

Michelle A. Eilers

Holden Hall Room 64
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, TX 79409
(979) 743-6605

ORCID: 0000-0002-5373-2673
[Google Scholar](#)
<https://www.michelleeilers.com>
meilers@ttu.edu

Employment

Assistant Professor of Sociology

August 2025 -

Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, Texas Tech University

Education and Training

NICHD T32 Population Health Research Postdoctoral Fellowship

July 2023 - June 2025

Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

Ph.D. Sociology

2023

University of Texas at Austin

Dean's Distinguished Ph.D. Graduate Award, College of Liberal Arts

Dissertation: *Predictors of Young Adult Sexual and Reproductive Behaviors Amidst Conflicting Norms*

Committee: Dr. Abigail Weitzman, Chair; Dr. Kelly Raley, Dr. Stefanie Möllborn, Dr. Kari White

M.Sc. Demography and Health

2015

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

B.A. Anthropology, Community Health, *magna cum laude*

2010

Tufts University

Peer-Review Publications

Potter, Joseph E., Kristen L. Burke, **Michelle A. Eilers**, and Daniel A. Powers. 2025. "Meeting Contraceptive Preferences: A Counterfactual Analysis." *Studies in Family Planning* <https://doi.org/10.1111/sifp.70020>.

Eilers, Michelle A. 2024. "Attitudes and Behavior Feedback Loops for Young Women's Premarital Sex." *Socius*, 10 <https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231241277690>.

- *Featured publication, American Sociological Association Podcast series, November 2024*
- *Best Paper Award, 2023 Sexual Behavior, Communities, and Politics Division Graduate Student Paper Competition, Society for the Study of Social Problems*

Eilers, Michelle A. 2022. "What a (Young) Woman Wants: Concurrent Effects of Desire to Avoid Pregnancy and Desire for Sex on Sexual Intercourse and Contraceptive Use." *Demography* 59(6): 2271-93 <https://doi.org/10.1215/00703370-10295826>.

- *Honorable Mention, 2023 Graduate Student Paper Competition, Midwest Sociological Society*
- *W. Parker Frisbie Outstanding Graduate Student Publication Award, UT Austin Population Research Center*

Behrman, Julia A., **Michelle A. Eilers**, Isabel McLoughlin-Brooks, Abigail Weitzman. 2022. "International Migration and Modern Contraceptive Use: A Research Note on African Migrants to France." *Demography* 59(1):27-36 <https://doi.org/10.1215/00703370-9611478>.

Hopkins, Kristine, Courtney Remington, **Michelle A. Eilers**, Saul D. Rivas, Christina Wallace Huff, L. David Moore, R. Moss Hampton, and Tony Ogburn. 2022. "Obtaining Buy-in for Immediate Postpartum Long-acting Reversible Contraception Programs in Texas Hospitals: A Qualitative Study." *Contraception* 108:32–36 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.contraception.2021.10.016>.

Eilers, Michelle A., C. Emily Hendrick, Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, Daniel A. Powers, Joseph E. Potter. 2020. "Breast-feeding Initiation, Duration, and Supplementation Among Mexican-Origin Women in Texas." *Pediatrics* 145(4): e20192742 <https://doi.org/10.1542%2Fpeds.2019-2742>.

Goldberg, Rachel E., Marta Tienda, **Michelle A. Eilers**, Sara McLanahan. 2019. "Adolescent Relationship Quality: Is there an Intergenerational Link?" *Journal of Marriage and Family* 81(4):812-29 <https://doi.org/10.1111/jomf.12578>.

Sedgh, Gilda, Lawrence Finer, Akinrinola Bankole, **Michelle A. Eilers**, Susheela Singh. 2015. "Adolescent pregnancy, abortion, and birth rates across countries: a cross-sectional review and assessment of recent trends." *Journal of Adolescent Health* 56(2):223-230 <https://doi.org/10.1016%2Fj.jadohealth.2014.09.007>.

Japuntich, Sandra, **Michelle A. Eilers**, Sharon Shenhav, Elyse Park, Jonathan Winickoff, Yuchiaio Chang, Michele Reyén, Neal Benowitz, Nancy Rigotti. 2015. "Secondhand tobacco smoke exposure among hospitalized nonsmokers with coronary heart disease." *JAMA Internal Medicine* 175(1):133-136 <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2014.5476>.

Sedgh, Gilda, Susheela Singh, Akinrinola Bankole, **Michelle A. Eilers**. 2012. "Legal abortion levels and trends by woman's age at termination."

- *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health* 45(1):13-22 <https://doi.org/10.1363/4501313>.
- *International Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health* 38(3):143-153 <https://doi.org/10.1363/3814312>.

Papers Under Review

* Denotes student co-author

Eilers, Michelle A. and Abigail Weitzman. "When Attitudes and Desires Compete: Young Women's Sexual Behavior and Contraceptive Use Amidst Conflicting Desires and Morals." *Resubmitted*.

- *Best Paper Award, 2021 Norval Glenn Graduate Student Paper Competition, UT Austin Sociology Department*

Eilers, Michelle A. "What's in a Request? Gendered Expectations in Intimate Spaces in a National Survey Experiment." *Revise and resubmit*.

Eilers, Michelle A., Laurel Neufeld*, Aleksandra Bajer*, Brittney Skalland*, and Kristen P. Mark. "Contextual Support for Abortion and Abortion Discordance in the United States." *Under review*.

Papers in Progress

Eilers, Michelle A., Hyunjae Kwon*, and Claire Kamp Dush. "Household Division of Labor and Desire for a Child: Does Couple Gender Composition Matter?"

- *Poster Award, 2025 Population Association of America Annual Meeting*

Eilers, Michelle A., Karen Guzzo, Wendy Manning, Kristen P. Mark, and Claire Kamp Dush. “Sexual Satisfaction and Fertility Desires among Same-Gender and Different-Gender Partnered Adults in the United States.”

Broussard, Kathleen and **Michelle A. Eilers**. “Pregnancy and Childbearing Ambivalence among Sexual and Gender Diverse (SGD) Individuals.”

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

External

In Preparation

2026 Principal Investigator. *Sexual Wellbeing as a Protective Mechanism for Mental and Social Health in Early and Middle Adulthood*. Small Research Grant Program (R03). National Institute of Health.
Total costs: \$154,000

Received

2025 Population Association of America Poster Award from Poster Session 2 (Children, Intergenerational Relationships, Gender and Sexuality)

2023 NICHD T32 Interdisciplinary Population Health Science Training Postdoctoral Fellowship, Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota (\$119,000)
American Sociological Association Student Travel Award
Population Research Bureau Travel Award, 2023 PAA Meeting
Midwest Sociological Society Student Travel Award

2021 Philanthropic Educational Organization (PEO) National Scholar Award (\$20,000)
American Sociological Association Student Travel Award

2017 Recruitment Fellowship, Texas Policy Evaluation Project, UT Austin (\$10,750)

2014 Recruitment Fellowship, North American Friends Alumni Organization, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (£10,000)

2009 Alice Rowan Swanson Fellowship, School for International Training (\$2,700)

2008 Gilman Scholarship, U.S. Department of State (\$8,000)

Internal

Received

2025 Short-term Research Assistant Support Award, Minnesota Population Center (\$2,500)

2024 Professional Development Award, Minnesota Population Center
Short-term Research Assistant Support Award, Minnesota Population Center (\$2,500)

2023 Dean’s Distinguished Graduate, UT Austin College of Liberal Arts
Professional Development Award, UT Austin and Population Research Center
Graduate School Supplemental Fellowship, UT Austin

2022 Graduate Student Excellence Award, Department of Sociology, UT Austin (\$5,000)
Graduate School Supplemental Fellowship, UT Austin
Graduate School Professional Development Award, UT Austin

- 2021** University Graduate Continuing Fellowship, UT Austin (\$46,000 + tuition)
- 2019** NICHD Ruth L. Kirchstein National Research Service Award Training Fellowship, UT Austin Population Research Center (\$21,000 + tuition)
Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Sociology, UT Austin (\$5,000)
- 2018** Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Sociology, UT Austin (\$5,000)
- 2013** Bixby Fellowship for Professional Development, Ethiopia fieldwork, Guttmacher Institute
- 2010** Ellen C. Myers Memorial Prize, Tufts University (\$3,000)

Conference Presentations

Eilers, Michelle A., Hyunjae Kwon, and Claire M. Kamp Dush. “Household Division of Labor and Desires for a Child: Does Couple Gender Composition Matter?”

- Poster Award Winner, 2025 Population Association of American Annual Meeting
- 2024 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting

Eilers, Michelle A., Karen B. Guzzo, Wendy Diane Manning, Kristen Mark, and Claire M. Kamp Dush. “Sexual Satisfaction and Fertility Desires by Gender and Sexual Orientation in the United States.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, August 2024.

Broussard, Kathleen and **Michelle A. Eilers**. “Pregnancy and Childbearing Ambivalence among Sexual and Gender Diverse (SGD) Individuals.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, August 2024.

VanBergen, Alexandra M., **Michelle A. Eilers**, and Claire Kamp Dush. “Intersectional Marginalization and Loneliness Among Partnered Bisexual+ Adults.” 2024 Population Association of America.

Eilers, Michelle A. “Gendered Expectations to Perform Oral Sex in a National Survey Experiment.”

- 2023 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting (Poster)
- 2023 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
- 2023 Population Association of America Annual Meeting
- 2023 Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting

Eilers, Michelle A. “Social Norms and Behavior Feedback Loops for Premarital Sex.”

- 2023 Society for Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting
- 2023 Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting
- 2022 Population Association of America Annual Meeting (Poster)
- 2020 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

Eilers, Michelle A. “What a (Young) Woman Wants: Concurrent Effects of Desire to Avoid Pregnancy and Desire for Sex on Sexual Intercourse Contraceptive Use.”

- 2021 Population Association of America Meeting
- 2021 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
- 2021 British Society for Population Studies Annual Meeting

Eilers, Michelle A. “Designing a Survey Experiment on Sexual Expectations using Vignettes.” 2021 Annual Psychosocial Workshop.

Eilers, Michelle A. and Abigail Weitzman. “Young Women’s Sexual Behavior and Contraceptive Use Amidst Conflicting Desires and Morals.” 2019 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

Eilers, Michelle A. “Women’s Experiences in Pregnancy Resource Centers in Texas.” 2018 Annual Psychosocial Workshop.

Eilers, Michelle A., Sandra Japuntich, Sharon Shenhav, Michele Reyen, Jonathan Winickoff, Elyse Park, Nancy Rigotti. “Secondhand Smoke Exposure Patterns among Patients Hospitalized with Coronary Heart Disease.” 2011 Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco.

Invited Presentations

“Contextual Support for Abortion and Abortion Discordance in the United States.” December 2024. Eli Coleman Institute for Sexual and Gender Health, University of Minnesota Medical School - Twin Cities.

“Gendered Expectations in Intimate Spaces: Evidence from a National Survey Experiment.” November 2023. Sociology Department Colloquium Series, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities.

“US Adult Fertility Preferences Alongside Social and Economic Constraints.” 2022. Population Wellbeing Initiative Fertility Preferences Conference. University of Texas at Austin.

“Understanding Women’s Experiences at Crisis Pregnancy Centers in the Context of the 2021 Texas Legislative Session.” 2020. Advocacy Workshop on the Alternatives to Abortion Program. Texas Policy Evaluation Project, Avow Texas, and the Texas Pregnancy Care Network.

“Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study Introduction and Research Opportunities.” 2016. Guttmacher Institute. New York, NY.

Invited Workshop Participant

Fertility Goals PAA Pre-Conference: Conceptualization, Measurement, and Impact for Science and Policy, 2025
Demography of Abortion Workshop, University of Colorado Boulder, 2023

Inclusive Classrooms Leadership Certificate Seminar, University of Texas at Austin, 2022

Population Research Bureau Health Policy Communication Workshop and Fellowship, 2020-21
Berkeley Formal Demography Workshop, 2018

Teaching

Instructor, Texas Tech University

2025 Sexuality, Intimate Relationships, and Family, undergraduate Sociology course, Fall

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin

2023 Population and Society, undergraduate Sociology course, Spring

2022 Fundamentals of Research Methods, PhD-level Sociology required course, Fall

Guest Lecturer, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

2024 Foundations of Maternal and Child Health, Graduate Public Health seminar, Fall

2024 Sexual Health Curriculum Small Group Facilitator, UMN Medical School, Fall

2023 Life Course Inequity and Health, Graduate Sociology seminar, Fall

Guest Lecturer, University of Texas at Austin

- 2022** Fertility and Reproduction, Spring
- 2021** Intro to Social Demography, Spring
- Love, Sex, and Relationships, Spring

Advising

- 2025-26** Oluwafolakemi Ogunkale, Master's thesis third reader (Texas Tech)
- Israt Sultana Nishe, Master's thesis third reader (Texas Tech)

Mentoring

- 2024-25** Community Health Alumni Mentoring Program Mentor, Tufts University
- 2021** Demography and Health Graduate student success course facilitator, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- 2019** Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Mentor, University of Texas at Austin

Research Experience

- 2022** Research Scientist Intern, Demography and Survey Science Team, Meta, New York, NY
- 2020-21** Graduate Research Assistant, Population Research Center, UT Austin
- 2017-20** Graduate Research Assistant, Texas Policy Evaluation Project (TxPEP), UT Austin
- 2015-17** Research Specialist II, Center for Research on Child Wellbeing, Princeton University
- 2011-14** Research Assistant II, Guttmacher Institute, New York, NY
- 2010-11** Research Assistant, Tobacco Research Center, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

Leadership

- 2022-25** Steering Committee Member, IUSSP Scientific Panel on Early Career Perspectives
- 2020** Testifier, Sexual Health Education Curriculum Revision Hearing, Texas State Board of Education
- 2019** Conference Organizer, 44th Psychosocial Workshop at PAA
- 2014-15** Student Representative, Demography and Health Master's Course, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Service to the Profession

- 2025** Editorial Board Member, *Population Research and Policy Review*
- American Sociological Association Social Psychology Section
 - Graduate Student Investigator Award Committee Member
- Population Association of America Annual Meeting
 - Discussant, Psychosocial Factors and Fertility Preferences
- 2024** Future of Families and Child Wellbeing Study
 - Year 27 Survey Development Advisor

Population Association of America Annual Meeting

- Session Organizer, Sex

2023 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

- Session Presider, Reproductive Power and Control

Population Association of America Annual Meeting

- Discussant, Methodological Innovations: Fertility Intentions
- Chair, Assessing the Quality of Abortion Care
- Poster Judge, Fertility, Family Planning, and Reproductive Health: Gender and Sexuality

Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting

- Session Presider, Gender as a Social Problem and Source of Social Change

2022 Population Association of America Annual Meeting

- Session Discussant, Sexual Negotiation and Sexual Coercion
- Session Chair, Importance of Context on Contraceptive Use and Fertility Desires

2021 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

- Roundtable Presider, Early Family Formation and Partner Selection

2020 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

- Roundtable Presider, Sexual Behaviors

2019 American Psychological Foundation Henry P. David Grant for International Travel

- Grant Proposal Reviewer, Human Reproductive Behavior and Population Studies Award

Ad hoc reviewer, *American Sociological Review*, *Demography*, *Demographic Research*, *Socius*, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Sex and Sexualities*, *Population Research and Policy Review*, *Sexual and Reproductive Health-care*, *Sexuality Research and Social Policy*, *Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care*

Association Memberships

American Sociological Association (ASA)

Population Association of America (PAA)

Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science (IAPHS)

National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)

International Association for Relationship Research (IARR)

Midwest Sociological Society (MSS)

International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)

Technical Skills and Languages

Stata, R, R Markdown, MPlus, Qualtrics, L^AT_EX, Dedoose, NVivo, Prolific

Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Intermediate)

References

Dr. Claire Kamp Dush

Professor of Sociology
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
kampdush@umn.edu

Dr. Abigail Weitzman

Associate Professor of Sociology
University of Texas at Austin
aweitzman@utexas.edu

Dr. Kristen Mark

Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
kpmark@umn.edu

Dr. Stefanie Möllborn

Professor of Sociology
Stockholm University
mollborn@sociology.su.se