Emory University Department of Sociology, Atlanta, GA. March 23, 2020 (*Cancelled due to COVID-19*)
  - Demography Seminar, Center for Demography and Ecology Seminar, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. April 14, 2020 (*Cancelled due to COVID-19*)
- 2020 “New York Times Parenting Talks: Modern Money.”
- Event Series, The New York Times and The Wing, New York, NY. March 5, 2020
- 2020 “Family Structure, Social Inequality, and Welfare Policy.”
- Policy Presentation, Boston City Council, Office of the Mayor, Boston, MA. March 30, 2020 (*Cancelled due to COVID-19*)
- 2020 “Job Seeking in the Times of COVID-19: A Conversation with Demographers of Color.”
- Speaker Series, Demographers of Color Organizing Committee, July 10, 2020
- 2017 “The Path to the PhD: My Experience as a First-Generation College Student.”
- First Generation Speaker Series, Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL. Nov. 2, 2017 (*Keynote*)



- 2017 “The Road Less Traveled: A Non-Traditional Journey to and Through the Academy.”
- Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Commencement Banquet, Emory University, Atlanta, GA. April 20, 2017 (*Keynote*)
- 2013 “How Does it Feel to be a Problem? Underrepresented Minorities’ Undergraduate Experiences at Predominantly White Institutions.”
- Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee Stein Scholars Pre-College Program Commencement Banquet, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI. May 25, 2013 (*Keynote*)
- 2011 “Navigating the Academy: A Self-Reflection.”
- Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee Stein Scholars Pre-College Program Commencement Banquet, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI. May 15, 2011 (*Keynote*)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2016 Public Policy 529: Statistics, Graduate Student Instructor for Prof. Jonathan Hanson, University of Michigan
- 2019 – Sociology 3323: Social Demography Seminar, Harvard University

## **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

- 2021 Proposal Development Summer Institute, Russell Sage Foundation, New York, NY
- 2020 Latent Class and Mixture Modeling Workshop, Curran-Bauer Analytics
- 2014 – 2019 Population Studies Center Traineeship in Social Demography, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
- 2016 Fragile Families Child and Family Well-Being Summer Data Workshop Columbia School of Social Work, New York, NY
- 2016 Summer Training Workshop on African American Aging Research, Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research (MCUAAAR), Ann Arbor, MI
- 2015 Analysis of Complex Survey Data Workshop, University of Michigan Consulting for Statistics, Computing, and Analytics Research (CSCAR), Ann Arbor, MI
- 2014 Introduction to Programming in STATA Workshop, University of Michigan Consulting for Statistics, Computing, and Analytics Research (CSCAR), Ann Arbor, MI
- 2013 ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

OCCASIONAL REVIEWER

*American Sociological Review; Children, Children and Youth Services Review, Demography; Demographic Research; Innovation in Aging; International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health; Journal of Marriage and Family; Population Research and Policy Review; Race and Social Problems; Social Forces; Social Problems; Sociology of Education; Social Service Review; Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World; Youth and Society*

- 2022 Spencer Foundation, Racial Equity Grants, *Review Panelist* (compensated)
- 2021 – Journal of Marriage and Family, *Editorial Board*
- 2021 – 2024 American Sociological Association, Children and Youth Section, *Council Member*
- 2021 – 2024 Population Association of America, *Dorothy Thomas Award Committee Member*
- 2021 – 2022 American Sociological Association, Family Section, *Nominations Committee Member*
- 2021 – 2022 American Sociological Association, Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility Section, *Devah Pager Article Award Committee*
- 2020 – 2022 Population Association of America, *Program Committee Member*
- 2021 American Sociological Association, *Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities James E. Blackwell Graduate Student Paper Award Committee Member*
- 2021 American Sociological Association, Special Session Organizer: “*The Politics of Demographic Facts.*”
- 2021 American Sociological Association, Session Organizer: “*Race, Ethnicity, and Families.*”
- 2020 Population Association of America, *Demographers of Color and Allies Organizing Committee Member*
- 2020 Population Association of America, *Session Organizer: “Race, Ethnicity, and Families.”*
- 2019 – Issues in Race and Society: An Interdisciplinary Global Journal, *Editorial Board*
- 2019 – Harvard University, Department of Sociology, *Faculty Co-sponsor for the Social Demography Seminar*
- 2019 University of Michigan, School of Social Work, Summer Graduate Student Mentoring Workshop on African American and Latinx Research, *Faculty Mentor*
- 2016 – 2018 American Sociological Association, Family Section, *Graduate Student Council Member*
- 2017 - 2018 University of Michigan, Department of Sociology, *Co-coordinator of the Inequality, Demography, and Family Research Workshop*

- 2017 – 2018 University of Michigan, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, *Graduate Student Representative for the Admissions Committee*
- 2018 Southern Sociological Society, *Session Presider: “Complex Families, Complex Inequalities: Family Structure, Gender, and SES.”*
- 2017 University of Michigan Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP), *Research Mentor (compensated)*
- 2017 Population Association of America, *Session Chair: “Fatherhood in Complex Families.”*
- 2016 – 2017 University of Michigan, Department of Sociology, *Graduate Student Representative for the Admissions Committee*
- 2016 – 2017 University of Michigan, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, *Graduate Student Member of the Leadership Council*
- 2016 – 2017 University of Michigan, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, *Mentor for the Pipeline Initiative*
- 2015 – 2016 University of Michigan, Department of Sociology *Graduate Student Representative for the Faculty Personnel Committee*
- 2015 University of Michigan, National Center for Institutional Diversity, *Postdoctoral Fellowship Reviewer (compensated)*
- 2014 – 2015 University of Michigan, Department of Sociology, *Co-Chair of the Sociology Graduate Students*
- 2014 – 2015 University of Michigan, Department of Sociology, *Co-Chair of the Sociologists of Color*

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Sociological Association  
 Association of Black Sociologists  
 Council on Contemporary Families  
 National Council on Family Relations  
 Population Association of America  
 Society for the Study of Social Problems  
 Southern Sociological Society

### **RESEARCH SOFTWARE SKILLS**

STATA, Word, Excel, PowerPoint

### **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Spanish (Proficient)