

MARY KATHERINE SHENK

Associate Professor of Anthropology, Demography & Asian Studies
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Anthropology, 2005

University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

M.A. Anthropology, 1996

University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

B.A. Anthropology, Biology minor, 1994

University of New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor of Anthropology, Demography & Asian Studies

Department of Anthropology, The Pennsylvania State University

August 2017 – present

Director of Graduate Studies

Department of Anthropology, The Pennsylvania State University

August 2018 – July 2022

Associate Professor of Anthropology

Department of Anthropology, University of Missouri

September 2014 – August 2017

Director, Life Sciences & Society Program

Christopher S. Bond Life Sciences Center, University of Missouri

July 2014 – July 2017

Assistant Professor of Anthropology

Department of Anthropology, University of Missouri

January 2008 – August 2014

NIH NRSA Postdoctoral Fellow

Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

January 2006 – December 2007

and

Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington

March 2005 – December 2005

PUBLICATIONS (*Citations=1935; h index=21*)

Books

Koster, Jeremy, Brooke A. Scelza, and **Mary K. Shenk** (Editors). In press. Human Behavioral Ecology.

Cambridge University Press: Cambridge Studies in Biological and Evolutionary Anthropology.

Contributions: **Mary K. Shenk**. Chapter 10: Marriage

Rebecca Sear, Siobhán Mattison, and **Mary K. Shenk**. Chapter 13: Demography

Journal Articles

In Review

Kakoli Das, Saswata Ghosh, and Mary K. Shenk. Deprivation, Uncertainty, and contemporary low fertility in an underdeveloped state in India. In review, *Asian Population Studies*.

Makenna Lenover and **Mary K. Shenk**. Evolutionary Medicine Approaches to Chronic Disease: The Case of Irritable Bowel Syndrome. In review, *Evolutionary Anthropology*.

Lynch, R., Schaffnit, S., Sear, R., Sosis, J., Shaver, J., Blumenfield, T., Mattison, S., Spake, L. Alam, N. and **Shenk, Mary K.** Market integration increases differences in the size and kin density of men and women's social networks in Bangladesh. Submitted, *Nature Human Behavior*.

Dithapelo Medupe, Sean Roberts, **Mary K. Shenk**, and Luke Glowacki. Why did foraging, horticulture and pastoralism persist after the Neolithic demographic transition? The Oasis Theory of agricultural intensification. Revised and resubmitted, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*.

Lauren Newmyer, Lisa McAllister, Nurul Alam, and **Mary K. Shenk**. Life Course Timing of Mortality Exposure and Fertility Behavior and Preferences. In review, *Demography*.

Accepted

Sznajder, Kristin K., **Mary K. Shenk**, Nurul Alam, Rubhana Raqib, Anjan Kumar, Farjana Haque, Tami Blumenfield, Siobhán M. Mattison, and Katherine Wander. Betel quid use is associated with anemia among both men and women in Matlab, Bangladesh. Accepted, *PLoS Global Public Health*.

Published (N=48)

Schaffnit, Susan, Abigail Page, Robert Lynch, Laure Spake, Rebecca Sear, Richard Sosis, John Shaver, Nurul Alam, Mary Towner, and **Mary K. Shenk**. 2023. The impact of market integration on arranged marriages in Matlab, Bangladesh. *Evolutionary Human Sciences* 5:1-19. doi:10.1017/ehs.2022.54

Mattison, Siobhán M., Neil MacLaren, Chun-Yi Sum, Ruizhe Liu, **Mary K. Shenk**, Tami Blumenfield, Mingjie Su, Hui Li, and Katherine Wander. 2023. Market integration, income inequality, and kinship system among the Mosuo of China. *Evolutionary Human Sciences*, 1-34. doi:10.1017/ehs.2022.52

Mattison, Siobhán M., Neil G. MacLaren, Chun-Yi Sum, **Mary K. Shenk**, Tami Blumenfield, and Katherine Wander. 2022. Does gender structure social networks across domains of cooperation? An exploration of gendered networks among matrilineal and patrilineal Mosuo. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 378, no. 1868 (2023): 20210436. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2021.0436>

Spake, Laure, Anushé Hassan, Rebecca Sear, **Mary K. Shenk**, Richard Sosis, and John H. Shaver. 2022. Disentangling the relationships between religion and fertility. *Religion, Brain & Behavior* 12, no. 4 (2022): 343-346. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2022.2127212>

Lynch, Robert, Susan Schaffnit, Rebecca Sear, Richard Sosis, John Shaver, Nurul Alam, Tami Blumenfield, Siobhán Mattison, and **Mary K. Shenk**. Religiosity is associated with greater size, kin density, and geographic dispersal of women's social networks in Bangladesh. *Scientific reports* 12, no. 1 (2022): 18780. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-22972-w>

Lankes, Jane, **Mary K. Shenk**, Mary C. Towner, and Nurul Alam. 2022. Dowry Inflation—Perception or Reality? *Population Research and Policy Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11113-022-09705-7>

Mattison, Siobhán M., Darragh Hare, Neil G. MacLaren, Adam Z. Reynolds, Chun-Yi Sum, Ruizhe Liu, **Mary K. Shenk**, Tami Blumenfield, Mingjie Su, Hui Li, Katherine Wander. 2022. Context-specificity of "market integration" among the matrilineal Mosuo of Southwest China. *Current Anthropology* 63(1). <https://doi.org/10.1086/719266>

Lynch, Robert, **Mary K. Shenk**, John H. Shaver, and Laure Spake. 2022. Fertility and faith: Insights from human behavioral ecology, evolutionary psychology and life history theory. *Religion, Brain, and Behavior* 12(4), 406-413. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2021.2023617>

- John H. Shaver, Laure Spake, Robert Lynch, **Mary K. Shenk**. 2022. Faith and fertility in evolutionary perspective. *Religion, Brain, and Behavior* 12(4), 417-425. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2021.2023618>
- Sznajder, Kristin K, Katherine Wander, Siobhan Mattison, Elizabeth Medina-Romero, Nurul Alam, Rubhana Raqib, Anjan Kumar, Farjana Haque, Tami Blumenfield, and **Mary K. Shenk**. 2021. Labor migration is associated with lower rates of underweight and higher rates of obesity among left-behind wives in rural Bangladesh: a cross-sectional study. *Globalization and Health* 17(81). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12992-021-00712-5>
- Mattison, Siobhán M., Neil G. MacLaren, Ruizhe Liu, Adam Z. Reynolds, Gabrielle D. Baca, Peter M. Mattison, Meng Zhang, Chun-Yi Sum, **Mary K. Shenk**, Tami Blumenfield, Christopher von Rueden, and Katherine Wander. 2021. Gender differences in social networks based on prevailing kinship norms in the Mosuo of China. *Social Sciences* 10(7): 253. <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci10070253>
- Spake, Laure, Susan B. Schaffnit, Rebecca Sear, **Mary K. Shenk**, Richard Sosis, and John H. Shaver. 2021. Mother's partnership status and allomothering networks in the United Kingdom and United States. *Social Sciences* 10, no. 5 (2021): 182. <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci10050182>
- Sum, Chun-Yi, Tami Blumenfield, **Mary K. Shenk**, and Siobhán M. Mattison. Hierarchy, Resentment, and Pride: Politics of Identity and Belonging among Mosuo, Yi, and Han in Southwest China. 2021. *Modern China* 00977004211017814.
- Shenk, Mary K.**, Anne Morse, Siobhán M. Mattison, Rebecca Sear, Nurul Alam, Rubhana Raqib, Anjan Kumar, Farjana Haque, Tami Blumenfield, John Shaver, Richard Sosis, and Katherine Wander. 2021. Social support, nutrition, and health among women in rural Bangladesh: complex tradeoffs in alloparenting, kin proximity, and social network size. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 376:20200027. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2020.0027>
- Mattison, Siobhán M., Chun-Yi Sum, Adam Z. Reynolds, Gabrielle D. Baca, Tami Blumenfield, Sara Niedbalski, Ruizhe Lui, Meng Zhang, Lige Liu, Lin Wei, Mingjie Su, Hui Li, **Mary K. Shenk**, Katherine Wander. 2021. Using evolutionary theory to hypothesize a transition from patriliney to matriliney and back again among the ethnic Mosuo of Southwest China. *Matrix: A Journal for Matricultural Studies* 2(1): 90-117.
- Starkweather, Katherine E., **Mary K. Shenk**, and Richard McElreath. 2020. Biological constraints and socioecological influences on women's pursuit of risk and the sexual division of labour. *Evolutionary Human Sciences* 2(e59):1-17. [doi:10.1017/ehs.2020.60](https://doi.org/10.1017/ehs.2020.60)
- Reynolds, Adam Z., Katherine Wander, Chun-Yi Sum, Mingjie Su, Melissa Emery Thompson, Paul L. Hooper, Hui Li, **Mary K. Shenk**, Kathrine E. Starkweather, Tami Blumenfield and Siobhan Mattison. 2020. Matriliney reverses gender disparities in inflammation and hypertension among the Mosuo of China. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 117, no. 48 (2020): 30324-30327. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2014403117>
- Hernandez, Margarita, **Mary K. Shenk**, and George H. Perry. 2020. Factors influencing taxonomic unevenness in scientific research: A mixed-methods case study of non-human primate genomic sequence data generation. *Royal Society Open Science* 7(9):201206. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.201206>
- Shaver, John H., Eleanor A. Power, Benjamin G. Purzycki, Joseph Watts, Rebecca Sear, **Mary K. Shenk**, Richard Sosis, and Joseph A. Bulbulia. 2020. Church attendance and alloparenting: an analysis of fertility, social support and child development among English mothers. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 375, no. 1805 (2020): 20190428. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2019.0428>
- Wander, Katherine, Mingjie Su, Peter M. Mattison, Chun-Yi Sum, Christopher C. Witt, **Mary K. Shenk**, Tami Blumenfield, Hui Li, and Siobhán M. Mattison. 2020. High-altitude adaptations mitigate risk for hypertension and diabetes-associated anemia. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 172(2): 156-164. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ajpa.24032>

- Scelza, B., Blumenfield, T., Prall, S., Crittenden, A., Gurven, M., Kline, M., Koster, J., Kushnick, G., Mattison, S., Pillworth, E. and **Shenk, M.**, Starkweather, K., Stieglitz, J., Sum, C., Yamaguchi, K., McElreath, R. 2020. Patterns of Paternal Investment Predict Cross-Cultural Variation in Jealous Response. *Nature Human Behaviour* 4(1): 20-26. DOI: [10.1038/s41562-019-0654-y](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-019-0654-y)
- Shenk, Mary K.**, Ryan O. Begley, David A. Nolin, Andrew Swiatek. 2019. When Does Matriliney Fail? Frequency and causes of matrilineal transitions estimated from a de novo coding of a cross-cultural sample. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B (Biological Sciences)* 374(1780): 20190006. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2019.0006>
- Borgerhoff Mulder, M., Towner, M., Baldini, R., Beheim, B., Bowles, S., Collieran, H., Gurven, M., Kramer, K., Mattison, S., Nolin, D., Scelza, B., Sear, R., **Shenk, M.**, Volland, E., & Ziker, J. 2019. Differences between Sons and Daughters in the Intergenerational Transmission of Wealth. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B (Biological Sciences)* 374(1780), 20180076. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2018.0076>
- Mattison, Siobhán M., **Mary K. Shenk**, Melissa Emery Thompson, Monique Borgerhoff Mulder, and Laura Fortunato. 2019. The evolution of female-biased kinship in humans and other mammals. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B (Biological Sciences)* 374(1780): 20190007. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2019.0007>
- Van Arsdale, Adam P. and **Mary K. Shenk**. 2019. Biological and Evolutionary Perspectives in *American Anthropologist*: An Editorial Provocation. *American Anthropologist*. DOI 10.1111/aman.13206
- Blumenfield, Tami, Chun-Yi Sum, **Mary K. Shenk**, Siobhán Mattison. 2018. Poverty alleviation and mobility in southwest China: Examining effects of market transition and state policies in Mosuo communities. *Urban Anthropology and Studies of Cultural Systems and World Economic Development* 47(3,4): 259-299.
- Ross, C., M. Borgerhoff Mulder, S. Oh, S. Bowles, B. Beheim, J. Bunce, M. Caudell, G. Clark, H. Collieran, C. Cortez, P. Draper, R. D. Greaves, M. Gurven, T. Headland, J. Headland, K. Hill, B. Hewlett, H. S. Kaplan, J. Koster, K. Kramer, F. Marlowe, R. McElreath, D. Nolin, M. Quinlan, R. Quinlan, C. Revilla-Minaya, B. Scelza, R. Schacht, **M. K. Shenk**, R. Uehara, E. Volland, K. Willführ, B. Winterhalder, J. Ziker. 2018. Greater wealth inequality, less polygyny: rethinking the polygyny threshold model. *Journal of The Royal Society Interface*, 15(144), 20180035. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsif.2018.0035>
- Chagnon, Napoleon A., Robert F. Lynch, **Mary K. Shenk**, Ray Hames, and Mark V. Flinn. 2017. Cross-cousin marriage among the Yanomamo shows evidence of parent-offspring conflict and mate competition between brothers. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, doi/10.1073/pnas.1618655114.
- Mattison, Siobhan M., Eric Alden Smith, **Mary K. Shenk**, and Ethan C. Cochrane. 2016. The Evolution of Inequality. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 25:184–199. DOI: 10.1002/evan.21491
- Shenk, Mary K.**, Mary C. Towner, Emily A. Voss, and Nurul Alam. 2016. Consanguineous Marriage, Kinship Ecology, and Market Transition. *Current Anthropology*: Volume 57, Supplement 13, June 2016. DOI: 10.1086/685712
- Shenk, Mary K.**, Hillard Kaplan, and Paul Hooper. 2016. Status competition, inequality, and fertility: Implications for the demographic transition. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 371:20150150. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2015.0150>
- Snopkowski, Kristin, Mary C. Towner, **Mary K. Shenk**, and Heidi Collieran. 2016. Pathways from Education to Fertility Decline: A multi-site comparative study. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 371:20150156. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2015.0156>
- Sear, Rebecca, David W. Lawson, Hillard Kaplan and **Mary K. Shenk**. 2016. Understanding Variation in Human Fertility: What Can We Learn from Evolutionary Demography. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 371: 20150144. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2015.0144>

- Ellsworth, Ryan M., **Mary K. Shenk**, Drew H. Bailey, and Robert S. Walker. 2015. Comparative study of reproductive skew and pair-bond stability using genealogies from 80 small-scale human societies. *American Journal of Human Biology*. DOI: 10.1002/ajhb.22785
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2014. Ecology, Marriage, and the Origins of Human Cultural Diversity. *Current Anthropology* 55(6):772-773.
- Shenk, Mary K.**, Mary C. Towner, Kathrine Starkweather, Curtis J. Atkisson, and Nurul Alam. 2014. The Evolutionary Demography of Sex Ratios in Rural Bangladesh. *Applied Evolutionary Anthropology*, Advances in the Evolutionary Analysis of Human Behaviour, David Lawson & Mhairi Gibson, Editors. New York: Springer, pp. 141-173. ISBN: 978-1-4939-0279-8
- Shenk, Mary K.**, Mary C. Towner, Howard C. Kress, and Nurul Alam. 2013. A model comparison approach shows stronger support for economic models of fertility decline. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 110(20):8045-8050. doi: 10.1073/pnas.1217029110
- Shenk, Mary K.**, Kathrine E. Starkweather, Howard C. Kress, and Nurul Alam. 2013. Does absence matter? A comparison of three types of father absence in rural Bangladesh. *Human Nature* 24(1):76-110. DOI: 10.1007/s12110-013-9160-5
- Shenk, Mary K.** and Brooke A. Scelza. 2012. Paternal Investment and Status-Related Child Outcomes: Timing of Father's Death Affects Offspring Success. *Journal of Biosocial Science* 44(5):549-569. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0021932012000053>
- Shenk, Mary K.** and Siobhán M. Mattison. 2011. The Rebirth of Kinship: Evolutionary and Quantitative Approaches in the Revitalization of a Dying Field. *Human Nature* 22: 1-15. DOI: 10.1007/s12110-011-9105-9
- Shenk, Mary K.**, M. Borgerhoff Mulder, J. Beise, G. Clark, W. Irons, D. Leonetti, B.S. Low, S. Bowles, T. Hertz, A. Bell, and P. Piraino. 2010. Intergenerational Wealth Transmission among Agriculturalists: Foundations of Agrarian Inequality. *Current Anthropology* 51(1):65-83 (special section on Intergenerational Wealth Transmission and Inequality in Pre-Modern Societies). DOI: 10.1086/648658
- Smith, E.A., M. Borgerhoff Mulder, S. Bowles, M. Gurven, T. Hertz, and **Mary K. Shenk**. 2010. Production Systems, Inheritance and Inequality in Pre-Modern Societies: Conclusions. *Current Anthropology* 51(1):85-94 (special section on Intergenerational Wealth Transmission and Inequality in Pre-Modern Societies). DOI: 10.1086/649029
- Smith, E.A., S. Bowles, T. Hertz, M. Borgerhoff Mulder, **Mary K. Shenk**, and M. Gurven. 2010. Intergenerational Wealth Transmission and Inequality in Pre-Modern Societies: Reply. *Current Anthropology* 51(1):119-126.
- Borgerhoff Mulder, M., S. Bowles, T. Hertz, A. Bell, J. Beise, G. Clark, I. Fazzio, M. Gurven, K. Hill, P.L. Hooper, W. Irons, H. Kaplan, D. Leonetti, B.S. Low, F. Marlowe, S. Naidu, D. Nolin, P. Piraino, R. Quinlan, R. Sear, **Mary K. Shenk**, E.A. Smith, and P. Wiessner. 2009. Intergenerational Transmission of Wealth and Dynamics of Inequality in Pre-Modern Societies. *Science* 326:682-688. DOI: 10.1126/science.1178336
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2009. Testing Three Evolutionary Models of the Demographic Transition: Patterns of Fertility and Age at Marriage in Urban South India. *American Journal of Human Biology* 21:501-511. DOI: 10.1002/ajhb.20943
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2007. Dowry and Public Policy in Contemporary India: The Behavioral Ecology of a Social 'Evil.' *Human Nature* 18(2):242-263. DOI: 10.1007/s12110-007-9006-0
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2005. Kin Networks in Wage-Labor Economies: Effects on Child and Marriage Market Outcomes. *Human Nature* 16:81-114. DOI: 10.1007/s12110-005-1008-1
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2004. Embodied Capital and Heritable Wealth in Complex Cultures: A Class-Based Analysis of Parental Investment in Urban South India. *Research in Economic Anthropology* 23:307-333 (special issue on *Socioeconomic Aspects of Human Behavioral Ecology*).

Book Chapters

- Mattison, Siobhán M., and **Mary K. Shenk**. 2020. Ecological evolutionary demography. In *Human Evolutionary Demography*, Oskar Burger, Rebecca Sear, and Ron Lee. <https://osf.io/vwc3u/>
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2017. Arranged Marriages. *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*, T.K. Shackelford, V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (eds.). Springer International Publishing AG 2017, DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-16999-6_134-1.
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2015. Fertility and Fecundity. In *The International Encyclopedia of Human Sexuality*, edited by Patricia Whelehan and Anne Bolin. Malden, Oxford: John Wiley and Sons.
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2015. Parental Investment. In *The International Encyclopedia of Human Sexuality*, edited by Patricia Whelehan and Anne Bolin. Malden, Oxford: John Wiley and Sons.
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2011. Evolutionary Approaches to Parental Decisions: How Much to Invest in Your Offspring. In *Essential Building Blocks of Human Nature*, Ulrich Frey (Editor). Berlin: Springer.

Working Papers

- Shenk, Mary K.** 2005. How Much Gold Will You Put on Your Daughter? A Behavioral Ecology Perspective on Dowry Marriage. University of Washington Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology (CSDE) Working Paper Series, Publication 2005-07.

Policy Analysis

- Blumenfield, Tami, Siobhán M. Mattison, and **Mary K. Shenk**. 2017. Unequal Tourism Growth in an Alpine Lake Zone: Varied Responses in Na Communities. *China Policy Institute: Analysis*. <https://cpianalysis.org/2017/11/17/unequal-tourism-growth-lakeside-villages-of-lugu-lake/>

Book Reviews

- Shenk, Mary K.** 2009. Rewriting the Book on Human Female Sexuality: New Thinking on Old Questions. *Journal of Evolutionary Psychology* 7(2009)2, 185–189.

News Articles

- Mattison, Siobhan M., **Mary K. Shenk**, and Raymond Hames. 2012. Evolutionary Approaches to Kinship and Family. *Anthropology News*.
- Shenk, Mary K.** 2006. To Split or Not to Split? Departmental Models for the Future of Anthropology. *Anthropology News*.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

A. Major Research Grants and Fellowships

John S. Templeton Foundation Award

The Evolutionary Dynamics of Religion, Family Size, and Child Success in West Bengal, India
July 2022 \$234,625
Role: Lead PI, collaborative PIs John Shaver, Rebecca Sear, Richard Sosis

Fulbright-Nehru Academic & Professional Excellence Award

(2021-2022 Fulbright Scholar Award to India)

The Demographic Impacts of Partition: A Comparative Study of Fertility Decline in West Bengal and Bangladesh
June 2022 - February 2023

American Institute of Bangladesh Studies Senior Award 2021-2022

The Demographic Impacts of Partition: A Comparative Study of Fertility Decline in West Bengal and Bangladesh

The Leakey Foundation

Estimating fertility, disease, and famine using tooth cementum – a validation study in rural Matlab, Bangladesh
December 2019 \$24,984 Role: PI, co-PIs Stephan Naji, Michael Price

John S. Templeton Foundation Award

The Evolutionary Dynamics of Religion, Family Size, and Child Success

September 2019 \$2,380,604

Role: PI, collaborative PIs John Shaver, Rebecca Sear, Richard Sosis

National Science Foundation Senior Research Award (BCS-1461522, now BCS-1839269)

Collaborative research: A multidimensional investigation of the dynamics of market transition and social change in rural China and Bangladesh

August 2015 \$192,184

Role: PI, collaborative PIs Siobhan Mattison, Tami Blumenfield

REU Supplement awarded 2017, Co-PI Madeleine Zoeller

REG Supplement awarded 2020, Co-PI Joon Hwang

REG Supplement awarded 2021, Co-PI Laura Perez

REG Supplement awarded 2022, Co-PI Sojung Baek

REG Supplement awarded 2022, Co-PI Makenna Lenover

University of Missouri Research Board Grant

Psychological Mechanisms of Fertility Decision-making

December 29, 2015 \$54,000 Role: PI, Co-PI David Geary

National Evolutionary Synthesis Center (NESCent) Working Group

Integrating Evolutionary Models of Human Fertility Change

March 2013 5 on-site research meetings

Role: PI, Co-PIs Rebecca Sear & Daniel Hruschka

School for Advanced Research—Research Team Short Seminar

The Evolutionary Demography of Fertility: The Influence of Social Networks

on-site research meeting held June 18-20, 2012

Role: PI, Co-PIs Rebecca Sear & Daniel Hruschka

National Science Foundation Senior Research Award (BCS-0924630)

Collaborative Research: Evolutionary and Comparative Models of the Demographic Transition

January 2010 \$298,000

Role: PI, collaborative PI Mary C. Towner

REG Supplement awarded August 2011, Co-PI Kathrine Starkweather

REG Supplement awarded March 2014, Co-PI Gretchen Perry

REU Supplement awarded May 2014, Co-PI Katarina Schultz

REU Supplement awarded June 2014, Co-PI Emily Voss

NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship

(Application 1 F32 HD048064-01) funded by the Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

Evolutionary Studies of Marriage and Parenting

March 2005 \$127,926

National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant (BCS-0001523)

Evolutionary, Economic, and Demographic Determinants of 'Dowry Inflation' in South India

May 2000 \$11,882

B. Small Research Grants and Pilot Awards

Center for Humanities and Information Digital Humanities Grant

Pioneers of Newer Splendor: Market Transition, Globalization, and Social Change in Bangladesh

June 2020 \$4,960 Role: PI

May 2022 \$9,488 Role: PI

Population Research Institute Seed Grant

COVID-19 as a Mortality Shock: The effect of the pandemic on fertility preferences, intentions, and outcomes

April 2021 \$14,917 Role: PI

INRPHA—The Interdisciplinary Network on Rural Population Health and Aging

Aging Amish: Toward Usable Population Microdata and an Investigation of Residence Proximity, Occupational Change, and Informal Care Practices for the Elderly

February 2021 \$15,000

Role: Co-PI, PI Cory Anderson, Co-PI Guangqing Chi

Population Research Institute Seed Grant

How objective and subjective environmental factors influence reproductive behavior

March 2019 \$12,940 Role: PI

University of Missouri Research Council Grant

Cross-Cultural Analysis of Jealousy

October 9, 2014 \$9,727 Role: PI

C. Other Grants & Awards

Faculty International Travel Grant, awarded May 2016 by the University of Missouri Research Council Committee in the amount of \$2,000 for travel to the *European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association Annual Meeting* at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, April 2016.

Faculty International Travel Grant, awarded May 2014 by the University of Missouri Research Council Committee in the amount of \$1,500 for travel to meetings at University College London and London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

2014 Global Scholars Program (India) from December 29, 2013 to January 14, 2014. Study tour of India to universities, institutions, and businesses to develop linkages for research, education, and outreach and support faculty in internationalizing their teaching and research.

Faculty International Travel Grant, awarded October 2011 by the University of Missouri Research Council Committee in the amount of \$1,463 for travel to HBES conference in Montpellier, France, and meetings with European collaborators.

Mizzou Advantage Networking Grant entitled “Collaborative Portals for Interdisciplinary Working Groups: Evolutionary Studies and Science Studies” awarded February 2011 in the amount of \$20,000 for the Evolutionary Studies and Science Studies working groups at the University of Missouri. Joint with S Engelstein, H Appel, A Ariew, L Chiu, N Heringman, and A Prasad.

Research Leave awarded November 2009 by the University of Missouri Research Council Committee. Leave taken Spring Semester 2010 for field research in Matlab, Bangladesh.

Faculty Development Project Award from University of Missouri for Bengali language study at Bangla Summer Institute, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Awarded summer 2009 in the amount of \$7,400.

Faculty International Travel Grant awarded May 2009 by the University of Missouri Research Council in the amount of \$1,003 for travel to EHBEA conference in St. Andrews, Scotland.

Ruby Weitzer Morris Memorial Fellowship awarded May 2000 for dissertation research on marriage change in South India in the amount of \$2,000.

Pilot Research Seed Grant awarded 1999 by the Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology at the University of Washington (funds provided by the Andrew Mellon Foundation) for pilot research on the determinants of Indian marriage change in the amount of \$3,500.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures

- “Which Aspects of Religiosity Affect Fertility? A Tale of Two Bengals.” Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK), West Bengal, India, February 3, 2023.
- “Consanguinity, Kinship Ecology, and Development: Why Pakistan has the Highest Rates of Cousin Marriage in the Modern World.” Department of Anthropology, University of Calcutta, West Bengal, India, January 19, 2023.
- Instructor for Workshop on “Quantitative and Qualitative Research Techniques in Development Economics.” North Bengal University, West Bengal, India, November 22-25, 2022.
- “The Demographic Transition: Global Trends and Causal Models.” International Seminar on Population and Development, Kanchrapara College, West Bengal, India July 11, 2022.
- “Market Integration and Transitions in Fertility, Marriage, and Kinship Systems.” Department of Anthropology, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, May 29, 2022.
- “How Dowry Replaced Brideprice: Market Integration, Human Capital Investment, and Sex Ratio in 20th Century Bangladesh,” Institute for Advanced Study (IAST), University of Toulouse, May 11-12, 2021.
- “Market Integration and Transitions in Fertility, Marriage, and Kinship Systems.” University of Utah Department of Anthropology Colloquium, April 1, 2021.
- “The Persistence of Intensive Kinship: Why Pakistan has the Highest Rates of Cousin Marriage in the Modern World.” University of Kent Biological Anthropology Seminar Series, February 9, 2021.
- “Marital assortment and the evolution of inequality.” School for Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State University, March 4, 2020.
- “How Dowry Replaced Brideprice: Economic Development, Human Capital Investment, and Sex Ratio in 20th Century Bangladesh.” Workshop on Kinship and Social-Economic Behavior, Chapman University, March 7, 2020.
- “Ethnography Past, Present, and Future.” Comilla University Department of Anthropology, Bangladesh, July 23, 2018.
- “Inheritance, marital assortment, and the evolution of inequality” University of Albany Department of Anthropology Lecture Series, May 11, 2018.
- “‘What Beautiful Days We Lived in the Past:’ Why do people think mortality rates are rising when they are actually falling?” University of New Mexico Department of Anthropology Lecture Series, October 20, 2016.
- “Does absence matter? A comparison of three types of father absence in rural Bangladesh.” Emory University Department of Anthropology Lecture Series, November 3, 2014.
- “Fertility Transition in Matlab: A Model Comparison Approach” ICDDR,B Special Scientific Seminar, Dhaka, Bangladesh, June 26, 2014.
- “Not Enough Ethnography: The perils of quantitative research with limited cultural context, and some thoughts on what to do about it.” Presented at *But What if They Exaggerate Their Age? Language, Culture, and Language-Based Knowledge in Large Dataset Collection—A Workshop*, University College London, December 5-7, 2013.
- “Why People Have Fewer Children and What It Means for Global Population” Noel P. Gist Seminar, University of Missouri, September 12, 2013.
- “Why People Have Fewer Children and What It Means for Global Population” A Taste of Arts & Science, University of Missouri, March 10, 2012.
- “Why Do People Have Fewer Children?” 20/20 Columbia, Columbia, Missouri, October 4, 2011.
- “Why Does Fertility Decline? Comparing Evolutionary Models of the Demographic Transition” Behavior, Evolution, and Culture Seminar Series, University of California-Los Angeles, May 16, 2011.
- “How Much Gold Will You Put on Your Daughters? Indian Weddings as Costly Signals, and the Implications for Dowry Policy” Sawyer Seminar Series, Stanford University, May 6, 2011.

- “Why do Indians spend so much money on their weddings? South Indian Weddings as Costly Signals.” Saturday Morning Science, University of Missouri, April 30, 2011.
- “Age ki shundor din khatyatam? Perceptions of cultural change and risk in rural Bangladesh.” Indian Council of Social Science Research, Shillong, India, June 29, 2010.

Sessions Organized

- Co-Organizer and Chair, “*Open Science and the Anthropological Imagination — Resilience and Adaptation amidst a Global Crisis in Replication and Scientific Practice.*” Chosen as an Executive Session, American Anthropological Association annual meeting, San Jose, CA, November 2018.
- Co-Organizer, “The End/s of Kinship: The convergence of ethnography and quantitative methods.” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA, December 2009.
- Co-Organizer, “Expanding Frontiers in Evolutionary Anthropology: Approaches to Complex and Modernizing Societies.” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Washington, D.C., November-December 2007.
- Co-Organizer and Chair, “Cultural Dimensions of Kin Investment: The Foundations of Kinship and Family.” sponsored by the Evolutionary Anthropology Society. American Anthropological Association annual meeting, San Jose, November 2006.
- Organizer and Chair, “Social Strategies of Production and Reproduction.” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Chicago, November 2003.
- Organizer and Co-Chair, “Reproductive Effort: Trade-offs in Mating and Parenting.” Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meeting, Amherst, Massachusetts, June 2000.

Conference Presentations (as first author/presenter only)

- “Which Aspects of Religiosity Affect Fertility: A Tale of Two Bengals.” International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) XXVII National Seminar; Bengaluru, India, February 23, 2023.
- “Is it Religion or Religiosity that Influences Fertility?” Fulbright Conference, New Delhi, India, November 14, 2022.
- “How Dowry Replaced Brideprice: Market Integration, Sex Ratio, and Fertility Decline in 20th Century Bangladesh.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, Baltimore November 2021.
- “Market Integration and Transitions in Fertility, Marriage, and Kinship Systems” Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meeting, July 2021.
- “How does labor migration affect the health of family members ‘left behind’?” American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, Vancouver, Canada, November 2019.
- “Are reproductive behaviors sensitive to priming? A Bayesian multi-level meta-analysis” Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meeting, Boston University, May 2019.
- “How does labor migration affect the health of family members ‘left behind’?” Global Asias 5 biannual symposium, State College, PA, April 2019.
- “Blending anthropological and psychological methods amid a replication crisis in the sciences.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, San Jose, CA, November 2018.
- “Education, Marriage, or Land: Daughters, Parental Investment, and Inheritance in Rural Bangladesh” American Anthropological Association annual meetings, Washington, DC, December 2017.
- “Life History Evolution and How Humans Perceive (and Misperceive) Mortality Rates *or* Why do people think mortality rates are rising when they are actually falling?” Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meetings, Boise, Idaho, June 2017.
- “Fieldwork and Functional Explanations of Behavior.” American Anthropological Association annual meetings, Minneapolis, MN, November 2016.
- “What causes misperception of mortality rates?” Evolutionary Demography Society annual meetings, University of Virginia, October 2016.
- “‘What beautiful days we lived in the past’: Untangling the conundrum of increased perception of mortality and morbidity risk in rural Bangladesh.” American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Atlanta, GA, April 2016.

- “What beautiful days we lived in the past!: Why do people think mortality rates are rising when they are actually falling?” European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association annual meetings, London, England, April 2016.
- “Does evolutionary anthropology need a rethink?” Roundtable held at the American Anthropological Association annual meetings, Denver, CO, November 2015.
- “Patterns and Predictors of Family-level and Population-level Child Sex Ratios in Rural Bangladesh” Bangladesh Development Initiative biannual meeting, Berkeley, CA, November 2015.
- “Is status part of the human utility function? Implications for understanding variation in fertility” Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meetings, Columbia, Missouri, May 2015.
- “Kinship Ecology, Market Transition, and Consanguineous Marriage in Bangladesh” American Anthropological Association annual meetings, Washington, DC, December 2014.
- “The Evolutionary Demography of Sex Ratios in Rural Bangladesh” American Anthropological Association annual meetings, Chicago, Illinois, November 2013.
- “Does absence matter? A comparison of three types of father absence in rural Bangladesh” American Anthropological Association annual meetings, San Francisco, November 2012.
- “Does absence matter? A comparison of three types of father absence in rural Bangladesh” Human Behavior and Evolution Society meetings, Albuquerque, New Mexico, June 2012.
- “Fertility and Modernity: Comparing Evolutionary Explanations for Fertility Decline in Rural Bangladesh” American Anthropological Association annual meetings, Montreal, Canada, November 2011.
- “Why Does Fertility Decline? Comparing Evolutionary Models of the Demographic Transition” Human Behavior & Evolution Society annual meeting, Montpellier, France, June/July 2011.
- “Why Does Fertility Decline? Comparing Evolutionary Models of the Demographic Transition” Population Association of America annual meetings, Washington, DC, March/April 2011.
- “Circulating bodies: Labor migration, gender, and fertility in rural Bangladesh” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 2010. Co-authored with Howard Kress and Mary Towner.
- “Do parents know better? Testing the evolutionary benefits of arranged marriage in urban South India” American Anthropological Association annual meetings, Philadelphia, Dec. 2009.
- “The Consequences of Paternal Investment for Child Status: A Test Case from South India.” Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meeting, Fullerton, CA, May 2009.
- “On the Importance of Arranged Marriage: Testing the Evolutionary Significance of Joint Mating Decisions in South India.” European Human Behaviour & Evolution Association annual meeting, St. Andrews, Scotland, April 2009.
- “The Importance of Paternal Investment for Status-Related Child Outcomes: A Test Case from South India.” Co-Author Brooke Scelza. American Anthropological Association annual meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 2008.
- “Investment and Risk-Related Approaches to the Demographic Transition: Transitions in Fertility and Age of First Reproduction in Urban South India.” International Seminar on Trade-offs in Female Life Histories: Raising New Questions in an Integrative Framework, Bristol, England, July 2008.
- “Causes and Consequences of the Demographic Transition in Urban South India.” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Washington, D.C., November 2007.
- “Marry Your Daughters First: Indian Weddings as Costly Signals,” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, San Jose, CA, November 2006.
- “Applying Costly Signaling Theory to Indian Wedding Costs: A Theoretical Model and Preliminary Analyses.” Human Behavior and Evolution Society, University of Pennsylvania, June 2006.
- “(Over) Spending on a Daughter’s Future? Dowry and Public Policy in India.” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Washington, DC, December 2005.
- “How Much Gold Will You Put On Your Daughter? An Embodied Capital Perspective on Dowry and Dowry Inflation.” Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meeting, Austin, TX, June 2005.

- “Parental Investment in an Emerging Wage-Labor Economy: Investigating the Relationship between Investments and Outcomes.” American Anthropological Association, Chicago, November 2003.
- “The Evolutionary Ecology of Class Differences in Urban South India: Strategies in Relation to Parental Investment and Marriage Practices.” Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meeting, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, June 2003.
- “The Evolutionary Ecology of Parental Investment in Urban South India: A Class-Based Analysis of Differential Investment in Sons and Daughters.” American Anthropological Association annual meeting, New Orleans, November 2002.
- “*Homo hierarchicus* meets Human Behavioral Ecology: Caste and Class-Based Marriage Strategies in Urban South India.” Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Rutgers University, June 2002.
- “Evolutionary and Economic Determinants of Dowry Inflation.” Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meeting, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, June 2000.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Professional Memberships

American Anthropological Association
 American Association for the Advancement of Science
 American Institute of Bangladesh Studies
 Evolutionary Demography Society
 Human Behavior and Evolution Society
 Population Association of America
 Sigma Xi

Professional Positions

Program Committee Member, Population Association of America, 2021-2022
 President, Evolutionary Anthropology Society (a section of the American Anthropological Association):
 President Elect 2016-2017, President 2018-2019, Past President 2020-2022
 Executive Board Member, Evolutionary Demography Society, 2019-2022
 Executive Board Member, Evolutionary Anthropology Society, 2012-2015

Editorial Experience

Consulting Editor, *Human Nature*, May 2021 to present
 Associate Editor, *American Anthropologist*, April 2018 to present
 Consulting Editor, *Evolution and Human Behavior*, January 2019 to present
 Deputy Editor, *Demography*, January 2018 to June 2020
 Editorial Board Member, *American Anthropologist*, July 2016 to April 2018
 Guest Editor, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, Volume 374, Issue 1780, 2019
 Guest Editor, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, Volume 371, Issue 1692, 2016
 Guest Editor, *Human Nature* Special Double Issue, Volume 22, Issues 1 & 2, 2011
 Contributing Editor, *Anthropology News*, October 2004 – December 2007

Reviewing

Article Reviewer for *American Anthropologist*, *American Journal of Human Biology*, *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, *Cross-Cultural Research*, *Current Anthropology*, *Demography*, *Demographic Research*, *Evolution and Human Behavior*, *Evolutionary Psychology*, *Frontiers*, *Human Nature*, *Journal of Bioeconomics*, *Nature Human Behaviour*, *Nature Communications*, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, *Population Research & Policy Review*, *PLOS One*, *Population Ecology*, *Religion Nature and Culture*, *Research in Economic Anthropology*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Society Biology & Human Affairs*, and various edited volumes.
 Grant Reviewer for the U.S. National Science Foundation, European Research Council, Israel Science Foundation, Social Science Research Council, and the Wellcome Trust.

Graduate Students Advised

University of Missouri

Christina Pomianek Dames, PhD 2012
Jayme Cisco, PhD 2015
Ryan O'Dell Begley, PhD 2015
Kathrine Starkweather, PhD 2016

Melissa Steffan, MA 2012
Amber Cox, MA 2014
Ann Marbourg, MA 2015
Marilyne Tamayo, MA 2016

Penn State

Andrés Mejía Ramón, PhD 2021
Joon Hwang, PhD in progress
Sojung Baek, PhD in progress
Dithapelo Medupe, PhD in progress

Margarita Hernandez, PhD in progress
Makenna Lenover, PhD in progress
Nafi Mohammad Ali, PhD in progress
Laura Perez, MD/PhD in progress

Honors and Awards

Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2022

Fellow, Sigma Xi, 2022

2012 Gold Chalk Award for excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring, University of Missouri

Invited Workshops and Training

Wenner-Gren Symposium “Integrating Anthropology: Niche Construction, Cultural Institutions, and History,” Sintra, Portugal, October 17-23, 2014

“But What if They Exaggerate Their Age? Language, Culture, and Language-Based Knowledge in Large Dataset Collection,” University College London, December 5-7, 2013

Bengali Summer Institute, June 8 - August 7, 2009, Bangla Language Institute, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

2nd Stanford Workshop in Formal Demography, August 7-18 2006, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California

12th Annual Santa Fe Institute Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science Modeling and Complexity, July 9-22 2006, Santa Fe Institute, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Economic Demography Summer Short Course, May 15-19, 2006, Institute for Behavioral Science, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado

SYMPOSIA AND SPEAKER SERIES ORGANIZED

Life Sciences & Society Program Annual Symposium

Bond Life Sciences Center, University of Missouri

Confronting Climate Change, March 12 & 17-19, 2016

<http://lssp.missouri.edu/climatechange/>

The Epigenetics Revolution: Nature, Nurture, and What Lies Ahead, March 13-15, 2015

<http://lssp.missouri.edu/epigenetics>

Saturday Morning Science Speaker Series, Bond Life Sciences Center, University of Missouri, Fall 2015 through Spring 2017

Science Café Columbia speaker series, University of Missouri, Fall 2016 through Spring 2017