

Anna Church

Curriculum vitae

The Ohio State University
Department of Sociology
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EDUCATION

- In Progress Ph.D., Sociology, The Ohio State University.
Student Affiliate, Institute of Population Research
- 2019 M.A., Sociology, University of Memphis.
Thesis Title: “Racial Differences in the Social Determinants of Infant Mortality:
A County-Level Analysis.”
Committee: Wesley James (chair), Joseph Lariscy, SunAh Laybourn
- 2017 B.A., **Major:** Sociology; **Minor:** Biology, University of Memphis.
Magna Cum Laude, University Honors with Thesis
Thesis Title: “An Analysis of Breastfeeding Initiation Trends of Shelby County,
TN from 2007-2015”

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Reproduction; Demography; Inequality; Sociology of the Body; Race; Gender; Health
Disparities

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 Church, Anna. “An Analysis of Breastfeeding Initiation Trends of Shelby County, TN
Women from 2007 to 2015.” *Quaesitum: The Undergraduate Research Journal
of the University of Memphis* 5:93-109.
https://www.memphis.edu/quaesitum/current_issue/18_06_church.pdf
*Winner of a *Quaesitum Outstanding Paper Award*
- 2018 James, Wesley, Karen Matthews, Peter Albrecht, **Anna Church**. “Improving the Health
of Rural America’s Chronically Ill: A Case Study of a Patient-Centered Medical
Home Clinic in Mississippi.” *Population Health Management* 21(1):83.
<https://doi.org/10.1089/pop.2017.0054>

- 2017 James, Wesley L., Karen C. Matthews, Peter A. Albrecht, Shelby Fox, **Anna Church**.
“Evidence of a Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Improving the Health of
Chronically Ill Patients in the Mississippi Delta.” *Journal of Preventive Medicine
and Care* 1(4):8-16. doi:10.14302/issn.2474-3585.jpmc-17-1449.

UNDER REVIEW

Church, Anna C. “Examining Racial Differences in U.S. County-Level Determinants of Infant
Mortality, 2012-2015.” *Under Review*.

PAPERS IN PREPERATION

King, Chris N., **Anna C. Church**, Wesley L. James, Rhonda G. Okoth, Karen C. Matthews.
“Birth weight outcomes among non-Hispanic black participants in a home visiting
program in the rural South.” (*draft available*)

Bennett, Jonathan, Pete Albrecht, Chris King, **Anna Church**, Wesley James, Karin Scott, Karen
Matthews. “Can Place-Based Initiatives Improve Educational Outcomes? Evidence from
a Mississippi Promise Neighborhood.” (*draft available*)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2019 University Fellowship, Graduate School, The Ohio State University (\$26,316)
- 2019 Morton Thesis Award, Graduate School, University of Memphis (\$500)
- 2018 Outstanding Paper Award for “An Analysis of Breastfeeding Initiation Trends of Shelby
County Women from 2007 to 2015,” *Quaesitum: The Undergraduate Research Journal
of the University of Memphis* (\$375)
- 2017 The University of Memphis College of Arts and Sciences Travel Enrichment Award
(\$250)

PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 “The Good and the Bad: What County Outliers Can Tell Us About Infant Mortality Rates
in the United States.” *To be presented at* Bowling Green State University—Ohio State
University Graduate Student Conference. Columbus, OH. Anna C. Church.
- 2019 ““It Can Be Done Anywhere, Anytime.” Public Breastfeeding and Social Media
Resistance.” Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. Anna Claire
Church.
- 2019 “The Incidence of Low Birth Weight among Non-Hispanic Black Births in a Home
Visiting Program in the Mississippi Delta.” Alabama-Mississippi Sociological

Association 50th Anniversary Conference. Starkville, MS. **Anna Church**, Chris King, Wesley L. James.

- 2018 “The Politics of Health Disparities: Breaking Down Traditional Geographic Boundaries to Explain Policy Diffusion in the 21st Century.” Southern Demographic Association Annual Meeting, Durham, NC. Dallas Breen, Sean C. Conner, Wesley L. James, **Anna C. Church**.
- 2018 “Racial Differences in the Social Determinants of Infant Mortality: A County-Level Analysis.” Southern Demographic Association Annual Meeting, Durham, NC. Anna C. Church.
- 2018 “Dealing with Boobs: Discursive Constraint and Resistance in the Narrated Identities of those who Publicly Breastfeed.” International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. Urbana-Champaign, Illinois. Anna Church.
- 2018 “Sociodemographic Predictors of Infant Mortality: An Analysis of Race- and Place-Based Disparities.” Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Anna Church.
- 2017 “An Analysis of Breastfeeding Initiation Trends of Shelby County, TN Mothers from 2007-2015.” Southern Demographic Association Annual Meeting. Morgantown, WV. Anna Church.
- 2017 “Breastfeeding Attitudes and Experiences in the Memphis, TN Community.” National Conference of Undergraduate Research. Memphis, TN. Anna Church.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2017-2019 Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Sociology. University of Memphis.
Faculty Advisor: Wesley James, Ph.D.
- 2016-2017 Undergraduate Student Worker, University of Memphis.
Grant Title: “Addressing Disparities in the Mississippi Delta” (\$299,760)
Principal Investigator: Wesley James, Ph.D.
Funding Source: Delta Health Alliance

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019 Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology. University of Memphis.
Advisor: Wesley James, Ph.D.
Course: Senior Thesis Seminar
- 2018-2019 Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology. University of Memphis.
Advisor: Kendra Murphy, M.A., Undergraduate Advisor

Courses: Introduction to Sociology; Rise of Sociological Theory; Sociology of Deviant Behavior; Sociology of Gender; Methods of Social Research; Racial/Ethnic Minorities

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Discipline

- 2019 Discussant, session titled “Social Policy and Economic Well-Being.” Bowling Green State University—The Ohio State University Graduate Student Conference. Columbus, OH.
- 2019 Chair of Panel, “Grad Student Information Session: Grad Students Speak from Experience.” Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association Conference. Starkville, MS.

Departmental and University

- 2019 Panelist, “The Path to Graduate School.” Sociology Department, The Ohio State University.
- 2019 Mentoring Committee Member, Sociology Graduate Student Association, The Ohio State University.
- 2019 Student Research Forum Committee Member, Graduate Student Association, University of Memphis.
- 2019 University of Memphis Sociology Department Representative at the Graduate Student Information Fair.
- 2019 Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD)-Gamma Chapter Administrative Assistant, University of Memphis.
- 2018 Representative of the College of Arts and Sciences, General Assembly of the Graduate Student Association, University of Memphis.
- 2018 Graduate Travel Finance Committee Member, Graduate Student Association, University of Memphis.
- 2018 University of Memphis Sociology Department Representative at ‘Discover Your Major Day.’

Community

- 2018 Member of the Shelby County Health Department Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative Collective Impact Community Action Network and Project- a group dedicated to reducing infant mortality and improving maternal and child health.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/ HONOR SOCIETIES

Phi Kappa Phi-University of Memphis
Sociologists for Women in Society – South
Southern Sociological Society
Southern Demographic Association
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society- Gamma Chapter