

Maria Morrison, MSW, LICSW

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EDUCATION

PhD August 2022, Washington University in St. Louis
Brown School of Social Work

MSW May 2008, University of Alabama

MFA July 2000, Goddard College
Concentration: Poetry

BA May 1998, University of Montana
Major: English

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Fall 2022 **Assistant Professor of Social Work**
School of Social Work
Saint Louis University

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Twenty years of practice experience, 14 at the MSW level. Practice and research focused on the mental health needs of individuals affected by mass incarceration. Professional goals are to contribute toward reduction of incarceration rates through development and implementation of evidence-based, trauma-focused interventions for individuals transitioning out of prison.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Trauma among individuals who experience incarceration
- Intervention services for individuals leaving prison
- Legacy of racial violence in the criminal justice system

EXTERNAL RESEARCH FUNDING

- 2022 *Ruth L. Kirchstein National Research Service Award*
Individual Predoctoral Fellowship (Parent F31)
National Institute of Mental Health
\$48,536
- 2017-2020 *National Research Service Award*
NIMH T32 MH019960; PI: Leo Cabassa
Mental Health Services Predoctoral Training Program
\$70,140

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2019-2022 *Doctoral Affiliate, Institute for Justice Research and Development, College of Social Work, Florida State University*
- 2020 *Teaching Excellence Award for Doctoral Teaching Fellows, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis*
- 2007-2008 *Christine Smith Graduate Studies Scholarship, University of Alabama*
- 2007-2008 *Peggy Spain McDonald Endowed Scholarship, University of Alabama*
- 2006-2007 *National Alumni Fellowship, University of Alabama*
- 1994-1998 *Erasmus Scholarship, University of Montana*
- 1993-1997 *Honors College Presidential Scholarship, University of Montana*

DISSERTATION RESEARCH

Trauma Exposures across the Life Course for Individuals Who Experience Incarceration: A Latent Class Analysis

Chair: Brett Drake, PhD, MSW

Committee Members: Melissa Jonson-Reid, PhD, MSW; Carrie Pettus-Davis, PhD, MSW; Darrell Hudson, PhD, MPH; Geoff Ward, PhD

MENTORED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2018-22 *Research Assistant, Center for Violence and Injury Prevention, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis (Faculty Supervisor: Brett Drake)*

Project: *Child Welfare DataSMART*

- Coordinate project tasks with multiple researchers and learn data management of large administrative data sets in a multi-state project aimed at creating a new data management tool to assist state child welfare agencies in analyzing longitudinal administrative data to improve services.
- Contributed to published concept paper exploring risks and benefits of public agencies using predictive risk modeling algorithms with this type of administrative data.

Project: *Merging National Child Welfare Data Systems*

- Learned about merging and analyzing large public administrative data sets (the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS)).
- Completed paper as first author with findings on experiences of children who enter foster care due to parental incarceration. Paper presented at SSWR Annual Conference and currently under review for publication.

2018-19 *Research Assistant, Institute for Advancing Justice Research & Innovation, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis (Faculty Supervisor: Carrie Pettus-Davis)*

Project: *Transitional Services Trial*

- Analyzed trauma exposure and PTSD data collected from incarcerated men approaching release from Missouri state prisons.
- Completed and published journal article as first author describing findings on common types of lifetime trauma exposures and mean ages of exposures.

Project: *5-Key Model for Reentry Multisite Randomized Controlled Trial*

- Received training in data collection using REDCap. Conducted structured interviews of study participants by phone.

PUBLICATIONS

Morrison, M., Pettus-Davis, C., Drake, B., Roth, K. & Renn, T. (under review). Trauma and Incarceration: A Latent Class Analysis of Lifetime Trauma Exposures for Individuals in Prison

Morrison, M. & Drake, B. (invited revision). Foster children of incarcerated parents: A longitudinal nationwide analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review*.

Sohn, Y., Drake, B., **Morrison, M.** & Jonson-Reid, M. (2021). In what kinds of communities do people on the sex offender registry live? An analysis of ten states. *Children and Youth Services Review*.

Drake, B., Jonson-Reid, M., Gandarilla Ocampo, M., **Morrison, M.**, & Dvalishvili, D. (2020). A practical framework for considering the use of predictive risk modeling in child welfare. *American Academy of Political and Social Science*.

Morrison, M., Pettus-Davis, C., Renn, T., Veeh, C. & Weatherly, C. (2019). What trauma looks like for incarcerated men: A study of men's lifetime trauma exposures in two state prisons. *Journal of Traumatic Stress Disorders and Treatment*.

Morrison, M. & Weatherly, C. (in progress). Epidemiology of trauma among men before, during, and after incarceration: A systematic review of the literature.

Morrison, M. (in progress). The Mass Incarceration Trauma Framework: A Conceptual Frame for Understanding Trauma Among Individuals Who Experience Incarceration.

Morrison, M., Pettus-Davis, C., Drake, B., Roth, K. & Renn, T. (in progress). Trauma and Reentry: A Latent Class Analysis with Distal Outcomes of Lifetime Trauma Exposures for Individuals Recently Released from Prison

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Morrison, M. & Drake, B. (2021, January). *Foster Children of Incarcerated Parents: A Longitudinal Nationwide Analysis*. Oral paper presentation. 25th Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR), Virtual Conference.

Morrison, M. (2020, March). *Epidemiology of Trauma Exposure, PTSD and Comorbidities Among Male Prisoners*. Poster presentation. Center for Mental Health Services Research Re-Launch Event, Washington University in Saint Louis, Saint Louis, MO.

Morrison, M. (2019, August). *Truth, Reconciliation, & Mass Incarceration*. Oral paper presentation. International Academy of Law and Mental Health Congress, Rome, Italy.

Morrison, M. (2018, July). *Needs of Children in Adult Prisons*. Poster presentation. International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

- 2008-present *Social Worker (08-15), Senior Social Worker (15-present)*
Equal Justice Initiative, Montgomery, AL
Member of legal teams representing incarcerated clients with excessive sentences. Specialization in cases involving children in adult system. Helped develop a comprehensive reentry program for clients released from prison. (Transitioned to part-time in 2017)
- 2002-2006 *Milieu Counselor (02-03), Senior Milieu Counselor (03-06)*
Glenwood Mental Health Services, Division for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances, Residential Services, Birmingham, AL
- 2000-2001 *Adolescent Outreach Worker*
Massachusetts Department of Social Services, Adolescent Outreach Program, Boston, MA
- 1999-2000 *House Manager*
Justice Resource Institute, River Street Community Supportive Housing Program, Boston, MA

TEACHING INTERESTS

- Social Work Practice with Justice Involved Individuals
- Trauma-Informed Practice
- Research Methods and Data Management

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2022 *Instructor*, Saint Louis University School of Social Work
Course: Criminology: The Nature of Crime

- Spring 2022 *Teaching Assistant*, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School
Course: *Principles and Practices of Differential Diagnosis*
Master's level class on use of the DSM-V in social work practice
- Fall 19-Sp 22 *Teaching Assistant*, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School
Course: *Research Methods Seminar*
Master's level seminar for students specializing in research (6 semesters)
- Fall 2018-21 *Teaching Assistant*, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School
Course: *Data Management*
Doctoral level class on managing large data sets in SAS (3 semesters)
- Fall 2020-21 *Teaching Assistant*, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School
Course: *Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families, & Groups*
Master's level introduction to evidence-based clinical practice (3 semesters)
- Fall 2020-21 *Teaching Assistant*, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School
Course: *Research Methods with Statistical Applications for Social Work*
Master's level introduction to research concepts and data analysis (2 semesters)
- Spring 2021 *Teaching Assistant*, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School
Course: *Dialectical Behavior Therapy*
Master's level training on theory and practice of DBT in social work
- Spring 2020 *Instructor*, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School
Course: *Criminal Justice Involved Adults*
Independently taught master's level course on practice and policy issues
- Summer 2019 *Social Work Field Instructor*, Florida State University College of Social Work
Master's level student practicum at Joseph House (reentry program for men), Tallahassee, FL
- Spring 2019 *Teaching Assistant*, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School
Course: *Mental Health Policy*
Master's level class on principles and practice of mental health policy
- Spring 2018 *Teaching Assistant*, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School
Course: *Child Maltreatment Prevention*
Master's level class on prevention of child maltreatment

Summer 2015 *Social Work Field Instructor*, Auburn University Master of Social Work Program
Bachelor's level student practicum at Equal Justice Initiative, Montgomery, AL

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Morrison, M. (2021, Feb). *Social Workers Responding to the Criminal Justice System*. Invited webinar presentation. University of Tennessee College of Social Work, Coalition of Black Social Workers, Nashville, TN

Morrison, M. (2020, June). *Challenging Narratives: Stories of Social Work and Mass Incarceration*. Invited webinar presentation. The Office of the Alternative Defense Counsel, Denver, CO.

Morrison, M. & Feddon, D. (2018, Sept). *Confronting the Legacy of Racial Terror in the Age of Mass Incarceration*. Invited webinar presentation. National Black Catholic Congress, Baltimore, MD.

Feddon, D. & Morrison, M. (2018, April). *The Role of Truth and Reconciliation in Serving Men in Prisons in the Era of Mass Incarceration*. Invited speaker. Baton Rouge Area Society of Psychologists, Monthly Meeting, Baton Rouge, LA.

Morrison, M. (2016, June). *Protecting Our Most Vulnerable Children in the Age of Mass Incarceration*. Oral presentation. National Association of Social Workers National Conference, Washington, DC.

Morrison, M. (2016, April). *Consequences of Mass Incarceration for Children*. Invited speaker. University of Oklahoma and Tulsa Community College, Public Health Symposium, Roadmaps to Success: Improving Public Health for Underserved Populations, Tulsa, OK.

Morrison, M. (2015, July). *All Children Are Children: Challenging Excessive Punishment of Juveniles*. Oral presentation. National Organization of Forensic Social Workers Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

Morrison, M. (2014, July). *Hope for Children Condemned to Die in Prison: The Role of the Social Worker on the Legal Team*. Oral presentation. National Association of Forensic Social Workers Annual Conference, New York City, NY.

Morrison, M. (2012, November). *Working with the Client*. Invited speaker. Equal Justice Initiative National Conference: Building Capacity to Implement *Miller v. Alabama*, Atlanta, GA.

Morrison, M. (2010, March). *When 13- and 14-Year-Old Children are Sentenced to Die in Prison*. Invited speaker. National Association of Social Work-Alabama Chapter Student Advocacy Day, Montgomery, AL.

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Mar 10, 2021 *Guest Lecturer for Behavioral Health Policies and Services, “The Criminal Justice System and Mental Health Policies”*
Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis

2020-2021 *Professional Development Seminar Committee Member*
Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis

2019-2020 *Peer Reviewer for Academic Journal*
Global Social Welfare

Nov 12, 2010 *Guest Lecturer for Foundations of Public Health: Biostatistics, “Fear and Loathing in the Computer Lab: Some Thoughts on Being A Social Worker and Dealing with Data”*
Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis

Jan 2019 *Conference Volunteer*
Society for Social Work Research 2019 Conference, San Francisco, CA

2018-19 *Peer Mentor to Incoming Doctoral Students*
Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis

2016 *Book Reviewer for Criminal Defense Based Forensic Social Work*
Routledge/Taylor & Francis

Nov 17, 2015 *Conference Co-Organizer & Presenter, “Best Practices for Serving Traumatized Children and Communities,”* Communities of Practice Fall Convening, Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention, Baltimore, MD

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

2021-present *Member of Board of Trustees and Board Secretary*
Waldorf School of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

- 2017-2019 *Member of Board of Directors and Consultant*
Joseph House (nonprofit ministry of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, FL serving men recently released from prison)
- 1996-98 *Court Appointed Special Advocate*
Montana CASA, Missoula, MT
- 1994-96 *Rape Crisis Counselor*
University of Montana Sexual Assault Recovery Services, Missoula, MT

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- 2018-present Society for Social Work Research
- 2006-2017 National Association of Social Workers
- 2014-2017 National Association of Forensic Social

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE & CERTIFICATIONS

- 2011-present Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, Alabama
- 2016 Certificate in Traumatic Stress Studies, Trauma Center, Justice Resource Institute, Boston, MA
- 2008-2011 Licensed Graduate Social Worker, Alabama