
KAGAN A. MELLENCAMP
Curriculum Vitae

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant (Department of Sociology, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH)

2017-present “Health and Well-being Effects on Later-Life Divorce and Subsequent Repartnering”
Principal Investigators: Susan L. Brown and I-Fen Lin
Agency: National Institute on Aging (R15)

- Data management, analysis, and visualization using large datasets (e.g., Decennial Census, American Community Survey, Health and Retirement Study)
- Create new (and refine existing) statistical code (Stata) and data models to streamline analyses and ensure replicability
- Collective development of research ideas
- Collaborative writing and revising of manuscripts and brief reports
- Present project updates and notable findings to PIs on a weekly basis
- Train other graduate students in data management and analysis
- Create curricula for undergraduate students to teach current literature, research methods, and statistical analysis using Stata
 - Mentor in development and completion of their own research projects to be presented at undergraduate symposia

Homebased Case Manager (Indianapolis, IN)

2015-2017 Promising Futures, Inc.
A non-profit organization committed to managing cases of child neglect and/or abuse

- Contracted by the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS)
- Identified appropriate intervention programs and services with the goal of reunifying families and preventing children’s reentry into foster care
- Supervised parental visitation of children and children’s schooling procedures
- Took detailed notes of parent-child interactions, children’s experiences with foster care, and children’s educational successes and barriers
- Synthesized relevant information into brief, weekly reports to be presented to Indiana DCS
- Managed multiple cases at a given time

RELEVANT SKILLS

- 5 years of experience in complex data management/manipulation
 - Cleaned, merged, and nested longitudinal data files for sample selection
- 5 years of experience in high-level statistical analysis
 - Multilevel modeling, longitudinal analyses, population-level estimation
- 5 years of experience in data visualization
 - Growth curves, survival curves, cohort trends, stacked bar charts, word clouds, etc.
- Fluent in Stata, SAS
- Proficient in R, Atlas.ti
- Experience using SQL, SPSS
- Advanced knowledge of Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint
- Adept in survey design and dissemination using Qualtrics
- Intimate understanding of data structure and hierarchy
- Well-versed in various sampling strategies
- Accomplished academic, technical, and non-technical writer
- Oral communication skills under pressure
- Effectively disseminates research to broad audiences (i.e., academic and non-academic)
- Self-motivator within a team-oriented research environment
- Committed to using my privilege to amplify the voices of underrepresented students and colleagues to promote a diverse and inclusive space for development
- Intuitively anticipates the needs of others
- Eager to learn, teachable, and amenable
- Service-oriented

Advanced statistical methods:

- Power analysis
- Multilevel modeling (nested data, fixed and mixed effects)
- Longitudinal analysis (growth curve, event history, cross-lagged)
- Demographic techniques (life tables, survival curves, decomposition)
- Item response theory (Rasch models, 1-3PL models, GRM, MIRT)
- Structural equation modeling (path analysis, MIMIC models, CFA/EFA)
- Seemingly unrelated estimation (SUR)
- Difference-in-differences estimation
- Propensity score analysis
- Multiple imputation
- Weighting

EDUCATION

August 2022 (Expected)

Ph.D. in Sociology (Quantitative Methods)

Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH

Dissertation: “Family Matters: Relationship Dynamics Surrounding Child Death in Later Life”

Committee: Drs. I-Fen Lin, Susan L. Brown, Wendy D. Manning, Jenjira Yahirun, and Dawn Anderson

- 2019 **M.A. in Sociology (Quantitative Methods)**
Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH
- Thesis: “Depressive Symptoms Trajectories Following Child Death in Later Life: Variation by Race-Ethnicity”
Committee: Drs. I-Fen Lin, Susan L. Brown, and Wendy D. Manning
- 2015 **B.A. in Sociology** with Honors
Hutton Honors College Graduate
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2020 Graduate College Distinguished Thesis Award
Bowling Green State University
- Donald J. and Susan E. Adamchak Graduate Student Award in Demography
Department of Sociology, Bowling Green State University
- 2019 Paper Award Winner: 13th Annual OSU/BGSU Graduate Student Conference,
Departments of Sociology, Ohio State University & Bowling Green State University
- 2015 Ulysses Grant Weatherly Award for Best Undergraduate Paper
Department of Sociology, Indiana University

PUBLICATIONS & MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

- Mellencamp, Kagan A.** “Gender Differences in Depressive Symptoms Following Child Death in Later Life.” Under review at *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*.
- Brown, Susan L., I-Fen Lin, and **Kagan A. Mellencamp**. “The Rising Midlife First Marriage Rate in the U.S.” Conditionally accepted at the *Journal of Marriage and Family*.
- Lin, I-Fen, Susan L. Brown, and **Kagan A. Mellencamp**. 2022. “The Roles of Gray Divorce and Subsequent Repartnering for Parent-Adult Child Relationships.” *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences* 77(1):212-223. doi: [10.1093/geronb/gbab139](https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbab139).
- Brown, Susan L., **Kagan A. Mellencamp**, and I-Fen Lin. 2021. “Sole Family Survivors: Older Adults Lacking Family of Origin Kin.” *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*. Online ahead of print. doi: [10.1093/geronb/gbab239](https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbab239).
- Brown, Susan L., I-Fen Lin, and **Kagan A. Mellencamp**. 2021. “Does the Transition to Grandparenthood Deter Gray Divorce? A Test of the Braking Hypothesis.” *Social Forces* 99(3):1209-1232. doi: [10.1093/sf/soaa030](https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soaa030).

Brown, Susan L., I-Fen Lin, Alyssa Vielee, and **Kagan A. Mellencamp**. 2021. "Midlife Marital Dissolution and the Onset of Cognitive Impairment." *The Gerontologist* 61(7):1085-1094. doi: [10.1093/geront/gnaa193](https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnaa193).

Mellencamp, Kagan A. 2019. "Parental Bereavement in Mid- to Late-Life: The Death of a Child After Age 50." *Family Profiles*, FP-19-18. Bowling Green, OH: National Center for Family & Marriage Research. doi: [10.25035/ncfmr/fp-19-18](https://doi.org/10.25035/ncfmr/fp-19-18).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 **Kagan A. Mellencamp**. "Parent-Surviving Child Relationship Dynamics Following Child Death in Later Life."
Oral presentation
Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Atlanta, GA
- Brown, Susan L., **Kagan A. Mellencamp**, and I-Fen Lin. "Sole Family Survivors: Older Adults Lacking Family of Origin Kin."
Oral presentation
Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Atlanta, GA
- 2021 Brown, Susan L., I-Fen Lin, and **Kagan A. Mellencamp**. "Marriage Delayed, not Forgone? The Rising Midlife First Marriage Rate, 1990-2019."
Virtual presentation
Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America
- 2020 **Mellencamp, Kagan A.** "Depressive Symptoms Trajectories Following Child Death in Later Life: Variation by Race-Ethnicity."
Virtual presentation
(1) *Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America*
(2) *DemSemX: A Cross-Center Collaboration*
- Brown, Susan L., I-Fen Lin, Alyssa Vielee, and **Kagan A. Mellencamp**. "Midlife Marital Dissolution and the Onset of Cognitive Impairment."
Virtual presentation
Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America
- 2019 **Mellencamp, Kagan A.** "Depressive Symptoms Trajectories Following Child Death in Later Life: Variation by Race-Ethnicity."
Oral presentation
13th Annual OSU/BGSU Graduate Student Conference, Columbus, OH
- Brown, Susan L., I-Fen Lin, and **Kagan A. Mellencamp**. "Does the Transition to Grandparenthood Deter Gray Divorce? A Test of the Braking Hypothesis."
Oral presentation
Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Austin, TX
- 2015 **Mellencamp, Kagan A.**, "Death by Officer: A Comparative Analysis of Media Framing."
Oral presentation
Annual Meeting of the North Central Sociological Association, Cleveland, OH

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

2019 Principles of Sociology (SOC 1010)
Bowling Green State University, Department of Sociology

Teaching Assistantship

2017-2018 Social Psychology (SOC 3010)
Dr. I-Fen Lin
Bowling Green State University, Department of Sociology

Teaching Workshops and Courses

2021 “Effective Online and In-Person Hybrid Pedagogical Strategies During the COVID-19
Pandemic”
Instructor: Dr. Melinda Jo Messineo, Ball State University

2020 “Reducing Class-Based Inequalities in the College Classroom & Balancing Research,
Teaching, and Service”
Instructor: Dr. Jessica Calarco, Indiana University

2019 “Empathy in the Classroom & Public Sociology”
Instructor: Dr. Katherine Rowell, Sinclair Community College

2018 “Learning the Teacher Role”
Instructor: Aurea Osgood, Winona State University

*Mentees on NIA R15 Grant**

2019-present Undergraduate students:
Nathan Bostelman and Francesca Marino (2021-2022)
Amanda Fairbairn and James Hoag (2019-2020)

2018-present Graduate students:
Janecca Chin (2021-present)
Katie Graham (2019-2020)
Alyssa Vielee (2018-2019)

* Since 2018, 25% of my project duties involved training undergraduate and graduate students in the management, analysis, and visualization of survey data using Stata.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Present President of the Sociology Graduate Student Association (SGSA)
Bowling Green State University

- Capacity-building
- Schedule, plan, and lead monthly meetings

- Translate graduate student ideas into achievable goals and identify opportunities for organizational expansion
- 2018-2022 Chair of the SGSA's Service Committee
 - Facilitate opportunities to involve graduate students and faculty in community-service both on and off campus
 - Build and maintain community relationships with local non-profit organizations
- 2018-2021 Mentor for the SGSA's Mentoring Program
 - Peer-to-peer mentoring addressing first-year graduate students' struggles and successes
 - Yearly reports presented to Director of Graduate Studies and Department Chair
- 2018 Developmental Leader for Graduate Student Orientation
 - Organize events to acclimate incoming graduate students to the department and the graduate college in the week preceding the Fall semester
 - Plan and preside over meetings between incoming graduate students and faculty
- 2018-present Participant in Graduate Student Recruitment Weekend
 - Share information and experiences to recruit prospective graduate students
- 2017-present Member of the SGSA's Professional Development Committee
 - Create teaching workshops for graduate students and faculty
 - Search for keynote speakers to participate
 - Coordinate with university staff to

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Present Trained Reviewer for *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*
- 2021 Annual meeting of the Population Association of America
 - Session Discussant: "Family Mortality and Health"
- 2020 14th Annual OSU/BGSU Graduate Student Conference
 - Session Discussant: "Health and Well-being"
- 2020 Reviewer in Training for *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*
- 2019 Annual meeting of the Population Association of America
 - Session Chair: "Aging Alone and Well-being"

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2020-present Volunteer at the Wood County Committee on Aging
- Organize letter- and card-writing campaigns for older adults during the Covid-19 pandemic
- 2018-present Coordinator of department-wide donation drives
- Involve graduate students as well as faculty and staff
 - Hygiene kits for those experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Wood County, OH
 - Christmas gifts for families experiencing or at risk of domestic and sexual violence in Northwest Ohio
- 2017-present Volunteer at The Cocoon (a shelter for those experiencing domestic and sexual violence in Northwest Ohio)
- Provide domestic labor (e.g., cleaning, landscaping, moving help)
- 2018-present Volunteer at Project Connect Wood County
- Yearly community-wide event that provides services for those experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Wood County, OH
- 2018 Volunteer at the MLK Day of Service
- School-sponsored community service project

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2022-present American Sociological Association
- 2020-present Alpha Kappa Delta (Sociology Honorary Society)
- 2018-present Population Association of America
- 2015-2016 North Central Sociology Association

REFERENCES

I-Fen Lin
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