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**MAHALA DYER STEWART**  
Curriculum Vitae

University of Massachusetts  
Department of Sociology  
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Updated: September 2018

**EDUCATION**

- 2018                      **University of Massachusetts, Amherst**  
PhD, Department of Sociology  
Dissertation Title: "Mothering in an Era of Choice: Race and Gender in  
Schooling Decisions of Homeschool and Public School Families."  
Dissertation Committee: Joya Misra (chair), Naomi Gerstel, Jennifer  
Lundquist, Miliann Kang (Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies)
- 2015                      M.A., Department of Sociology
- 2015                      Graduate Certificate in Advanced Feminist Studies, Women, Gender, &  
Sexuality Studies
- 2009                      **University of Maine, Orono**  
B.A. Department of Sociology (Summa Cum Laude), University of  
Maine

**RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

Gender, Race, and Class Inequalities, Family, Education, Feminist Theory, Qualitative  
Methods

**PUBLICATIONS**

- Forthcoming              Stewart, Mahala Dyer. "Educational Policy and Race." In *Oxford  
Bibliographies in Sociology*, edited by Lynette Spillman.
- Forthcoming              Brown, Marni and **Mahala Dyer Stewart**, editors. *Frameworks of  
Inequality: An Intersectional Reader*. Cognella Academic Publishing.
- Forthcoming              Brown, Marni and **Mahala Dyer Stewart**. "Intersections of Gender,  
Sexuality, and Family Diversity." Invited chapter in *Social Studies of  
Gender: A Next Wave Reader* edited by Christine Wood, Cognella  
Academic Publishing.

- Forthcoming Vetter, Matthew, Zachary McDowell, and **Mahala Dyer Stewart**. "From Opportunities to Outcomes: The Wikipedia-based Writing Assignment." *Computers and Composition*.
- 2017 Misra, Joya, **Mahala Dyer Stewart** and Marni Brown, editors. *Gendered Lives, Sexual Beings: A Feminist Anthology*. SAGE Publishing.
- 2016 Blackstone, Amy and **Mahala Dyer Stewart**. "There's More Thinking to Decide": How the Childfree Decide Not to Parent." *The Family Journal* 24(3):296-303.
- 2016 **Stewart, Mahala Dyer** and Naomi Gerstel. "Family Care Policies." In *The Encyclopedia of Adulthood and Aging*, edited by Susan Krauss Whitbourne.
- 2012 Blackstone, Amy and **Mahala Dyer Stewart**. "Choosing to Be Childfree: Research on the Decision not to Parent." *Sociology Compass* 6:718-727.

### Work In Progress

Stewart, Mahala Dyer. *Mothering Through Choice: Race and Gender in Schooling Decisions of Homeschool and Public School Families*. (Book manuscript in preparation for review.)

Stewart, Mahala Dyer. "Selective Racialization: Mothering Logics of School Choice."

Stewart, Mahala Dyer. "Mothering as Cultural Transmission: A Content Analysis of Parenting Magazines."

### FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2018 **Conference Paper Award**, University of Massachusetts
- 2017 **NAEd/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship Program**, National Academy of Education, Semi-Finalist
- 2016 **Dissertation Fellowship Award**, Center for Research on Families, University of Massachusetts Amherst, \$10,000
- 2016 **Summer Dissertation Research Fellowship**, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts Amherst, \$3,000
- 2016 **Graduate School Dissertation Grant**, University of Massachusetts, \$1,000
- 2015 **Grant and Prospectus Writing Fellowship**, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts, \$4,000
- 2012 **Graduate School Travel Grant**, University of Massachusetts, \$300

2012                      **Summer Fellowship for First Comprehensive Exam**, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts, \$2,500

## TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

### Lecturer

Data Collection and Analysis, Department of Sociology (2018)  
Sociology of the Family, Department of Sociology (2018)

### Instructor

Writing in Sociology, Department of Sociology (2017, 2018, online)  
Race, Gender, Class, & Ethnicity, Department of Sociology (2012, 2017, 2018)  
Sociology of the Family, Department of Sociology (2015, 2016, online)  
Social Problems, Department of Sociology (2015)

### Teaching Assistant

Gender and Difference, Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies (2017)  
Gender and Asian America, Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies (2016)  
Sociology of the Family, Department of Sociology (2016)  
Introduction to Sociology, Department of Sociology (2010, 2012)  
Social Class Inequality, Department of Sociology (2011)  
Race, Gender, Class & Ethnicity, Department of Sociology (2011)

### Mentoring

2014                      Methodological advisor and committee member to Margaret Hislop, Senior Honors Student Thesis, Department of Sociology

## RESEARCH AND EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

2017                      **Data Science Intern, *Wiki Education Foundation*** (Zach McDowell, University of Massachusetts)

2013-2015              **Managing Editor, *Gender e3 Society*** (Joya Misra, Editor, University of Massachusetts)

2014                      **Organizing and Analyzing Qualitative Data with NVivo 9 Workshop**  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Institute for Social Science Research

2008-2009              **Research Assistant**, Sociology Department (Amy Blackstone, University of Maine) Childfree as Gender Transgression Project, Workplace Harassment Project

2008                      **Research Assistant**, Sociology Department (Kim Huisman, University of Maine) Somali Narrative Project

## PRESENTATIONS

### Papers Presented

- 2018                      “School is Supposed to be a Place of Learning: Black Mothers’ Schooling Logics.” Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2017                      “Racialized Logics in White Parents’ Schooling Choices.” Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, QC.
- 2017                      “School Choice as Mothers’ Work in Homeschooling Families.” Annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Montreal, QC.
- 2017                      “It Can Be Scary. . . The External Impressions and Judgements’: Managing Homeschooling as Mothers’ Work.” Global Carework Summit, Center for Women & Work, UMass Lowell, MA.
- 2017                      “‘Everybody Just Wants What’s Best for their Kid’: Selective Individualism and White Parents’ School Choice.” Annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2015                      “Mothering In An Era of Choice: The Logic Of Mothering Through Schooling.” Annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Chicago IL.
- 2015                      “‘Everybody Just Wants What’s Best for Their Kid’: The Burden and Privilege of Choice in Mothering Logics of Schooling.” *Exploring Narratives of Gender, Race, and Class* panelist for Certificate Symposium for Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst MA.
- 2012                      “Childrearing Ideologies: A Comparison Between Homeschool and Conventional Parenting Magazines.” Annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Denver CO.

### Invited Lectures

- 2018                      “Homeschool Mothers’ Familial Supports” lecture in Misun Lim’s Sociology of Education seminar, Amherst, MA
- 2016                      “Family Policies” lecture in Naomi Gerstel’s The Family seminar, Amherst, MA

## DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- 2014-2015 Graduate Student Association, social committee organizer, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Department of Sociology
- 2013 Graduate Student Research Panel, organizing committee member, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Department of Sociology
- 2012-2013 Undergraduate Policy Committee, graduate student representative, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Department of Sociology
- 2011-2012 Graduate Student Senate, Department of Sociology representative, University of Massachusetts Amherst

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association  
National Council on Family Relations  
Society for the Study of Social Problems  
Sociologists for Women in Society

## REFERENCES

Joya Misra, Professor & Graduate Program Director  
Department of Sociology & School of Public Policy  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003  
(413) 545-5969, [misra@soc.umass.edu](mailto:misra@soc.umass.edu)

Naomi Gerstel, Distinguished University Professor, Sociology  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003  
(413) 545-5976, [gerstel@soc.umass.edu](mailto:gerstel@soc.umass.edu)

Jennifer Lundquist, Professor of Sociology  
Associate Dean of Research & Faculty Development  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003  
(413) 545-5977, [lundquist@soc.umass.edu](mailto:lundquist@soc.umass.edu)

Miliann Kang, Associate Professor in Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003  
(413) 545-1922, [mkang@wost.umass.edu](mailto:mkang@wost.umass.edu)

Amy Blackstone, Professor  
Department of Sociology & Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center  
University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5728  
(207) 581-2392, [amyblackstone@umaine.edu](mailto:amyblackstone@umaine.edu)