

6/2019

Darcey H. Merritt, MSW, Ph.D.  
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**Education:**

- PhD University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare, CA, 2006 (Child Welfare) (Dissertation title: Should I Stay or Should I Go Now? Children's Perceptions of Permanency While Living in Out of Home Placements Committee: Chair, Dr. Todd M. Franke; Members, Drs. Duncan Lindsey, Bridget Freisthler, Rashmita Mistry)
- MSW University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare, Los Angeles, CA, 2006 (Child Welfare)
- BA Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY, 1989 (Psychology and Sociology) (Don: Dr. Jan Drucker)
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**Research Interests:**

Child maltreatment prevention  
Child and parent perspectives of public child welfare system involvement  
Maltreatment type definitional issues  
Parental challenges and fears  
Neighborhood structural impact on maltreatment  
Chronic neglect and structural brain development

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**Academic Appointments:**

Associate Professor (with tenure), New York University, Silver School of Social Work, 16-Present  
Assistant Professor, New York University, Silver School of Social Work, 10-16  
Research Faculty, McSilver Institute of Poverty Policy, Practice and Research, 12-Present  
Assistant Professor, Rutgers University, School of Social Work, NJ, 06-10  
Adjunct Instructor, California State University, Long Beach, Department of Social Work, 05  
Teaching Associate, University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Social Welfare, 03,05  
Teaching Associate, University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Psychology, 05  
Invited Lecturer, University of California, Los Angeles, Title: *Poverty and the Child Welfare System*, Instructor, Dr. Jennifer Mosley, 04  
Invited Lecturer, University of California, Los Angeles, Title: *Fundamentals of ANOVA*, Professor, Dr. Duncan Lindsey, 04

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### **Funded Research In Progress:**

Principal Investigator, New York University, Silver School of Social Work, Seed Grant, *Parenting Concerns of Preventive Services Clients* (2017-19; (\$6,000). A continuation of research exploring the below scope of work assessing parental fears in economically challenged women as a function of involvement with child protective services oversight as they relate to parenting decisions.

Principal Investigator, New York University, Silver School of Social Work, New York University Research Challenge Grant, *Parenting Concerns of Preventive Services Clients* (2016-19, extended year; \$12,000). This research explores parental fears in economically challenged women as a function of involvement with child protective services oversight as they relate to parenting decisions. The scope of work examines the perceptions of parents interfacing with a New York based child maltreatment preventive services agency in an effort to capture parental fears associated with this oversight. The results will inform an understanding of parental decision-making about the interrelationships and core dimensions of these experiences and ultimately lead to improvement of service provision for the population.

Co-Principal Investigator, Rutgers University, School of Social Work, Seed Grant, *Assessing the Feasibility of a Pilot Intervention for Parents Transitioning from Child Welfare Services Oversight* (2019-2020; \$10,000). Funded for 2019 Global Health Seed Grant Funding, Rutgers University (Role: Co-PI with Dr. Cassandra Simmel)

### **Grants Currently In Preparation, Under Review or In Revision:**

"An Elicitation Analysis of Parental Perspectives Regarding Child Neglect" *R21 Submitted to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/Center for Research for Mothers and Children (NICHD/CRMC), Grant Scored 1<sup>st</sup> Submission (Resubmitted 11/6/2018); 2<sup>nd</sup> Submission Impact Score of 30, 15<sup>th</sup> Percentile (2/12/19), Council Meeting 6/7/19* (\$435,875; Role: PI)

"A Parental Buddy Network: Transitioning from Child Welfare Oversight" *R34 to be submitted to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/Center for Research for Mothers and Children (NICHD/CRMC, submission on June, 2019.*

"A Parental Support Buddy Network to Transition from Child Welfare Oversight" New York University Research Challenge Grant (pilot study, prepared for submission Fall 2020 (Role: PI)

"Parental Profiles and Perceptions of Neglect: Discerning Types of Child Neglect" *R21 Submitted to the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/Center for Research for Mothers and Children (NICHD/CRMC), Grant Scored but not funded 1st Submission, Currently In Revision for Resubmission February, 2019* (\$435,875) (Role: PI)

### **Completed Funded Research Activities:**

Principal Investigator, Youth Advocate Programs, Inc., *The Impact of Community-based, Advocacy/Wrap-Around Services on At Risk Youth and Their Families*, Funded (\$30,000 plus course buyout), 2007. Collaboration between Rutgers University, School of Social Work and Youth Advocate Programs, Inc., a community –based program serving juvenile delinquents. Through collaborative efforts with YAP and Public/Private Ventures (P/PV), a think tank based in Philadelphia, PA, this research project assessed the efficacy of program components in terms of positive

outcomes for youth. The project presents a comprehensive research plan, inclusive of evaluative measures to address service delivery outcomes, program components as measures of social capital, and an assessment of how child maltreatment experiences relate to future delinquency and youth outcomes will inform community, state, and federal policy makers and provide utility for collaborative treatment planning (2008-2009).

Principal Investigator, Rutgers University, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs *Trends Among Children Served by the Child Welfare System*, Funded (\$1,500), 2008

Primary Investigator, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare. Dissertation research (Chair and Advisor: Todd Franke, Ph.D.). An analysis of foster children's perceptions of permanency obtained from a secondary dataset collected for a study, titled, *The National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW)*. NSCAW includes longitudinal data collected in three waves, enabling the measurement of goal achievement and perceptions over time in the midst of home environment transitions (2005-2006).

Graduate Student Researcher, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare. Research regarding the impact of neighborhood structural and environmental factors on child abuse potential and substantiated child maltreatment rates within census tracts and block groups. Hierarchical Linear Modeling was employed to study the nested nature of multiple levels of data (2005-2006).

Research Assistant, University of California, Los Angeles, Project Title: *Mood and Quality of Life Correlates of Estrogen Augmentation in Postmenopausal Women*. Principal Investigator: Melinda Morgan, Ph.D., LCSW. Research examining the effects of estrogen on mood and quality of life in depressed postmenopausal women who are partial responders to serotonin reuptake inhibitors in a double blind, placebo controlled study. Funding by National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression (NARSAD) (2001-2002)

### Unfunded Research:

Examining the Association between Types of Child Neglect and Well-Being, *National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/Center for Research for Mothers and Children (NICHD/CRMC)*, *Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (MRSDA/K01)*, **Scored**, unfunded (\$654,319), 2012 (Role: PI)

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### Refereed Journal Articles (\* Student mentee):

1. Merritt, D.H. & Snyder, S. M. (2019). Inhalant use among child welfare involved adolescents. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Substance Abuse*, 28(1), 45-54. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1067828X.2018.1561576>
2. Lindsey, D., Fernandez, E., Franke, T. M., Johnson-Motoyama, M., Klein, S., Merritt, D. H., & Shlonsky, A. (2018). Long Term Harm to Immigrant Infants and Children. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 91, iii. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2018.07.019>

3. \*Liu, Y. & Merritt, D.H. (2018). Familial Financial Stress and Child Internalizing Behaviors: The Roles of Caregivers' Maltreating Behaviors and Social Support. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 86, 324-335. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2018.09.002>
  4. \*Liu, Y. & Merritt, D.H. (2018). Examining the Association Between Parenting and Childhood Depression of Chinese Children and Adolescents: A Systematic Literature Review. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 88, 316-332. DOI: 10.1016/j.chilyouth.2018.03.019
  5. Klein, S., Merritt, D.H. & Snyder, S. (2016). Child Welfare Supervised Children's Participation in Center-based Early Care and Education. *Children and Youth Services Review*. DOI: 10.1016/j.chilyouth.2016.06.021
  6. Simmel, C., Merritt, D.H., MiSung, Kim & Soyoun, Kim. (2016). An exploratory study of neglect and emotional abuse in adolescents: Classifications of caregiver risk factors. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. DOI: 10.1007/s10826-016-0414-9
  7. Simmel, C., Merritt, D.H., Soyoun, Kim, Ph.D. & MiSung Kim, Ph.D. (2016). Developmental Disabilities in Foster Children: Correlates of Referrals for Service Provision. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*, 10 (2), 197-214. DOI: 10.1080/15548732.2016.1139521
  8. Snyder, S. & Merritt, D.H. (2016). The effect of child neglect on emerging adults' drinking. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 51(1), 1-14. DOI: 10.3109/10826084.2015.1073321
  9. Merritt, D.H. & Snyder, S. (2015). Correlates of Optimal Behavior Among Child Welfare Involved Children: Perceived School Peer Connectedness, Activity Participation, Social Skills and Peer Affiliation. *Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 85 (5), 483-494. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/ort0000091>
  10. Snyder, S. & Merritt, D.H. (2015). The influence of supervisory neglect on subtypes of emerging adult substance use after controlling for familial factors, relationship status, and individual traits. *Substance Abuse*, 36:4, 507-514, DOI: 10.1080/08897077.2014.997911
  11. Merritt, D.H. & Klein, S. (2015). Do early care and education services improve language development for maltreated children? Evidence from a national child welfare sample. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 39, 185-196. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2014.10.011>
- Article presented as a Webinar for Practice and Research Together (PART) (Canadian organization comprised of 34 child welfare organizations) on 5-26-15.
12. Merritt, D.H. & Snyder, S. (2014). Maltreatment Type and Behaviors: Does Listening Matter? *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 38, 2062-2071. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2014.10.019>

Article requested to be included in a meta-analysis on listening by Dr. Avraham N. (Avi) Kluger, Ph.D., Professor of Organizational Behavior, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (research focus on the effects of listening and feedforward on performance, attitudes, and well-being).

13. Snyder, S. & Merritt, D.H. (2014). Do childhood experiences of neglect affect delinquency among child welfare involved youth? *Children and Youth Services Review*, 46, 64-71. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2014.08.007>
14. Klein, S. & Merritt, D.H. (2014). Neighborhood racial & ethnic diversity as a predictor of child welfare system involvement. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 41, 95- 105. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2014.03.009>
15. Merritt, D.H. & Festinger, T. (2013). Post-adoption Service Need and Access: Differences Between International, Kinship and Non-Kinship Foster Care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 35 (12), 1913-1922. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2013.09.013>
16. Merritt, D.H. (2011). Should I Stay or Should I Go? Correlates of Children's Placement Preferences. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*, 5 (4), 408-425. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15548732.2011.599760>
17. Postmus, J. & Merritt, D.H. (2010). When Child Abuse Overlaps with Domestic Violence: The Factors that Influence Child Protection Workers' Beliefs. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 32 (3), 309-317. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2009.09.011>
18. Merritt, D.H. & Franke, T.M. (2009). Should I Stay or Should I Go? Children's Placement Preferences: Longitudinally. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 36 (1), 46-67. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/01488370903333611>
19. Merritt, D. H. (2009). Child Abuse Potential: Correlates with Child Maltreatment Rates and Structural Measures of Neighborhoods. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 31 (8), 927-934. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2009.04.009>
20. Merritt, D.H. (2008). Placement Preferences among Children Living in Foster or Kinship Care: A Cluster Analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 30, 1336-1344. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2008.04.002>
21. Freisthler, B., Merritt, D.H. & LaScala, E. (2006). Understanding the Ecology of Child Maltreatment: A Review of the Literature and Directions for Future Research. *Child Maltreatment*, 11 (3), 263-280. DOI: 10.1177/1077559506289524

### Other Publications:

1. Merritt, D.H. (2019). In Memory of Edward F. Zigler, Head Start Founder and Advocate for Poor Children, *Children and Youth Services Review*, 100, 525. DOI: 10.1016/j.chilyouth.2019.03.053

### **Book Chapters:**

1. Merritt, D.H., Maguire-Jack, K. and Negash, T. (2017). Effective Program Models for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment. In J. Conte and B. Klika (Eds.), *The APSAC Handbook on Child Maltreatment*, 4th ed. (Chapter 16). Sage Publications, Inc.
2. Merritt, D. H. & \*Ludeke, R. (2019). The Routledge Handbook of Adoption, Chapter 34, Post-Adoption Services (in production, expected release August 2019)

### **Manuscripts Under Review or In Revision:**

\*Liu, Y. & Merritt, D.H. (under review). Family Routines and Child Problem Behaviors: The Role of Social Demographic and Contextual Factors

Merritt, D.H. & Snyder, S. M. (under review). Do neighborhood factors contribute to risky alcohol use behaviors among a national sample of child welfare involved youth?

Snyder, S. M. & Merritt, D.H. (under revision). Is Inhalant Use Influenced By Youths' Perceptions of How Well Their Caseworkers Listen?

Merritt, D.H. (under revision). How Is Access to Peer Support Amongst Traumatized Adolescents Associated with Behaviors? A National Study of Child Welfare Involved Youth.

### **Manuscripts in Progress:**

\*Ludeke, R. & Merritt, D.H. Perceived Caregiver Quality and Depression Among Foster Youth (scheduled submission June, 2019)

Merritt, D. H., Jaccard, J. & \*Ludeke, R. Child Neglect, Parental Decision-Making and Neurobiological Indicators: A Conceptual Account (scheduled submission June, 2019)

Merritt, D.H. Effects of child abuse and neglect on trauma and depression: Exploring buffering opportunities (scheduled submission July, 2019)

Merritt, D.H. & Ludeke, R. Parental Fears and Socio-economic Status: Understanding Child Maltreatment (scheduled submission July, 2019)

Merritt, D.H., Snyder, S.M, & Manuel, J. Drug Use Trajectories Among Child Welfare Involved Youth (scheduled submission July, 2019).

### **Book Reviews:**

1. Merritt, D.H. (2013). [Review of the book *Protecting Children in the Age of Outrage: A New Perspective on Child Protective Services Reform*, by Radha Jagannathan and Micheal J. Camasso] *The Journal of Children and Poverty*, Vol. 19, Iss. 2, 131-132.
2. Merritt, D.H. (2008). [Review of the book *Social Work Practice with Children and*

### Peer Reviewed Conference Presentations:

Merritt, D.H. & Manuel, J. Moderation effect of relational supports on the association between sexually abused youth and later depression. Threats to optimal parenting: Socio-economic and minority status. Paper accepted for oral presentation at the annual colloquium of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Philadelphia, PA, November 2019

Merritt, D.H., Manuel, J. & Ludeke, R. Parental history of drug abuse on potentially problematic youth substance use behaviors longitudinally indicated by CRAFFT scores. Paper accepted for roundtable presentation at the annual colloquium of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Philadelphia, PA, November 2019

Merritt, D.H. & Snyder, S. Threats to optimal parenting: Socio-economic and minority status. Workshop accepted for presentation at 26th annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Salt Lake City, Utah, June 2019

Merritt, D.H. & Black, J. Integration of Neuroscience and Genetics into Social Work: Implications for Practice, Policy and Research. Roundtable accepted for presentation at 26th annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Salt Lake City, Utah, June 2019

\*Liu, Y & Merritt, D.H. Family Routines and Child Psychological Adjustments: The Importance of Social-Contextual Factors. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), San Francisco, CA, January 2019.

\*Liu, Y & Merritt, D.H. Family Routines and Child Psychological Adjustments: The Importance of Social-Contextual Factors. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Orlando, FL, November 2018.

\*Liu, Y & Merritt, D.H. Family Routines and Child Psychological Adjustments: The Importance of Social-Contextual Factors. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of the American Public Health Association (APHA), San Diego, CA, November 2018.

Merritt, D. H. Is Parental Oversight Empowering to Mothers Subjected to Child Welfare Services? Poster accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of Qualitative Research in Mental Health (QRMH7), Berlin, Germany, September 2018.

Merritt, D. H. Is Parental Oversight Empowering to Mothers Subjected to Child Welfare Services? Poster accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), XXII International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect, September 2018, Prague, Czech Republic.

Merritt, D. H. & \*Ludeke, R. The effects of perceived caregiver quality on the development of depression in foster youth. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), XXII International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect September 2018, Prague, Czech Republic.

Merritt, D. H. Effects of Child Abuse and Neglect on Trauma and Depression: Exploring Buffering Opportunities. Poster accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), XXII International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect September 2018, Prague, Czech Republic.

Merritt, D. H. Drug use trajectories among child welfare system involved youth. Poster accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), XXII International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect 2018, Prague, Czech Republic.

Merritt, D. H. Effects of Child Abuse and Neglect on Trauma and Depression: Exploring Buffering Opportunities. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2018, Washington, DC.

Snyder, S. and Merritt, D. H. Marijuana Use among Child Welfare Involved Youth: An examination of Risk and Protective Factors. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2018, Washington, DC.

\*Liu, Yuerong and Merritt, D. H. The Relationship between Poverty, Economist Stress and Child Internalizing Problems. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2018, Washington, DC.

Merritt, D. H. and Snyder, S. Does a History of Head Injury Affect Inhalant Use? Poster accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2018, Washington, DC.

\*Ludeke, R. and Merritt, D. H. The effects of perceived caregiver quality on the development of depression in foster youth. Poster accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2018, Washington, DC.

Merritt, D. H. Placement Preferences among Children Living in Foster or Kinship Care: A Cluster Analysis. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), European Regional Meeting, October 2017, The Hague, Netherlands.

Merritt, D. H. & Snyder, S. Maltreatment Type and Behaviors: Does Listening Matter? Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), European Regional Meeting, October 2017, The Hague, Netherlands.

Merritt, D. H. & Snyder, S. Correlates of Optimal Behavior Among Child Welfare Involved Children: Perceived School Peer Connectedness, Activity Participation, Social Skills and Peer Affiliation. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), European Regional Meeting, October 2017, The Hague, Netherlands.

Merritt, D. H. & Snyder, S. What effect does caseworker listening have on inhalant use? Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), European Regional Meeting, October 2017, The Hague, Netherlands.



Merritt, D. H. & Snyder, S. Contextual factors related to the CRAFFT scale: Correlates of adolescent risky behaviors. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), European Regional Meeting, October 2017, The Hague, Netherlands.

Merritt, D. H. & Snyder, S. How Is Access to Peer Support Amongst Traumatized Adolescents Associated with Behaviors? A National Study of Child Welfare Involved Youth. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), European Regional Meeting, October 2017, The Hague, Netherlands.

Merritt, D. H. Should I Stay or Should I Go? Correlates of Children's Placement Preferences. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), European Regional Meeting, October 2017, The Hague, Netherlands.

Merritt, D. H., Snyder, S. & Manuel, J. Substance Use Risk Among Child Welfare System Involved Youth: Towards a Better Theoretical Conceptualization. Poster accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Atlanta, Georgia, November 2017.

Snyder, S., Merritt, D. H. & Manuel, J. Drug Use Trajectories among Child Welfare System Involved Youth. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Atlanta, Georgia, November 2017.

\*Ludeke, R. & Merritt, D. H. Differences in Socio-Behavioral Outcomes Among Youth in Foster and Kinship Care. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual colloquium of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Atlanta, Georgia, November 2017.

\*Liu, Y. & Merritt, D. H. Parental depression and socioeconomic disadvantage: The role of parenting in association with childhood depression in China. Paper submitted for presentation at the annual colloquium of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Atlanta, Georgia, November 2017.

\*Liu, Y. & Merritt, D. H. Socioeconomic status, child maltreatment, and child depression. Paper submitted for presentation at the annual colloquium of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Atlanta, Georgia, November 2017.

Merritt, D. H. (moderator). Schmidt, L., Becht, N., Dunn, K. Child Welfare and Early Childhood Partnerships to Prevent Maltreatment. Training session accepted for presentation at 25th annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Portland, Maine, June 2017.

Merritt, D. H. and Snyder, S. Factors associated with risky substance use among child welfare involved youth. Paper accepted for presentation at 25th annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Portland, Maine, June 2017.

Black, J. M., Merritt, D. H., Kepple, N. J., & Conway, A. M. Integration of Neuroscience and Genetics into Social Work Education: Implications for Practice, Policy and Research. Roundtable submitted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2017, New Orleans, LA

Merritt, D. H. and Snyder, S. Is Inhalant Use Influenced By Youths' Perceptions of How Well Their Caseworkers Listen? Paper accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2017, New Orleans, LA

Snyder, S. and Merritt, D. H. Risk factors for inhalant use among child welfare system involved adolescents. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2017, New Orleans, LA

Merritt, D. H. and Snyder, S. How Is Access to Peer Support Amongst Traumatized Adolescents Associated with Behaviors? A National Study of Child Welfare Involved Youth. Paper submitted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2017, New Orleans, LA

Merritt, D. H. and Snyder, S. Contextual factors related to the CRAFFT scale: Correlates of adolescent risky behaviors. Paper submitted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 2017, New Orleans, LA

Merritt, D. H. and Snyder, S. Contextual factors related to the CRAFFT scale: Correlates of adolescent risky behaviors. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Oct/Nov, 2016, Denver, CO

Merritt, D. H. and Snyder, S. Effect of childhood supervisory neglect on emerging adults' drinking. Paper submitted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Oct/Nov, 2016, Denver, CO

Snyder, S. and Merritt, D. H. Influence of Supervisory Neglect on Subtypes of Emerging Adult Substance Use After Controlling for Familial Factors, Relationship Status, and Individual Traits. Paper submitted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Oct/Nov, 2016, Denver, CO

Klein, S., Merritt, D. H. & Sturm, S. Working with Early Care & Education Providers to Promote Safety, Permanency & Well-being for Children in the Child Welfare System. Workshop presented at the annual program meeting of the National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN), Aug/Sept, 2016, Washington D.C.

Snyder, S. and Merritt, D. H. What effect does caseworker listening have on inhalant use? Poster accepted for presentation at 24th annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), New Orleans, LA, June 2016.

Merritt, D. H., Klein, S. & Snyder, S. Predictors of Early Care & Education Service Use: Findings from a National Child Welfare Sample. Paper accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), January 17, 2016, Washington D.C.

Merritt, D. H. (Panel Discussant). Aligning policy efforts for collective impact: A panel discussion. Panel discussion accepted for presentation at 23rd annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, July 23, 2015, Boston, MA.

Merritt, D. H. and Snyder, S. Maltreatment Type and Behaviors: Does Listening Matter? Paper accepted for presentation at 23rd annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Boston, MA, July 2015.

Merritt, D. H., Klein, S. & Snyder, S. Correlates of Early Childhood Education and Child Care Utilization Among Child Welfare Involved Children. Paper accepted for presentation at 23rd annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Boston, MA, July 2015.

Simmel, C. and Merritt, D. H. Child Neglect in Adolescents: Heterogeneity of Caregiver Risks. Poster accepted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), New Orleans, LA, January 2015.

Klein, S. and Merritt, D.H. Do early care and education services improve language development for maltreated children? Evidence from a national child welfare sample. Paper submitted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), New Orleans, LA, January 2015.

Merritt, D. H. and Snyder, S. The Impact of Positive Peer Relationships, School Experiences, and Future Outlook on Behavior Scores for Abused and Neglected Youth. Paper submitted for presentation at the annual program meeting of the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR), New Orleans, LA, January 2015.

Merritt, D.H. and Klein, S. Do early care and education services improve language development for maltreated children? Evidence from a national child welfare sample. Poster presented at the 21st annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), New Orleans, LA, June 2014.

Klein, S. and Merritt, D.H. Neighborhood Structure & Maltreatment Referral Rates for Black, Hispanic & White Children. Paper and poster presented for presentation at the 21st annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), New Orleans, LA, June 2014.

Merritt, D.H. The Difference between Child Abuse and Neglect. Poster presented at the 21st annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Las Vegas, NV, June 2013.

Merritt, D.H. Parental Fears and Socioeconomic Status: Understanding Child Maltreatment. Paper presented at the 21st annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Las Vegas, NV, June 2013.

Merritt, D.H. Children's Perceptions of Caseworker Support. Paper presented at the 21st annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Las Vegas, NV, June 2013.

Merritt, D.H. The Difference between Child Abuse and Neglect. Poster presented at the 21st annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Las Vegas, NV, June 2013.

Merritt, D.H. Parental Fears and Socioeconomic Status: Understanding Child Maltreatment. Paper presented at the 21st annual colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Las Vegas, NV, June 2013.

Merritt, D.H. and Akincigil, A. Children's Perceptions of Caseworker Support. Poster accepted for presentation at the 56<sup>th</sup> annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Portland, OR, October 2010.

Klein, S. and Merritt, D.H. Neighborhood Structure and Maltreatment Referrals for Black, Hispanic and White Children. Paper presented at the 56<sup>th</sup> annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), Portland, OR, October 2010.

Klein, S. and Merritt, D.H. Making Neighborhoods Safe for Children: Differences in the Relationship between Neighborhood Structure and Maltreatment Rates for Black, Hispanic and White Children. Paper presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Research Conference on Child and Family Programs and Policy, Bridgewater, MA, July 2010.

Merritt, D.H. Foster Children's Permanency Preferences: Correlates of Attachment and Access to Social Capital. Paper presented at the annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), San Francisco, CA, October, 2007.

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### **Honors, Awards and Invited Keynotes:**

Recipient of the 2019 NYU Silver School of Social Work Distinguished Contribution to Student Engagement Award

Invited by East China University of Science and Technology to present a keynote address at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Social Work and Social Policy for Children in Shanghai, China, May 23-24, 2019.

Invited by UNICEF to present a keynote address at the Social Work Conference on Child Protection in Beijing, China, January 22-23, 2019.

Elected to the Society of Social Work Research (SSWR) Board, Member at Large, 2019-2021.

Invited to present my research at the Boston College School of Social Work (BCSSW) *Social Work and Neuroscience Intersections Symposium: The Brain in a Social Context* on October 2, 2015.

Practice and Research Together (PART) (Canadian organization comprised of child welfare organizations in Ontario (34), associate members in Manitoba, the Government of Nunavut, and the Government of British Columbia), Invited to present Webinar on research findings from my article, Do early care and education services improve language development for maltreated children? Evidence from a national child welfare sample (Child Abuse and Neglect). Webinar (May 26, 2015)

New York University, Faculty Diversity Mentorship Program, 12-present

Invited Panelist at the Translational Research on Child Neglect Consortium Conference, Department of Health and Human Services, NIH, NIMH, Washington D.C., 12

Selected Participant, Cornell Summer Research Institute, 12

Young Scholar Travel Award, Translational Research on Child Neglect Consortium, Department of Health and Human Services, NIH, NIMH, 10

Honorable Mention, Outstanding Dissertation Award, Society for Social Work and Research, 07

David and Marianna Fisher Fellowship, UCLA, 05-06

Olive Stone Fellowship, UCLA, 02-05

Graduate Opportunity Fellowship, UCLA, 01-02

Summer Mentorship Fellowship, UCLA, 03  
Los Angeles Association of Black Social Workers Scholarship, 01-02

## **Mentorship**

Yuerong Liu, New York University Silver School of Social Work (Mentor and Dissertation Chair, defense date, May, 2019)

Rachel Ludeke, New York University Silver School of Social Work (Mentor and Dissertation Chair, defense date, May, 2020)

Dr. Donte Boyd, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare (Mentor and Dissertation Committee Member, defense date, May 29, 2019)

Dr. Tricia Stephens, New York University Silver School of Social Work (Dissertation Committee Member, defense date, May, 2016)

Dr. Seven Laracuente, New York University Silver School of Social Work (Dissertation Committee Member, defense date, March, 2019)

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## **Professional Social Work/Human Services/Clinical Experience:**

Grant Writer/Fundraiser, MSW Intern, Community Coalition, a grassroots organizing agency empowering members to address social injustices impacting the community, Los Angeles, CA., 2002

- Assisted in preparing grant proposals for agency funding.
- Prepared evaluation reports for ongoing grant support.
- Assisted with participatory research pertinent to current campaigns.
- Assisted in the planning of the annual fundraising dinner.

Clinical MSW Intern, PROTOTYPES, a domestic violence shelter for substance abusing mothers and their children, Culver City, CA., 2001-2002

- Provided therapeutic counseling to female domestic violence victims, recovering from substance abuse.
- Assisted in preparing grant proposals for agency funding.
- Developed curriculum for life skills group therapy.
- Participated in outreach measures in an effort to empower victims of domestic violence.
- Provided advocacy in conjunction with the Los Angeles Police Department during domestic violence police calls.

Permanency Liaison, Kinship Center, Santa Ana, CA, a private adoption agency in Orange County, CA., 2001

- Represented all private adoption agencies in Orange County participating in the Adoption Consortium.
- Performed as a liaison between private adoption agencies and Orange County Adoption Division.
- Advocated for and promote permanency for waiting children.
- Identify children currently in long-term foster care, who could benefit from permanent adoptive plans.
- Troubleshooting difficulties in providing permanency for children.
- Provided ongoing education on adoption and attachment issues

Intake Coordinator, Aspira Foster Family Agency, Culver City, CA, a private foster family and adoption agency in Los Angeles County, CA., 1998-2001

- Assessed all potential referrals to determine child's appropriateness for placement with certified foster homes.

- Conducted pre-placement interviews with children in preparation for placement. Coordinated all agency placements with placement worker, foster family and child. Attended weekly clinical supervisions facilitated by a licensed psychologist.
- Monitored placement trends in specific areas to determine the effectiveness of the program. Conducted quarterly training on agency intake procedures for potential and current foster parents.

Inclusion Facilitator Supervisor, Aspira Foster Family Agency, Culver City, CA, a private foster family and adoption agency, 1997-1999

- Interviewed and recommended appropriate Inclusion Facilitators for hire to work with children with developmental disabilities.
- Provided ongoing supervision for 20 Inclusion Facilitators working with developmentally disabled foster children.
- Conducted monthly in-services on various disabilities and behavioral interventions. Prepared activities specific to the child's disability and trained the Inclusion Facilitator to implement them.
- Provided support for agency in other capacities (i.e., writing home studies for potential foster parents and writing articles for agency-wide newsletter).

Economic Support Case Manager, Dekalb Co. Dept. of Family and Children's Services, a social service agency in Atlanta, GA., 1992-1996

- Managed intake caseload of both general clients and clients residing in inpatient drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs.
- Interviewed clients on a daily basis to assess for eligibility to receive food stamps, welfare, and general assistance.
- Determined need and eligibility for subsidized childcare.
- Organized and maintained case records.

Child Care Worker/Counselor/Assistant Supervisor

Hathaway Children's Center, Lake View Terrace, CA, a level 14 residential treatment center for severely emotionally disturbed youth, 1989-1991

- Provided direct supervision to assigned children in the course of the daily living unit program.
- Developed and implemented cottage treatment plans and individual behavior management plans.
- Taught children alternative ways to deal with conflict, anger, and feelings.
- Attended regular in-service training provided by psychiatrists and licensed clinical social workers.

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## **Service:**

### ***Academic Service (School and University):***

#### *Committees:*

Faculty Search Committee, NYU SSSW (Co-Chair), 2018-2020

Social Justice Praxis Committee (Co-Leader), 2018-2020

Tenure/Tenure Track Faculty Senate, NYU (elected Vice-Chair), 2016-2020

Tenure/Tenure Track Faculty Senate, NYU (Co-Chair, Inclusion, Equity and Diversity Committee), 2016-2019

Tenure/Tenure Track Faculty Senate, NYU (Co-Chair, Governance Committee), 2018-2019

Faculty Promotions, Reappointment, Tenure Committee, NYU, SSSW, 2018-2020

Strategy and Tactics of Action (Co-Chair), NYU SSSW, 2016-  
Faculty Advisor, Black Women's Silver Social Work Coalition, 2017-  
Diversity and Social Justice Initiatives, Co-Director, 2016-2017  
Mentor for Fulbright Visiting Scholar from New Dehli, India, Nivida Chandra 2017-2018  
Tenure/Tenure Track Faculty Senate, NYU (Member, Housing and Benefits Committee), 2016-2018  
Executive Committee, NYU SSSW, 2016-2018  
Distinguished Teaching Award Committee, NYU SSSW, 2013-2015  
Social Justice Committee, NYU SSSW, 2014-2015  
MSW Admissions Committee, NYU SSSW, 2013-2014  
Faculty Search Committee, NYU SSSW, 2013-2014  
Field Learning and Community Partnerships Committee, NYU SSSW, 2011-2014  
Nominations and Elections Committee, NYU SSSW, 2011-2013  
Faculty Search Committee, Rutgers University SSW, 2007-2008  
Admissions Committee, Rutgers University SSW, 2007-2008  
Faculty Search Committee, Rutgers University SSW, 2006-2007  
Faculty Ad Hoc Committee, Relief for Katrina Victims, California State University, Long Beach, 2005

*Other Academic Service, Domestic (Invited Presentations, Workshops, Committee Membership) - Selected:*

Presenter, University of California, Los Angeles, Doctoral Student Job Preparation Club (Spring, 2018)  
Presenter, University of California, Los Angeles, Research Methods (Spring, 2018)  
Presenter, New York University, Shanghai Campus, Research Methods Workshop (Spring, 2018)  
Presenter, New York University, Shanghai Campus (Spring, 2018), Presentation to Chinese Non-Profit Agency Leaders (topic: Commonalities between NASW Code of Ethics and Chinese child welfare agency missions)  
Presenter, New York University, Silver School of Social Work, Doctoral Student Job Preparation Club, "Preparing for the Academic Job Interview," 2010  
Organizer/Mediator, New York University, Silver School of Social Work, Viewing and Discussion with Precious Producer, Lisa Cortes, 2010  
Interviewer, Rutgers University, School of Social Worker, Public Child Welfare Intensive Weekend MSW Program, 2007  
Presenter, Rutgers University, School of Social Work, Doctoral Student Job Preparation Club, "Preparing for the Academic Job Interview," 2007  
Faculty Traveling Seminar, Rutgers University, 2007  
Doctoral Student Representative, Department of Social Welfare, UCLA, 2004-2005  
Student Organizer, Ad Hoc Diversity Committee, Department of Social Welfare, UCLA, 2003-2005  
Student Organizer, Black Caucus, Department of Social Welfare, UCLA, 2001-2005  
Student Organizer, Social Justice/Action Caucus, Department of Social Welfare, UCLA, 2003  
Coordinator of welcoming events for incoming Ph.D. students, Department of Social Welfare, UCLA, 2003-2004

***Service to Community:***

***Children and Youth Services Review, Associate Editor, 2018- 2020***  
***Society for Social Work Research, Elected Member at Large, 2019-2021***

*Children and Youth Services Review*, Editorial Board Member, reviewer, 2009- present  
*Child Maltreatment*, ongoing reviewer, 2015-present  
*BMC Pediatrics*, ongoing reviewer, 2015-present  
*American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, ongoing reviewer, 2015-present  
*Child Abuse and Neglect*, ongoing reviewer, 2014-present  
*Journal of Children and Poverty*, ongoing reviewer, 2014-present  
*Journal of Applied Psychology*, 2018-present

*Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, ongoing reviewer, 2012-present  
*Substance Use and Misuse*, ongoing reviewer, 2018-present  
American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) Prevention Subcommittee (invited participant), 2014-present  
Society for Social Work Research, Book of the Year Award Committee, Reviewer, 2017  
Community outreach for Community Coalition for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment grassroots organizing efforts, Los Angeles, CA, 2003-2004  
Society for Social Work Research, Social Policy Committee, Member, 2017-

**Professional Affiliations:**

Community Coalition, Los Angeles, CA Council  
on Social Work Education (CSWE) National  
Association of Social Workers (NASW)  
National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW)  
Society for Social Work Research (SSWR)  
American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC)  
American Public Health Association (APHA)  
International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN)

**Statistical Computing:**

Proficient in STATA, SPSS, Hierarchical Linear Modeling (HLM), Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Multilevel Structural Equation Modeling (MSEM), Mplus

Community Board Membership:

Essex County, New Jersey, Urban League, Board of Directors, Member, 2008-2009

**Specialized Training:**

Domestic Violence Training (40 hours), Statewide California Coalition for Battered Women PROTOTYPES, Fall, 2001

Adoption Clinical Training (8 sessions/ 48 hours), Adoption Education Institute Kinship Center, Winter, 2001

**Additional Research Training:**

Structural Equation Modeling, New York University, Dr. James Jaccard, 11-Present  
Qualitative Consultation with Dr. Laura Abrams, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare 14- Present

**References:**

Laura Abrams, Chair and Professor, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare

Richard Edwards, Executive Vice President and Chancellor, Rutgers University, Former Dean of the Rutgers School of Social Work



Trudy Festinger, Professor Emeritus of Research, New York University, Silver School of Social Work

Todd Franke, Professor, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare; Associate Director, Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities

Bridget Freisthler, Professor, Ohio State University, College of Social Work

Vincent Guilamo-Ramos, Professor, New York University, Silver School of Social Work; Director, CLAFH, Center for Latino Adolescent and Family Health

Jim Jaccard, Professor of Social Work, Associate Dean for Research, New York University, Silver School of Social Work

Aurora Jackson, Professor, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare

John Jackson, Richard Perry University Professor of Communication and Anthropology, Professor of Africana Studies and Dean of University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice.

Stuart Kirk, Professor, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare (Retired)

Duncan Lindsey, Editor, Children and Youth Services Review, Professor, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Affairs, Department of Social Welfare (Retired)

Jennifer Manuel, Associate Professor, New York University, Silver School of Social Work

Judie McCoyd, Associate Professor, Rutgers University, School of Social Work

Cassandra Simmel, Associate Professor, Rutgers University, School of Social Work

Allison Zippay, Professor, Rutgers University, School of Social Work

June 1, 2019