

LAUREN HARRIS

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EMPLOYMENT

2022-Present **Assistant Professor**, Department of Human Development and Family Studies,
University of New Hampshire

EDUCATION

2022 **PhD, Sociology**, University of Pennsylvania
2022 **Graduate Certificate, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies**, University of
Pennsylvania
2018 **MA, Sociology**, University of Pennsylvania
2014 **Graduate Certificate, Survey Research**, University of Massachusetts–Boston
2013 **MA, Applied Sociology**, University of Massachusetts–Boston
2010 **BA, Sociology, Political Science**, magna cum laude, Emmanuel College

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Harris, Lauren E.** 2025. Initiating an Intrauterine Device: How Adolescent and Young Adult Women Exercise Autonomy in the Decision-Making Process. *Youth & Society*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0044118X251331636>
- Harris, Lauren E.** 2024. The Virus Be Damned: Older Adults Seek Romantic Relationships During a Pandemic. *Journal of Women & Aging*, 36(2), 166-179.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/08952841.2023.2282025>
- Reed, Megan N., Linda Li, Luca Maria Pesando, **Lauren E. Harris**, Frank F. Furstenberg, and Julien O. Teitler. 2023. Communication with Kin in the Wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Socius*, 9. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/23780231231199388>
- Harris, Lauren E.** 2023. Older Adults on the Dating Market: The Role of Family Caregiving Responsibilities. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 85(3), 739-759.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/jomf.12904>
*Top cited article in *JMF* 2023.
- Harris, Lauren E.** and Jerry A. Jacobs. 2023. Emerging Ideas. Digital Parenting Advice: Online Guidance Regarding Children's Use of the Internet and Social Media. *Family Relations* 72(5): 2551-2568. <https://doi.org/10.1111/fare.12813>
- Harris, Lauren E.** 2021. Committing before Cohabiting: Pathways to Marriage Among Middle-Class Couples. *Journal of Family Issues* 42(8):1762-1786.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0192513X20957049>
- Furstenberg, Frank F., **Lauren E. Harris**, Luca Maria Pesando, and Megan N. Reed. 2020. Kinship Practices in Alternative Family Forms: A Comparative Perspective. *Journal of Marriage and Family* 82(5): 1403-1430. (Equal authorship, authors listed alphabetically.)
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/share/author/RZMUVBVRMNYM6FZIGURN?target=10.1111/jomf.12712>

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Harris, Lauren E. I Don't Need Your Money, I Have My Own: Financial Considerations in Older Adult Repartnering. *Under Review*.

Harris, Lauren E. and Celia M. Melanson*. "The Shop is Not Closed": Sex and Sexuality Among Older Adult Daters. *Under Review*.

Harris, Lauren E. Representations of Older Adults on Online Dating Websites. *In Progress*.

*Grad student coauthor

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Harris, Lauren E. Older Adults Searching for Love: The Experiences and Motivations of Later Life Repartnering. National Council on Family Relations Report, *Summer 2024*. <https://www.ncfr.org/ncfr-report/summer-2024/older-adults-searching-love-experiences-motivations-later-life-repartnering>

Harris, Lauren E. February 2024. Don't Worry, We'll Eat Outside: Older Adult Dating in a Pandemic. Council on Contemporary Families blog post. *The Society Pages*. <https://thesocietypages.org/ccf/>

Harris, Lauren E. January 2024. Get by with a little help from my extended family: Communication with collateral kin in a crisis. Council on Contemporary Families blog post. *The Society Pages*. <https://thesocietypages.org/ccf/>

Harris, Lauren E. November 2023. What The Golden Bachelor Gets Right About Older Adult Dating. *Contexts Magazine* blog post. <https://contexts.org/blog/golden-bachelor/>

Harris, Lauren E. July 2023. Single Older Man Seeks Single Older Woman... Without Family Baggage. Council on Contemporary Families blog post. *The Society Pages*. <https://thesocietypages.org/ccf/2023/07/04/single-older-man-seeks-single-older-woman-without-family-baggage/>

RESEARCH IN THE PRESS

Coffey, Donavyn. 2024, August 13. Older Adults Redefine Love to Combat Loneliness. WebMD. <https://www.webmd.com/healthy-aging/news/20240813/older-adults-redefine-love-to-combat-loneliness>

Stassi, Laura (Host). 2024, February 22. Revisiting that Other Reality Dating Show (S6, E2) [Audio podcast episode]. Featured in *Dating While Gray*. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/revisiting-that-other-reality-dating-show/id1497374383?i=1000646370352>

Underwood, Katherine. 2024, February 14. Normalizing Love for Any Age. Interviewed on *WMUR*. <https://www.wmur.com/article/gray-dating-unh-new-hampshire-aarp/46905489>

Testa, Keith. 2024, February 6. Fall In Love with Relationship Research This Valentine's Day. *UNH Today*. <https://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/2024/02/fall-love-relationship-research-valentines-day>

Wise, Dan (Host). February 2024. Interviewed on AARP's *Senior Speak NH*, ConcordTV. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RQuzrCTTg7E>

Roberson, Patricia N. E., Sarah Woods, and Sesen Negash (Hosts). 2023, November 7. Communicating in a Crisis (S5, E5) [Audio podcast episode]. In *Attached*. <https://attachedpodcast.com/podcast/s5e5>

- Stassi, Laura (Host). 2023, October 26. Dating, With Children (S4, E4) [Audio podcast episode]. Interviewed for *Dating While Gray*. <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/969137083/dating-while-gray>
- Stassi, Laura (Host). 2023, October 5. All That Glitters (S4, E1) [Audio podcast episode]. Interviewed for *Dating While Gray*. <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/969137083/dating-while-gray>
- White, Jen (Host). 2023, October 4. 'The Golden Bachelor' and finding love After 60 [Radio show episode]. Interviewed for *1A*. <https://wamu.org/story/23/10/03/the-golden-bachelor-and-finding-love-after-60/>
- Schmitgen, Nicole. August 24, 2023. Roses are Red, Violets are Blue: Online Dating May Have a Gendered View. Discoveries blog post. *The Society Pages*. <https://thesocietypages.org/discoveries/2023/08/24/roses-are-red-violets-are-blue-online-dating-may-have-a-gendered-view/>
- Larson, Vicki. 2023. The Surprising Reason Why Older Single Men Don't Find Older Single Women Desirable. *OMGChronicles.com*. <https://omgchronicles.medium.com/the-surprising-reason-why-older-single-men-dont-find-older-single-women-desirable-a85c4da48098>
- Roberson, Patricia N. E., Sarah Woods, and Sesen Negash (Hosts). 2023, February 14. Looking for Love in All the Places: Workplace Infidelity, Gray Dating, and Teens Opening Up (S4, E9) [Audio podcast episode]. In *Attached*. <https://attachedpodcast.com/podcast/s4e9>

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Talks and Presentations

- 2025 *Upcoming*: "The Shop is Not Closed": Sex and Sexuality Among Older Adult Daters." American Sociological Association. Chicago, IL.
- 2024 "Exploring the Depths: Anchoring Relationship Science in Qualitative Research (Symposium)," panelist. International Association of Relationship Researchers Main Conference. Boston, MA.
- 2023 "I'm Looking to Share My Life, Not My Valuables: Financial Considerations in Older Adult Repartnering." National Council on Family Relations Conference. Orlando, FL.
- 2023 "I Don't Need Your Money, I have My Own: Financial Considerations in Older Adult Repartnering." American Sociological Association. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2022 "Older Adults on the Dating Market: The Role of Family and Caregiving Responsibilities." American Sociological Association. Los Angeles, CA. (Unable to attend.)
- 2022 "I Don't Want to Date a Grandmother: The Gendered Impacts of Performing Carework on the Dating Lives of Older Adults." Eastern Sociological Society Meeting. Boston, MA.
- 2022 "The Virus Be Damned: Older Adults Seek Romantic Relationships During a Pandemic." Eastern Sociological Society Meeting. Boston, MA.
- 2020 "Cohabiting and Committing: Middle-Class Couples on the Pathway to Marriage." American Sociological Association. San Francisco, CA. (Conference canceled.)
- 2020 "A Reproductive Justice Framework to Improve Care for Young Women with IUDs" with Ava Skolnik and Aletha Akers. San Francisco, CA. (Conference canceled.)
- 2020 "Autonomy and Reproductive Justice in Adolescent and Young Women's IUD Initiation" with Ava Skolnik and Aletha Akers. Eastern Sociological Society. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2019 "Parenting and Social Media" with Jerry Jacobs. American Sociological Society. New York City, NY.
- 2019 "Committing before Cohabiting: Pathways to Marriage Among Middle-Class Couples." Education and Gender in Young Adulthood conference. Philadelphia, PA.

- 2018 “‘By Living Together, I’m Completely Committed to You’: Cohabitation and Childbearing as Commitment.” American Sociological Society. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 “The Importance of Work-Family Balance by Age and Relationship Status.” Work and Family Researchers Network Conference. Washington, D.C.
- 2016 “What Can Be Learned from Evaluations of Fatherhood Programs?” Work and Family Researchers Network Conference. Washington, D.C.
- 2008 “Exploring Nonacademic Aspects at a Small New England College: A Multi-Method Approach.” American Sociological Association. Boston, MA.

Guest Lectures and Public Talks

- 2025 “Qualitative Methods.” Guest lecture, Research Methods in HDFS, University of New Hampshire.
- 2024 Q&A, “Gray Dating: How Age and Gender Impact Singlehood, Dating, and Partnering for Older Adults.” Family, Race, and Kinship, University of Delaware, Dover, Delaware.
- 2023 “Adolescent Sexual Development.” Guest lecture, Developmental Perspectives on Adolescence and Early Adulthood, University of New Hampshire.
- 2023 “Gray Dating: How Age and Gender Impact Singlehood, Dating, and Partnering for Older Adults.” Poster presentation at Age of Champions: Health & Wellness Fair, UNH.
- 2022 “Older Adults on the Dating Market: The Role of Family and Caregiving Responsibilities.” Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Graduate Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2021 “Family Matters: How Family and Carework Impact the Dating Lives of Older Adults.” Family & Gender Workshop, Dept. of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2021 “Sociology of Family and Gender.” Guest lecture, Introduction to Sociology, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2021 “Singlehood, Dating, and Partnering among Older Adults During COVID-19.” Research talk, Introduction to Sociology, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2021 “Teaching During COVID Panel Discussion.” Panelist. Graduate Student Center, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2020 “Committing before Cohabiting: Pathways to Marriage Among Middle-Class Couples.” Sociology of Family, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas.
- 2019 “Parenting and Social Media” with Jerry Jacobs. Family & Gender Workshop, Dept. of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2019 “Committing before Cohabiting: Pathways to Marriage Among Middle-Class Couples.” Introduction to Sociology, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2019 “Online Dating: Who, How, and Why.” Firehouse Active Adult Center, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2019 “Online Dating: Who, How, and Why.” Free Library of Philadelphia, PA.
- 2019 “The Changing Meaning of Marriage.” Free Library of Philadelphia, PA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024 – HDFS 746: *Human Sexuality*, University of New Hampshire
- 2023 – HDFS 545: *Intimate Relationships and Family*, University of New Hampshire
- 2022 – HDFS 757: *Race, Class, and Gender in Families* (Senior Capstone), University of New Hampshire
- 2022 – HDFS 625: *Adult Development and Aging*, University of New Hampshire
- 2022 *Society, Culture, and the Individual*, Bryn Mawr College
- 2021 *The Family*, University of Pennsylvania
- 2020, 2021 *Family Change and Inequalities*, University of Pennsylvania

2019, 2021 *Introduction to Sociology*, University of Pennsylvania

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND HONORS

Research Grants and Fellowships

2021 Research Council transcription grant, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (\$6000)
2021 Gertrude and Otto Pollak Summer Research Fellowship (\$6500)
2020 Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Graduate Student Research Expense Grant (\$500)
2020 Gertrude and Otto Pollak Summer Research Fellowship (\$4000)
2020 SASGov Research Grant (\$2000)
2016-2021 Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, the University of Pennsylvania

Teaching Awards and Fellowships

2021 Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching by Graduate Students, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (\$600)
2020-2021 Center for Teaching and Learning Graduate Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
2018 Certificate in Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania

Academic Honors

2014 Book Award (Highest GPA in cohort, 3.89), University of Massachusetts–Boston, Sociology Department
2010 Senior Sociology Award, Emmanuel College
2010 Academic Distinction in the Field of Sociology, Emmanuel College
2010 Academic Distinction in the Field of Political Science, Emmanuel College
2006-2010 Dean's List, Emmanuel College
 Alpha Kappa Delta, Sociology Honor Society
 Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science Honor Society
 Omicron Delta Kappa, Leadership Honor Society

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2024 – CCF Awards Committee, Council on Contemporary Families
2024 – Student and New Professional Representative, Issues in Aging Focus Group, National Council on Family Relations
2022 Presider, "Sociological Approaches to Life-Course Analysis" paper session. Eastern Sociological Society Meeting, Boston, MA.
2020 – Reviewer: *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Journal of Family Issues*, *Family Relations*; *Social Sciences*; *Healthcare*; *Journal of Occupational Science*; *Journal of Aging Studies*
2019 Co-organizer, Education and Gender in Young Adulthood conference, Philadelphia, PA.
2018 Presider, "Qualitative Studies of Couples and Relationships" roundtable. American Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA

2016 – Member: American Sociological Association; Work and Family Researchers Network; National Council on Family Relations; Council on Contemporary Families; Sociologists for Women in Society

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2023-Present HDFS Department Representative, Academic Affairs Committee
 2022-Present HDFS Department Representative, Library Liaison Program
 2022-Present Gerontology Multidisciplinary Minor Advisory Committee member
 2021-2022 Undergraduate Committee, Graduate Student Member, Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania
 2021 Qualitative Research Consultant, Research Council, University of Pennsylvania
 2019-2020 Chair, Graduate Sociology Society, University of Pennsylvania
 2018-2019 SASGov Representative for Sociology, University of Pennsylvania
 2017-2018 Social Chair, Graduate Sociology Society, University of Pennsylvania

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Annual Writing Academy, UNH 2023
 Teaching Conference: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, UNH CHHS CERE 2023
 Pathways to Tenure workshop series, UNH 2023

PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Research Assistant Advisor, dissertation research project 2021
 Graduate Research Assistant for Pilar Gonalons-Pons, University of Pennsylvania 2019 – 2021
 Graduate Research Assistant, Research Institute, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia 2018 – 2019
 Mathematica Policy Research, Cambridge, MA
 Survey Specialist 2014 – 2016
 Survey Associate 2010 – 2014