

Seung-won Emily Choi

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Texas Tech University
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EMPLOYMENT

2019-present Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work,
Texas Tech University
Faculty Affiliate, Texas Tech Population Center
2023-present Faculty Affiliate, Population Research Center, University of Texas at Austin

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, Michigan State University, 2019
M.A. Sociology, Yonsei University, South Korea, 2008
B.A. Sociology, Yonsei University, South Korea, 2004

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Determinants of Health, Health Disparities, Aging and the Life Course, Family
Demography, Neighborhood, COVID-19, Quantitative Methodology

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles (†Indicates graduate student collaborators)

- Choi, Seung-won Emily, Zhenmei Zhang, and Hui Liu. *Forthcoming*. “[Gender Differences in the Protective Role of Grandparenting in Dementia Risk](#).” *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*.
- Yang, Tse-Chuan, Seulki Kim, **Seung-won Emily Choi**, Shannon Halloway, Uchechi Mitchell, and Benjamin A. Shaw. 2024. “[Neighborhood Characteristics and Later Life Cognitive Function: Do Associations Vary by Individual Socioeconomic Status?](#)” *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 66(3): 454-462.
- Liu, Yin, Yeonsu Song, Florence Johnson†, Lianlian Lei, **Seung-won Emily Choi**, Toni C. Antonucci, and Sheria G. Robinson-Lane. 2023. “[Characteristics and Predictors of Sleep among Spousal Care Dyads Living with Chronic Conditions](#).” *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 78(Supplement_1): S38-S47.

- Yang, Tse-Chuan, Carla Shoff, **Seung-won Emily Choi**, and Feinuo Sun. 2022. “[Multiscale Dimensions of County-level Disparities in Opioid Use Disorder Rates among Older Medicare Beneficiaries.](#)” *Frontiers in Public Health, Section Life-Course Epidemiology and Social Inequalities in Health* 10.
- Choi, Seung-won Emily** and Zhenmei Zhang. 2021. “[Caring as Curing: Grandparenting and Depressive Symptoms in China.](#)” *Social Science & Medicine* 289: 114452.
- Zhang, Zhenmei, Hongwei Xu, Lydia Li, Jinyu Liu, and **Seung-won Emily Choi**. 2021. “[Social Relationships in Early Life and Episodic Memory in Mid- and Late Life.](#)” *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 76(10): 2121-2130.
- Yang, Tse-Chuan, Seulki Kim†, Yunhan Zhao†, and **Seung-won Emily Choi**. 2021. “[Examining Spatial Inequality in COVID-19 Positivity Rates across New York City ZIP Codes.](#)” *Health and Place* 69: 102574.
- Zhang, Zhenmei, Hui Liu, and **Seung-won Emily Choi**. 2021. “[Marital Loss and Risk of Dementia: Do Race and Gender Matter?](#)” *Social Science & Medicine* 275: 113808.
- Choi, Seung-won Emily** and Tse-Chuan Yang. 2021. “[Are Older Populations at a Disadvantage? County-Level Analysis of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Urban and Rural America.](#)” *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 76(3): e93-e98.
- Yang, Tse-Chuan, **Seung-won Emily Choi**, and Feinuo Sun†. 2021. “[COVID-19 Confirmed Cases in US Counties: The Role of Racial/ethnic Density and Residential Segregation.](#)” *Ethnicity & Health* 26(1): 11-21.
- Yang, Tse-Chuan, Feinuo Sun†, and **Seung-won Emily Choi**. 2021. “[Rural Residence and Mortality in Later Life: Exploring the Role of Social Integration and Social Support from a Longitudinal Perspective.](#)” *Population, Space and Place* 27(1): e2377
- Choi, Seung-won Emily**. 2020. “[Grandparenting and Mortality: How Does Race-Ethnicity Matter?](#)” *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 61(1): 96-112.
- Liu, Hui, Zhenmei Zhang, **Seung-won Choi**, and Kenneth M. Langa. 2020. “[Marital Status and Dementia: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study.](#)” *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences* 75(8): 1783-1795.
- Zhang, Zhenmei, Hui Liu, and **Seung-won Choi**. 2020. “[Early-life Socioeconomic Status, Adolescent Cognitive Ability, and Cognition in Late Midlife: Evidence from the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study.](#)” *Social Science & Medicine* 244: 112575.
- Yang, Tse-Chuan, I-Chien Chen, **Seung-won Choi**, and Aysenur Kurtulus†. 2019. “[Linking Perceived Discrimination during Adolescence to Health during Mid-Adulthood: The Mechanisms through Self-Esteem and Risk Behaviors.](#)” *Social Science & Medicine* 232: 434-443.

Choi, Seung-won and Zhenmei Zhang. 2018. “Grandparenting and Self-Rated Health among Older Korean Women.” *Research on Aging* 40(10): 911-932.

Choi, Seung-won, Aggie J. Yellow Horse, and Tse-Chuan Yang. 2018. “Family Policies and Working Women’s Fertility Intentions in South Korea.” *Asian Population Studies* 14(3): 251-270.

Liu, Hui, Zhenmei Zhang, and **Seung-won Choi**. 2018. “Risk of Cardiovascular Diseases and Cancer in Later Life: The Role of Age at First Marriage.” *Geriatrics* 3(2).

Yang, Tse-Chuan, I-Chien Chen, Seulki Kim, and **Seung-won Choi**. 2018. “Differential Investments and Opportunities: How Neighborhood Conditions Moderate the Relationship between Perceived Housing Discrimination and Social Capital.” *Social Science Research* 72: 69-83.

Pearce-Morris, Jennifer, **Seung-won Choi**, Veronica Roth, and Rebekah Young. 2014. “Substantive Meanings of Missing Data in Family Research: Does “Don’t Know” Matter?” *Marriage and Family Review* 50(8): 665-690.

Choi, Seung-won. 2009. “The Crisis and Countermeasure of the Korean Student Movement in the Late 1990s: Changes in Motivation and Movement Type.” *Korean Journal of Social Issues* 18(2): 101-142. (In Korean)

- Honorable Mention for Best Paper Award, *Korean Journal of Social Issues*

Refereed Book Chapters

Choi, Seung-won Emily and Tse-Chuan Yang. *Forthcoming*. “Painful Caregiving? Grandparenting and Pain among Rural and Urban Older Women.” *Korean Aging Yesterday and Today*.

Choi, Seung-won Emily and Zhenmei Zhang. 2021. “Caregiving Grandmothers and Depressive Symptoms in South Korea.” pp. 123-139 in *Aging and the Family: Understanding Changes in Structural and Relationship Dynamics (Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research, Vol. 17)*, edited by Patricia Neff Claster and Sampson Lee Blair. Emerald Publishing Limited.

Other Publications

Yang, Tse-Chuan, Seulki Kim, **Seung-won Emily Choi**, Shannon Halloway, Uchechi Mitchell, and Benjamin A. Shaw. 2024. “Cognitive Functioning is Higher among Older Adults in Walkable Neighborhoods that Have Low Economic Disadvantage.” *Lerner Center Population Health Research Brief Series. Research Brief #111*.

Zhang, Zhenmei and **Seung-won Choi**. 2019. “Older Adult Abuse and Neglect.” In *Encyclopedia of Gerontology and Population Aging*, edited by Danan Gu and Matthew E. Dupre. Cham: Springer International Publishing.

Kim, Young-taek, Sang-su Ahn, Jin-joo Chung, and **Seung-won Choi**. 2008. *Korean Women's Health Conditions and Policy Agenda*. Seoul: Korean Women's Development Institute Press. (In Korean)

GRANTS

External

- 2022 "Sociocontextual Determinants of Dementia Risk: Role of Residential Segregation." R21 Proposal to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). \$445,033. Role: PI. (Unfunded)
- 2022 "Rural/urban Health Disparities in Midlife: Life-course Neighborhood Exposures and Sociobehavioral Mechanisms." R01 Proposal to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). \$3,185,174. Role: Co-I. (Unfunded)
- 2021 "Rural-Urban Differences in the Link between Residential Segregation and Risk of Dementia." Pilot Proposal to the Interdisciplinary Network on Rural Population Health and Aging (INRPHA), Supported by the National Institute on Aging (NIA). \$15,000. Role: PI (Unfunded)

Internal

- 2024 "Residential Segregation and Risk of Dementia." Scholarship Catalyst Program, Texas Tech University. \$7,000. Role: PI. 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2024.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- 2021 Selected Participant, Michigan Center for Contextual Factors in Alzheimer's Disease (MCCFAD) Summer Data Immersion Program (*Family Care: Racial/Ethnic and Contextual Factors*), University of Michigan
- 2019 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate School, Michigan State University (MSU)
- 2018 Research Enhancement Funding, Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, MSU
- 2018 Research Scholars Fellowship, College of Social Science, MSU
- 2018 Dissertation Funding, Department of Sociology, MSU
- 2017 Corey Research Enrichment Award, College of Social Science, MSU
- 2017 Jay Artis Endowment Fund, Department of Sociology, MSU
- 2016 Poster Session Winner, Annual Meeting of Population Association of America
- 2016 Research Scholars Fellowship, College of Social Science, MSU
- 2016 John L. McAdoo Dissertation Award, Department of Sociology, MSU
- 2015 Selected Participant, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Workshop on *Immigration, Immigrants and Health Conditions, Health Status, and Policies*. Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan
- 2015 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Travel Stipends, University of Michigan
- 2015 Research Scholars Fellowship, College of Social Science, MSU
- 2014-19 Graduate Office Fellowship Travel Awards, MSU

2014 Research Scholars Fellowship, College of Social Science, MSU
2009 Honorable Mention for Best Paper Award, *Korean Journal of Social Issues*

INVITED TALKS

“Are Older Populations at a Disadvantage? County-Level Analysis of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Urban and Rural America.” COVID Conversations Series #2: Did the Pandemic Deepen Health Inequities for Minority Older Adults? *Gerontological Society of America*. August 2021. (Virtual)

“Grandparenting and Mortality: How Does Race-Ethnicity Matter?” Colloquium Series. *Korea Inequality Research Network*, Seoul, South Korea. May 2021. (Virtual)

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Choi, Seung-won Emily and Seulki Kim, “Marital Status and Depression in Later Life: Does Neighborhood Matter?” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Columbus, OH. April 2024.

Zhang, Zhenmei, **Seung-won Emily Choi**, and Yu Guo. “The Long-Term Impact of Parental Mental Health on Memory Trajectories in Mid- and Later Life.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Columbus, OH. April 2024.

Choi, Seung-won Emily and Tse-Chuan Yang. “Caring for Grandchildren and Pain: Rural and Urban Differences in South Korea.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA. August 2023.

Choi, Seung-won Emily, Zhenmei Zhang, and Hui Liu. “Grandparenting, Gender, and Dementia Risk in the United States.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Atlanta, GA. April 2022.

Robinson-Lane, Sheria G., Florence Johnson, Lianlian Lei, Yin Liu, Yeonsu Song, **Seung-won Emily Choi**, and Toni C. Antonucci. “Predictors of Sleep among Spousal Care Dyads Living with Chronic Conditions.” Presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, November 2021. (Virtual)

Zhang, Zhenmei, Hui Liu, and **Seung-won Emily Choi**. “Marital Loss and Risk of Dementia: Do Race and Gender Matter?” Presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, November 2020. (Virtual)

Zhang, Zhenmei, Hongwei Xu, Lydia Li, Jinyu Liu and **Seung-won Choi**. “Early-Life Social Environment and Episodic Memory among Older Adults in China.” Presented at the International Sociological Association RC28 Summer Meeting, Princeton, NJ. August 2019.

- Choi, Seung-won.** “Grandparenting and Caregiving Grandmother’s Depressive Symptoms in South Korea.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Austin, TX. April 2019.
- Liu, Hui, Zhenmei Zhang, and **Seung-won Choi.** “Marital Status and Dementia: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study.” Presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA. November 2018.
- Choi, Seung-won.** “Grandparenting and Mortality Difference in the United States.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Denver, CO. April 2018.
- Yang, Tse-Chuan, I-Chien Chen, **Seung-won Choi,** and Aysenur Kurtulus. “Linking Perceived Discrimination during Adolescence to Health during Middle Adulthood via Self-Esteem and Risk Behaviors.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montréal, QC, Canada. August 2017.
- Liu, Hui, Zhenmei Zhang, Shannon Shen, **Seung-won Choi,** and Yan-Liang Yu. “Age at First Marriage and Physical Health in Later Life.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Chicago, IL. April 2017.
- Choi, Seung-won,** Aggie Noah, and Tse-Chuan Yang. “Family Policies and Working Women’s Fertility Intentions in South Korea.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA. August 2016.
- Yang, Tse-Chuan, I-Chien Chen, and **Seung-won Choi.** “Linking Perceived Discrimination during Adolescence to Health during Middle Adulthood: The Mechanisms through Self-esteem and Risk Behaviors.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington, D.C. March 2016.
- Yu, Yan-Liang, Siddharth Chandra, and **Seung-won Choi.** “Spatiotemporal Patterns of Influenza-Associated Mortality in Japan, 1918–1920: Implications for Flu Propagation.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington, D.C. March 2016.
- Zhang, Zhenmei, Hui Liu, and **Seung-won Choi.** “Early-Life Characteristics, Midlife Socioeconomic Status, and Late-Life Cognition: Evidence from the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington, D.C., March 2016.
- Choi, Seung-won.** “Grandparent Caregiving and Depression among Older Korean Adults.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL. August 2015.
- Choi, Seung-won.** “Caring for Grandchildren and Self-Rated Health among Older Korean Adults.” Presented at the International Sociological Association Research Committees on Aging and Families 2015 Conference, Syracuse, NY. June 2015.

Choi, Seung-won, Jennifer Pearce-Morris, Adriana Reyes, Veronica Roth, and Rebekah Young. “What You ‘Don’t Know’ about Your Family Might Kill You.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, AZ. November 2012.

Choi, Seung-won. “Korean Student Movement in the Late 1990's: Changes in Motivation and Movement Type.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Korean Sociological Association, Seoul, Korea. June 2007.

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Texas Tech University

SOC 1301. Introduction to Sociology

SOC 3370. Social Inequality and Health

SOC 3392. Introduction to Social Research Methods

SOC 4316. Aging and Society

SOC 5316. Aging and Social Disparities in Health: Seminar in Social Gerontology (Graduate)

SOC 5334. Quantitative Methods in Sociology (Graduate)

Michigan State University

SOC 281. Methods of Social Research I, Recitation Instructor

SOC 315. Family and Society

SOC 451. Dynamics of Population

SOC 882. Analysis of Social Data II (Graduate), Statistical Lab Instructor

Master’s Committees (TTU)

2024- Hannah King

2024- Blanca Brito

2024- Rafia Akter

2023- Bailey Hair (Chair)

2023- Gracie Hefner

2023 Nishat Tasnim Koli

2020 Rosy Kamrunnaher

Undergraduate/Other Committees (TTU)

2024- Co-Faculty Mentor, P3 Honors Project, “Complementary Alternative Medicine,” Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) School of Medicine

SERVICE

Professional

Editorial Board Member, *Population Research and Policy Review*, 2024-present.

Session Chair (*Place, Environment, and Cognitive Health*), Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, 2022.

Mentor, Mentoring Program for Junior Scholars, Association of Korean Sociologists in America, 2022.

Session Chair (*Family Caregiving*), Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, 2016.

Ad Hoc Reviewer: *Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences, Social Science & Medicine, Journal of Marriage and Family, Research on Aging, Population Research and Policy Review, Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research, Asian Population Studies, Journal of Social Issues, Current Psychology, Michigan Sociological Review*

Departmental

Chair, Search Committee, Visiting Assistant Professor, 2023-24.

Member, Search Committee, Assistant Professor, 2023-24.

Member, Graduate Curriculum Committee, 2020-present.

Invited Panelist, "Professional Development Series: My First Job Interview," MSU.

Student Representative: Graduate Education Committee, Speakers and Awards Committee, and Department Hearing Board, MSU.

College & University

Member, Discipline Specific Subcommittee for Sociology, Texas Transfer Advisory Committee, 2022-present.

Dean's Representative, Dissertation Defense, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, TTU, 2021.

Community

Expert Advisor, AP Research Project and Presentation Committee, Lubbock High School, 2023-24.

Treasurer, Texas Tech Korean Faculty Association, 2021-2022.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association

Population Association of America

Gerontological Society of America

Association of Korean Sociologists in America