

ALENA KUHLEMEIER

Center on Alcohol, Substance Use, and Addictions
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Education

- 2021 Ph.D. in Sociology, with distinction
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
Dissertation: *An Intersectional Mixed-Method Examination of Multi-Level Determinants of Adolescent Sexual Minority Mental Health and Substance Use*
Committee: Dr. Jessica Goodkind (chair), Dr. Nancy Lopez, Dr. Kristin Barker, Dr. Cathleen Willging, and Dr. Katie Witkiewitz
- Comprehensive Exams*: Sociology of Health and Illness, Sociology of Race & Ethnicity
- 2015 M.A. in Sociology
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
Thesis: *Relationally Constructing Sexual Identity: The Effect of Friendship Networks on Same-Sex Sexuality Development*
Committee: Dr. Kristin Barker (chair), Dr. Brian Soller, and Dr. Kimberly Huyser
- 2011 B.A. in Sociology, *magna cum laude*
Pomona College, Claremont, CA

Professional Positions

- 2021-
present T32 Postdoctoral Fellow
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (T32AA018108)
(PI: Witkiewitz)
Center on Alcohol, Substance Use, and Addictions
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 2014-2021 Research Associate II
Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation—Southwest Center
Albuquerque, NM
- 2015-2019 Consultant and Data Analyst
Aspen Solutions, LLC
Santa Fe, NM

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Kuhlemeier, Alena. 2022. "Measurement Invariance of Psychological Distress, Substance Use, and Adult Social Support across Race/Ethnicity and Sex among Sexual Minority Youth." *Journal of Sex Research*.
<https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1080/00224499.2022.2038059>
- Kuhlemeier, Alena, Thomas Jaki, Elizabeth Yakes Jimenez, Alberta S. Kong, Chi Chang, M. Lee Van Horn. 2022. "Individual Differences in the Effects of the ACTION PAC Intervention in the Prevention and

Treatment of Childhood Obesity.” *Journal for Behavioral Medicine*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10865-021-00274-2>.

- Huysen, Kimberly, Aggie Yellow Horse, Alena Kuhlemeier, and Michelle Huysen. 2021. “COVID-19 Pandemic Unveils Persistent Indigenous Erasure in Public Health Data.” *American Journal of Public Health* 111(S3): S208-S214. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2021.306415>.
- Chang, Chi, Thomas Jaki, Muhammad Saad Sadiq, Alena Kuhlemeier, Daniel Feaster, Natalie Cole, Andrea Lamont, Daniel Oberski, The Pooled Resource Open-Access ALS Clinical Trials Consortium, M. Lee Van Horn. 2021. “A Permutation Test for Assessing the Presence of Individual Differences in Treatment Effects.” *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09622802211033640>.
- Kuhlemeier, Alena, Jessica Goodkind, and Cathleen Willging. 2021. “Production and Maintenance of the Institutional In/visibility of Sexual and Gender Minority Students in Schools.” *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* 91(4): 558-568. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ort0000556>.
- Kuhlemeier, Alena, Yasin Desai, Alexandra Agenbroad, Katie Witkiewitz, Thomas Jaki, Yu-Yu Hsaio, Chi Chang, and M. Lee Van Horn. 2021. “Applying Methods for Personalized Medicine to the Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder.” *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology* 89(4), 288–300. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ccp0000634>.
- Kuhlemeier, Alena. 2021. “Effects of Friendship among Same-Sex Attracted Youth on Sexual Minority Identity Development in Adulthood.” *Journal of Homosexuality*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00918369.2021.1913918>.
- Zagona, Alison, Kirsten Lansey, Jennifer Kurth, and Alena Kuhlemeier. 2020. “Fostering Participation in Inclusive Classrooms for Students with Complex Support Needs: Educators’ Strategies and Perspectives.” *Journal of Special Education* 55(1): 34-44. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022466920936671>.
- Soller, Brian, Jennifer E. Copp, Dana L. Haynie, and Alena Kuhlemeier. 2020. “Adolescent Dating Violence Victimization and Relationship Dissolution.” *Youth and Society* 52(2): 187-208. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0044118X17736537>.
- Euler, Renee, Elizabeth Yakes Jimenez, Sarah Sanders, Alena Kuhlemeier, M. Lee Van Horn, Deborah Cohen, Diana Gonzales-Pacheco, and Alberta S. Kong. 2019. “Rural-Urban Differences in Baseline Dietary Intake and Physical Activity Levels of Adolescents.” *Preventing Chronic Disease* 16: E01-E09. <https://doi.org/10.5888/pcd16.180200>.
- Sanders, Sarah R., Elizabeth Y. Jimenez, Natalie Cole, Alena Kuhlemeier, M. Lee Van Horn, Betty J. Skipper, Kriti Mishra, Tilly Ngo, Alberta S. Kong. 2019. “Estimated Physical Activity in Adolescents by Wrist-worn GENEActiv Accelerometers.” *Journal of Physical Activity and Health* 16(9): 792-798. <https://doi.org/10.1123/jpah.2018-0344>.
- Soller, Brian, Dana L. Haynie, and Alena Kuhlemeier. 2017. “Sexual Intercourse, Romantic Relationship Inauthenticity, and Adolescent Mental Health.” *Social Science Research* 64: 237-248. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2016.10.002>.
- Soller, Brian, and Alena Kuhlemeier. 2017. “Symmetric Versus Directed Intimate Partner Violence in Latino Immigrant Communities.” *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 35(1): 61-88. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-017-9370-9>.

Manuscripts under Review

Coleman, Erin R., Alena Kuhlemeier, M. Lee Van Horn. "The Effects of State-level Social Determinants of the Status of Women on Women's Mental Health." (under review at *Gender Issues*)

Kuhlemeier, Alena, Mary M. Ramos, Daniel Shattuck, and Cathleen E. Willging. "School-Protective Factors in NSSI and Psychological Distress among Sexual Minority Youth." (Revise and Resubmit at *LGBT Health*)

Manuscripts in Progress

Shattuck, Daniel, Alena Kuhlemeier, and Lara Gunderson. "Suicide Risk for Rural and Sexual and Gender Minority Youth During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Results from a 2020 Cross-Sectional Survey in New Mexico." (analysis complete)

Kuhlemeier, Alena. "The Impact of Schools' Implementation of LGBTQ-Inclusive Policies on Individual Student Health and Well-Being." (analysis complete)

Kuhlemeier, Alena. "A Structural Equation Modeling Approach to Operationalizing Intersectional Analysis of the Influence of Adult Support on Behavioral Health Pathways of Sexual Minority Youth." (analysis complete)

Gonzales-Pacheco, Diana, Elizabeth Y. Jimenez, Sarah R. Sanders, Monique K. Vallabhan, Alena Kuhlemeier, M. Lee Van Horn, Alberta S. Kong. "Anthropometric, Dietary Intake, and Physical Activity Predictors of Cardiometabolic Risk in Hispanic Adolescents with Overweight and Obesity." (analysis complete)

Kong, Alberta S., Elizabeth Yakes Jimenez, Sarah G. Sanders, Monique K. Vallabhan, Alena Kuhlemeier, Grace L. McCauley, M. Lee Van Horn, Diana Gonzales-Pacheco, Jennifer Hettama, Jon Houck, Mary M. Ramos, Sally Davis, Sarah Feldstein Ewing. "Outcomes of the ACTION PAC Cluster-Randomized Control Trial to Treat Adolescents with Obesity." (analysis complete)

Awards for Manuscripts

Graduate Student Team Research Concept Competition. 2021. Kuhlemeier, Alena, Melissa Henry, Alexandra Hernandez-Vallant, Carmela Roybal, and Brigitte Stevens. "Development of a Multidimensional Resilience Scale: A Transdisciplinary Approach to Decolonializing Resilience in Substance Use Research." Team Research Symposium, sponsored by UNM Interdisciplinary Science Cooperative and UNM Grand Challenges. (Grand Prize Recipient: \$2000)

Graduate Student Paper Award. 2020. "Production and Maintenance of the Institutional In/visibility of Sexual and Gender Minority Students in Schools." Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico. (\$250)

Graduate Student Paper Competition. 2017. "Relationally Constructing Sexual Identity: The Effect of Friendship on Same-Sex Sexuality Development." Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division, Society for the Study of Social Problems.

Graduate Student Paper Award. 2017. "Relationally Constructing Sexual Identity: The Effect of Friendship on Same-Sex Sexuality Development." Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico. (\$250)

Grants and Fellowships

2022 Travel Award
 Collaborative Perspectives on Addiction Conference
 Total Funding Amount: \$795

2020-2021 Graduate Student Scholar

Substance Use Disorders Grand Challenge, University of New Mexico
Total Funding Amount: \$5,000

2019-2021 Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (F31MD014044)
Total Funding Amount: \$71,457

2019-2020 Dean's Dissertation Fellowship
Office of Graduate Studies, University of New Mexico
Total Funding Amount: \$8,000

2017-2018 Evaluation Fellow
New Mexico Evaluation Lab, University of New Mexico
Funding Amount: \$1,000

2016 Student Research Grant
Graduate and Professional Students Association,
University of New Mexico
Funding Amount: \$460

2016 Professional Development Fellowship
Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico
Funding Amount: \$500

2011 Scholarship Award for Graduate Study
Phi Beta Kappa, Pomona College Chapter
Funding Amount: \$1,500

Additional Training

2021 Community-Based Participatory Research Institute
Dr. Nina Wallerstein, UNM Center for Participatory Research

2020 Equity and Policy Institute
"Broadband Access and LGBTQ Youth Behavioral Health Equity"
Dr. Lisa Cacari-Stone, UNM Transdisciplinary Research, Equity, and Engagement (TREE)
Center for Advancing Behavioral Health

Teaching/Mentorship Experience

2018-
present Quantitative Methodology Consultant
The Methodology Group @ UNM
College of Education and Human Sciences, University of New Mexico

2016-2017 Lab Instructor
SOC 381: Sociological Data Analysis (Huyser)
Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico

2013-2016 Graduate Teaching Assistant
Courses Assisted: "From Childhood Misbehavior to Adult Offending;" "Social Networks
and Crime;" "Causes of Crime and Delinquency" (Soller); "Sociology of Madness"
(Whooley)
Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico

Other Research Experience

2019-2021 **Implementing School Nursing Strategies to Reduce LGBTI Adolescent Suicide**

NICHD R01HD083399

Role: Research Assistant

PIs: Cathleen Willging and Mary Ramos

Behavioral Health Research Center of the Southwest-Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation

Work with co-PIs, an anthropologist and a pediatrician, to analyze quantitative data from the RLAS trial. Design and execute analysis plans using both quantitative data from the RLAS sample as well as the New Mexico Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey. Present findings to community advisory board of sexual minority youth stakeholders. Conduct outcomes analyses for the RLAS trial through the integration of these data sources.

2018-2019 Administrative Supplement to **Transdisciplinary Research, Equity, and Engagement Center for Advancing Behavioral Health**

NIMHD U54MD004811-07S1

Role: Research Assistant

PI: Lisa Cacari-Stone

TREE Center, University of New Mexico

Developed materials for workshop series on intersectionality and multi-level modeling. Worked with workshop participants from diverse fields and backgrounds to advance their understanding of the principles of hierarchical linear and non-linear modeling and their skills in using R to apply these methods and visualize their results. (Coleman et al.)

2017-2019 **ACTION PAC: Adolescents Committed to Improvement of Nutrition & Physical Activity**

NHLBI R01HL118734

Role: Research Assistant

PI: Alberta Kong

Department of Pediatrics, University of New Mexico

Worked with clinicians from the UNM Health Sciences Center to analyze control trial data from the cluster-randomized ACTION PAC study. Cleaned and managed daily accelerometry data from participants. Using multi-level modeling techniques, conducted outcomes analyses for the trial as well as intermediate analyses (Euler et al. 2017, Sanders et al. 2019)

2015-2017 Research Assistant

“Diabetes in American Indian/Alaska Native Communities: A Content Analysis of Academic Research.” (PI: Kimberly Huyser)

Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico

Compiled government reports (Healthy People) from 1975 to 2015 and academic articles from 1940 to 2015 that presented data related to American Indian/Alaska Native Health. Using NVivo, qualitatively coded all data sources. Worked with Dr. Huyser to develop an analysis of the ways that both the state and academia engage in colonialist racial projects in their portrayal of diabetes in American Indian/Alaska Native communities.

Presentations

Kuhlemeier, Alena. “Predicting Individual Treatment Effects.” CASAA Data Analysis Club. Albuquerque, NM. November 2021.

Dugas, Karen, Alena Kuhlemeier, Hendrix Olson, and Daniel Shattuck. “‘Rainbow After the Storm’: Supporting Sexual and Gender Minority Youth Wellbeing in the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Annual Meeting of the New Mexico Public Health Association: Albuquerque, NM (virtual). May 2021.

- Kuhlemeier, Alena, Melissa Henry, Alexandra Hernandez-Vallant, Carmela Roybal, and Brigitte Stevens. "Development of a Multidimensional Resilience Scale: A Transdisciplinary Approach to Decolonializing Resilience in Substance Use Research." Graduate Student Team Research Concept Competition. Team Research Symposium, sponsored by UNM Interdisciplinary Science Cooperative and UNM Grand Challenges. April 2021. (Grand Prize Recipient: \$2000)
- Shattuck, Daniel, Lara Gunderson, and Alena Kuhlemeier. "Supporting At-Home Sexual and Gender Minority Youth Study (SASY): A Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic." Statewide Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup Meeting. February 2021. (virtual)
- Shattuck, Daniel, Lara Gunderson, and Alena Kuhlemeier. "Supporting At-Home Sexual and Gender Minority Youth Study (SASY): A Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic." OSAP Recipient Meeting. February 2021. (virtual)
- Willging, Cathleen, Sonnie Davies, Amy Green, Lara Gunderson, Janie Lee Hall, Patricia Hokanson, Alena Kuhlemeier, Mary M. Ramos, and Daniel Shattuck. "Elucidating Inequities under COVID-19: Real-Time Research into the Well-being of Sexual and Gender Minority Youth in Rural New Mexico." NIH Rural Health Seminar: Challenges in the Era of COVID-19. December 2020.
- Kuhlemeier, Alena. "Testing Invariance of Psychological Distress, Substance Use, and Adult Social Support in a Community Sample of High School Youth." Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice, Coming Together for Action: Charlotte, NC. October 2020.
- Kuhlemeier, Alena. "Production and Maintenance of the Institutional In/visibility of Sexual and Gender Minority Students in Schools." Section on Sociology of Sex and Gender Session: Diverse Gender: Lived Experiences and Relations with Institutions. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association: San Francisco CA. August 2020.
- Coleman, Erin and Alena Kuhlemeier. "Women's Empowerment and Mental Health: How State-Level Gender (In)equality Relates to Individual-Level Depressive Symptomology." Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility Refereed Roundtable. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association: San Francisco CA. August 2020.
- Kuhlemeier, Alena. "RLAS School Environment Survey: Progress at Year 3." Reducing LGBT Adolescent Suicide (RLAS) Community Advisory Board Meeting. Behavioral Health Research Center of the Southwest—Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (BHRCS-PIRE), Albuquerque, NM January 2020.
- Kuhlemeier, Alena. "An Intersectional Mixed-Method Examination of Multi-Level Determinants of Adolescent Sexual Minority Health and Substance Use." Reducing LGBT Adolescent Suicide (RLAS) Community Advisory Board Meeting. Behavioral Health Research Center of the Southwest—Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (BHRCS-PIRE), Albuquerque, NM April 2019.
- Van Horn, M. Lee, Erin R. Coleman, and Alena Kuhlemeier. "Multi-level Modeling: Assessing Contextual Effects." Three-part series on multi-level modeling for UNM Transdisciplinary Research Equity and Engagement (TREE) Center for Advancing Behavioral Health. Albuquerque, NM 2019.
- Huyser, Kimberly R. and Alena Kuhlemeier. "Diabetes in American Indian/Alaska Native Communities: A Content Analysis of Academic Research." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association: Montreal, QC 2017.

Huysen, Kimberly R. and Alena Kuhlemeier. "Diabetes in American Indian/Alaska Native Communities: A Content Analysis of Academic Research." University of New Mexico Sociology Colloquium Series: Albuquerque, NM 2017.

Kuhlemeier, Alena. "Relationally Constructing Sexual Identity: The Effect of Friendship Networks on Same-Sex Sexuality Development." Section on Sexualities Refereed Roundtables. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association: Seattle, WA 2016.

Professional Memberships

American Sociological Association

Sections: Race, Gender, and Class; Medical Sociology; Sociology of Sexualities

Phi Beta Kappa

Professional Service

Fall 2018

Graduate Student Representative, Hiring Committee (Maxine Baca Zinn Endowed Faculty position)

Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico

2014-2017

Secretary, Sociology Graduate Student Association

Department of Sociology, University of New Mexico