

**Gabriel J. Merrin, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Human Development and Family Science  
Syracuse University

## **ADDRESS**

Syracuse University  
Department of Human Development and Family Science  
440 White Hall  
Syracuse, New York 713244

Voice: (812) 318-1273  
Email: [gjmerin@syr.edu](mailto:gjmerrin@syr.edu)  
Website: [gabrieljmerrin.rbind.io](http://gabrieljmerrin.rbind.io)

## **PREVIOUS POSITIONS**

Assistant Professor  
Texas Tech University  
Department of Human Development and Family Science  
September 2019 – August 2021

Postdoctoral Fellowship  
University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida  
Department of Health Management and  
Informatics  
December 2018 - August 2019

Postdoctoral Fellowship  
University of Victoria, British Columbia,  
Canada  
Department of Psychology  
August 2017 - November 2018

## **EDUCATION**

### **University of Illinois Urbana – Champaign**

College of Education, Department of Educational Psychology, Division of Child Development  
Ph.D., Educational Psychology, Graduated: May 2017

Dissertation: “Examining the reciprocal association between delinquency and parental monitoring in two adolescent samples: A within- and between-person latent variable analysis”

<http://hdl.handle.net/2142/97557>

### **University of Illinois Urbana – Champaign**

College of Education, Department of Human Resource Education  
Ed.M., Human Resource Development, May 2010

### **University of Illinois Urbana – Champaign**

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Department of Sociology  
B.A., Sociology, May 2009

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Identity based harassment, aggression, and victimization in the school context
- Delinquency, substance use, and other problem behaviors
- Prevention science and evaluation of school-based interventions
- Adolescence development and the transition to young adulthood
- Longitudinal quantitative methods

## **TEACHING**

**Assistant Professor**

Department of Human Development and Family Sciences  
Texas Tech University (August 2019 – Present)

**Courses:**

HDFS 6365: (Quantitative Methods III – Foundations of Structural Equation Modeling)  
HDFS 6370: (Quantitative Methods IV – Longitudinal Structural Equation Modeling)  
HDFS 6363: (Risk-Taking and Adolescent Health)

**Instructor**

Department of Psychology  
University of Victoria (September 2017 – January 2018)

**Course:**

PSYC 345A: (Drugs and Behavior: Basic Principles)

**Teaching Assistant**

Department of Educational Psychology  
University of Illinois Urbana – Champaign (August 2012 – May 2017)

**Courses:**

EPSY 202: (Exploring Cultural Diversity)  
EPSY 580: (Statistical Inference in Education)  
EPSY 573: (Methods of Educational Inquiry)

**GRANT ACTIVITY**

**Merrin, G. J. (Co-I).** Root Causes of Bias-Based Harassment in Schools: Risk and Protective Factors Across Multiple Levels of the Social Ecology, *National Institute of Justice* \$1,290,546 (Funding Period: 1/1/2021 – 12/30/2023 - Funded) (Grant Number: NIJ - 2020-CK-BX-0005).

**Merrin, G. J. (Co-I).** The Impact of Sources of Strength, a primary prevention youth suicide program, on sexual violence perpetration among Colorado high school students, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, *National Institute of Health* \$1,800,000 (Funding Period: 9/30/2016 – 9/29/2020 - Funded) (Grant Number: NIH - 1U01CE002841-01).

**Merrin, G. J. (PI).** The relations among polysubstance use, treatment utilization, and health service outcomes, *Fulbright Canada* (Funding Period: 1/1/2018 – 1/1/2019 - Recommended to be Funded).

**Merrin, G. J. (Co-PI).** Trajectories of marijuana use across a decade: Their predictors in adolescence and impact on health, academic, social, and economic outcomes in young adulthood, *Canadian Institutes of Health Research* \$100,000 (Funding Period: 1/2018 – 8/2019 - Funded) (Grant Number: SHI - 155410).

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

Valido, A., **Merrin, G. J.**, Espelage, D. L., Robinson, L. E., Nickodem, K., Ingram, K. M., El Sheikh, A. J., Torgal, C., & Fairclough, J. (2021). Social-Ecological Predictors of Homophobic Name-Calling Perpetration and Victimization among Early Adolescents. *Journal of Early Adolescence*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02724316211002271>

Valido, A., Ingram, K., Espelage, D. L., Torgal, C., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Davis, J. P. (2021). Intra-familial violence and verbal and physical aggression among early adolescents: Moderating role of school sense of belonging. *Journal of Family Violence* 36, 87-98. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-020-00142-8>

**Merrin, G. J.**, Davis, J. P., Ingram, K., & Espelage, D. L. (2020). Examining social-ecological predictors

- of youth gang entry among serious juvenile offenders: A survival analysis. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* 90(5), 623-632. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ort0000491>
- Merrin, G. J.**, Ames, M., Sturgess, C., & Leadbeater, B. J. (2020). Disruption of transitions in high-risk substance use from adolescence to young adulthood: School, employment, and romantic relationship factors. *Substance Use and Misuse* 55(7), 1129-1137. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10826084.2020.1729200>
- Forber-Pratt, A. J., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Espelage, D. L. (2020). Exploring the intersections of disability, race & gender on student outcomes in High School. *Remedial and Special Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0741932520941201>
- Forber-Pratt, A., **Merrin, G. J.**, Mueller, C. O., Price, L. R., & Kettrey, H. H. (2020). Initial factor exploration of disability identity. *Rehabilitation Psychology* 65(1). <https://doi.org/10.1037/rep0000308>
- Davis, J. P., Ingram, K. M., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Espelage, D. L. (2020). Exposure to parental and community violence and the relationship to bullying perpetration and victimization among early adolescents: A parallel process growth mixture latent transition analysis. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*, 61, 77-89. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sjop.12493>
- Ames, M., Leadbeater, B., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Thompson, K. (2020). Patterns of marijuana use and physical health indicators among Canadian Youth. *International Journal of Psychology*, 55(1), 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ijop.12549>
- Ingram, K., Espelage, D., Davis, J. P., & **Merrin, G. J.**, (2020). Family violence, sibling, and peer aggression during adolescence: Associations with behavioral health outcomes. *Frontiers in Psychiatry* 11(26). <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2020.00026>
- Green, J. G., Holt, M. K., Oblath, R., Robinson, E., Story, K., **Merrin, G. J.** (2020). Engaging professional sports to reduce bullying: An evaluation of the Boston vs. Bullies program. *Journal of School Violence*, 19(3), 389-405. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15388220.2019.1709849>
- Merrin, G. J.**, Davis, J. P., Berry, D., & Espelage, D. L. (2019). Developmental changes in deviant and violent behavior from early to late adolescence: Associations with parental monitoring and peer deviance. *Psychology of Violence*, 9(2), 196-208. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/vio0000207>
- Grant, N., **Merrin, G. J.**, King, M., & Espelage, D. L. (2019). Examining within-person and between-person associations of family violence and peer deviance on bullying perpetration among middle school students. *Psychology of Violence* 9(1), 18 - 27. <http://doi.org/10.1037/vio0000210>.
- Davis, J. P., **Merrin, G. J.**, Ingram, K., Espelage, D. L., Valido, A., & El Sheikh, A. (2019). Examining pathways between bully victimization, depression, & school belonging among early adolescents. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 28(9), 2365-2378. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-019-01340-9>
- Hatchel, T., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Espelage, D. L. (2019). Peer victimization and suicidality among LGBTQ youth: The protective roles of self-compassion, school belonging, and parental support. *Journal of LBG Youth*, 16(2), 134-156. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19361653.2018.1543036>
- Peguero, A., **Merrin, G. J.**, Hong, J. S., & Johnson, K. R. (2019). School disorder and dropping out: The intersection of gender, race, and ethnicity. *Youth and Society*, 51(2), 193-218. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0044118X16668059>.
- Ames, M. E., Leadbeater, B. J., **Merrin, G. J.**, Sturgess, C., & Thompson, K. (2019). Adolescent patterns of peer victimization: Concurrent and longitudinal health correlates. *Journal of Applied Biobehavioral Research*, 24, 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jabr.12151>
- Ingram, K., Espelage, D. L., **Merrin, G. J.**, Valido, A., Heinhorst, J., & Joyce, M. (2019). Evaluation of a virtual reality enhanced bullying prevention curriculum pilot trial. *Journal of Adolescence* 71, 72-83. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2018.12.006>
- Ingram, K., Davis, J. P., Espelage, D. L., Hatchel, T., & **Merrin, G. J.**, Valido, A., & Torgal, C. (2019). Longitudinal associations between toxic masculinity and bystander willingness to intervene in bullying among middle school boys. *Journal of School Psychology*, 77, (139-151). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsp.2019.10.007>

- Jones, A. E., Espelage, D. L., Valido, A., Ingram, K., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2019). Examining classes of bully perpetration among Latinx high school students and associations with substance use and mental health. *International Journal of Bullying Prevention*, 1(3), 170-179. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42380-019-00028-4>
- Thompson, K., Leadbeater, B. J., Ames, M., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2019). Associations between marijuana use trajectories and educational and occupational success in adulthood. *Prevention Science* 20(2), 257-269. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-018-0904-7>
- Merrin, G. J.**, Thompson, K., & Leadbeater, B. J. (2018). Transitions in the use of multiple substances from adolescence to young adulthood. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 189, 147-153. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2018.05.015>
- Merrin, G. J.**, & Leadbeater, B. J. (2018). Do adolescent patterns of polysubstance use predict differential use of substances in young adulthood? *Journal of Substance Use and Misuse* 53(13), 2112 - 2124. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10826084.2018.1455702>
- Merrin, G. J.**, de la Haye, K., Espelage, D. L., Ewing, B., Tucker, J., Hoover, M., & Green, H. (2018). The co-evolution of bullying perpetration, homophobic teasing, and a school friendship network. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 47(3), 601-618. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10964-017-0783-4>.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Espelage, D. L., & Hong, J. S. (2018). Applying the social-ecological framework to understand the associations of bullying perpetration among high school students: A multilevel analysis. *Psychology of Violence*, 8(1), 43-56. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/vio0000084>.
- Espelage, D. L., **Merrin, G. J.**, Hong, J. S., & Resko, S. M. (2018). Applying social cognitive and social information processing theory to explore relational aggression across early adolescence: A within- and between-person analysis. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* 47(11), 2401-2413. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10964-018-0910-x>
- Espelage, D. L., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Hatchel, T. (2018). Peer victimization and dating violence among LGBTQ youth: The impact of school violence and crime on mental health outcomes. *Journal of Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice* 16(2), 156-173. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1541204016680408>.
- King, M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Espelage, D. L., & Grant, N. J. (2018). Victimization, suicidal ideation, and intersectionality among LGBQ youth and students with disabilities. *Exceptional Children*, 84(2), 141-158. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0014402917736261>.
- Thompson, K., **Merrin, G. J.**, Ames, M., & Leadbeater, B. J. (2018). Trajectories of marijuana use in Canadian youth and association with substance use, mental health, and behavioral problems in adolescence and young adulthood. *Canadian Journal of Behavioural Sciences* 50(1), 17-28. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/cbs0000090>.
- Dumas, T. M., Davis, J. P., **Merrin, G. J.**, Puccia, M., & Blustein, D. (2018). If you're high status and you know it: Teasing apart the within- and between-person effects of peer-nominated and self-reported status in the drinking group on alcohol-related outcomes. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 32(3), 327-337. <https://doi.org/10.1037/adb0000352>.
- Davis, J. P., Dumas, T. M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Espelage, D., Tan, K., Madden, D. & Hong J. S. (2018). Examining the pathways between bully victimization, depression, academic achievement, and problematic drinking in adolescence. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 32(6), 605-616. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/adb0000394>
- Espelage, D. L., Hong, J. S., **Merrin, G. J.**, Davis, J. P., Rose, C. A., & Little, T. D. (2018). A longitudinal examination of homophobic name-calling perpetration in middle school: Bullying, traditional masculinity, and sexual harassment as predictors. *Psychology of Violence*, 8(1), 57-66. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/vio0000083>.
- Leadbeater, B. J., Thompson, K., Sukhawathanakul, P., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2018). The longitudinal inter-relations among fidelity, quality and students' use of program in the diffusion of implementation of a whole-school, victimization prevention program. *Prevention Science* 19(8), 1066-1078. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-018-0948-8>
- Davis, J. P., D., Dumas, T. M., Berey, B., **Merrin, G. J.**, Tan, K., Madden, D. R. (2018). Poly-

- victimization and trajectories of binge drinking from adolescence to young adulthood among serious juvenile offenders. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 186, 29 - 35.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2018.01.006>.
- Davis, J. P., Dumas, T. M., Berey, B. L., **Merrin, G. J.**, Roberts, B. W., & Robinson-Cimpian, J. (2017). Effect of victimization on impulse control and binge drinking among juvenile delinquents from adolescence to young adulthood. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 46(7), 1515-1532.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10964-017-0676-6>.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Davis, J. P., Berry, D., D'Amico, E. J., & Dumas, T. M. (2016). The longitudinal associations between substance use, crime, and social risk among emerging adults: A longitudinal within and between-person latent variables analysis. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 165, 71-78.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2016.05.009>.
- Hong, J. S., **Merrin, G. J.**, Peguero, A. A., Gonzalez-Prendes, A. A., & Lee, N. Y. (2016). Exploring the social-ecological determinants of physical fighting in U.S. schools: What about youth in immigrant families? *Child and Youth Care Forum*, 45(2), 279-299.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10566-015-9330-1>.
- Davis, J. P., **Merrin, G. J.**, Berry, D., Dumas, T. M., Hong, J. S., & Smith, D. C. (2016). Examining within-person and between-person effects of victimization and social risk on cannabis use among emerging adults in substance-use treatment. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 30(1), 52-63.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/adb0000121>.
- Hong, J. S., **Merrin, G. J.**, Crosby, S., Hernandez-Jozefowicz, D., Lee, J., & Allen-Meares, P. (2016). Individual and contextual factors associated with immigrant youth's feeling unsafe in school: A social-ecological analysis. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, 18(5), 996-1006.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-015-0242-9>.
- Davis, J. P., Dumas, T. M., Wagner, E. F., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2016). Social ecological determinants of substance use treatment entry among serious juvenile offenders from adolescences through emerging adulthood. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 71, 8-15.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsat.2016.08.004>.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Hong, J. S., & Espelage, D. L. (2015). Are the risk and protective factors similar for gang-involved, pressured-to-join, and non-gang involved youth? A social-ecological analysis. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 85(6), 522-535. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/ort0000094>.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW/REVISION

- Merrin, G. J.**, Leadbeater, B. J., Sturgess, C., Ames, M., & Thompson, K. (revise and resubmit). Predicting and preventing early onset marijuana use: The cumulative influence of risk and protective factors. *Journal of Drug Issues*.
- Forber-Pratt, A., Price, L., **Merrin, G. J.**, Fairclough, J., & Hanebutt, R. (under review). Psychometric validation of the Disability Identity Development Scale. *Psychological Assessment*.
- Espelage, D. L., Ingram, K. M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Robinson, L. E., Bowman, C. E., & Holt, M. (revise and resubmit). Longitudinal Effects of a Middle School Social-Emotional Learning Program on Bullying & Gender-based Harassment in High School. *Youth & Society*.
- Espelage, D. L., Ingram, K. M., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Hong, J. S. (revised and resubmitted). Bullying as a Developmental Precursor to Sexual Violence throughout Adolescence: Decade in Review. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*.
- Contreras, A., Leadbeater, B. J., **Merrin, G. J.** (under review). Using cannabis when anxious in adolescence and young adulthood. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Substance Abuse*.
- Leadbeater, B. J., Sukhawathanakul, P., Rush, J., **Merrin, G. J.**, Lewis, N., & Hoffer, S. (revise and resubmit). Understanding preventive interventions in the context of trajectories of normative child development in a cluster randomized controlled trial.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION



- Merrin, G. J.** (in prep). Using state transition models to examine risk and protective pathways across adolescence development.
- Merrin, G. J., & Fairclough, J.** (in prep). Social influences in the transitions of substance use profiles from adolescence to young adulthood.
- Merrin, G. J.** (in prep). Examining the reciprocal association between parental monitoring and delinquency in two adolescent samples: A within- and between-person latent variable analysis.
- Merrin, G. J.** (in prep). Family, peer, and neighborhood predictors of youth gang involvement: A meta-analysis.
- Merrin, G. J. & Lowe, S.** (in prep). Examining the effectiveness of Second Step social emotional learning program among middle school students.
- Fairclough, J., Abd-Elmonem, M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Hong, J. S., Mountain, S., & Voisin, D. R. (in prep). Religiosity and associations with substance use and delinquency among urban African American Adolescents.
- Fairclough, J., **Merrin, G. J.**, Ingram, K., & Espelage, D. L. (in prep). Reciprocal association between delinquency and impulsivity among adolescence: A within- and between-person latent variable analysis.
- Holt, M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Fairclough, J., Green, J., Wyatt, O., & Fogelman, P. (in prep). Exposure to direct and indirect identity-based harassment: Protective factors and associations with academic functioning.
- Marsico, C., Holt, M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Fairclough, J., Shah, T., Green, J. G., & Fogelman, P. (in prep). Adolescents' exposure to direct and indirect immigration-based harassment: Associations with social emotional and academic functioning.
- Espelage, D. L., Kuehl, T., Wyman, P., Mintz, S., Hoagland, K., Valido, A., Ingram, K., Schmeelk-Cone, K., LoMurray, S., **Merrin, G. J.**, Nickodem, K. (in prep). An RCT of Sources of Strength high school primary prevention program on sexual violence perpetration and associated gender-based attitudes & behaviors.

## BOOK CHAPTERS/ENTRIES/REPORTS

- Espelage, D. L., Hong, J. S., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2018). [Predictors of relational aggression & bullying in children and adolescence: Applying the social cognitive theory and the social-ecological perspective](#). In Coyne, S. M. & Ostrov, J. M. (Eds), *The Development of Relational Aggression*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Merrin, G. J.** (2018). American Educational Research Association. In *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation*. (Vol. 1, pp. 70-72). Los Angeles, CA: SAGE Publications.
- Leadbeater, B., Thompson, K., Ames, M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Sukhawathanakul, P., & Sturgess, S. (2017). Using cannabis in the transition to young adulthood: Recognizing and reducing risks. *Psynopsis* 39(4) 10-11. <https://cpa.ca/docs/File/Psynopsis/2017/PsynopsisFall2017.pdf>.
- Espelage, D. L., Berry, B., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Swearer, S. M. (2013). Social-ecological model for predicting workplace bullying. In L. M. Crothers & J. Lipinski (Eds.), *Bullying in the Workplace: Symptoms, Causes and Remedies*. New York: Routledge.
- Espelage, D. L., & **Merrin, G. J.**, (2014). Adjustment of students who experience school bullying: Empirical examination of the social-ecological theory. Prepared for: Korea-US Joint Research on the Support of School Bullying Prevention and Intervention: The Relations between School Bullying and School Adjustment.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Valido, A., Ingram, K., Espelage, D. L., Torgal, C., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Davis, J. P. (2021, November).

- Intra-familial violence and peer aggression among early adolescents: Moderating role of school sense of belonging. Poster presentation at the World Antibullying Forum, Stockholm, Sweden.
- Leadbeater, B. J., Sukhawathanakul, P., Rush, J., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Lewis, N. (2021, June). Understanding preventive interventions in the context of trajectories of normative child development in a cluster randomized controlled trial. Poster presentation at the Society for Prevention Research Virtual Conference.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Hernandez, M. M., Masarik, A., & Mercado, E. (2021, April). Attention early scholars: How to thrive professionally in interdisciplinary research, and personally as a human. In. C. R. Rogers (Chair), Student and Early Career Council Conversation Hour Series at the Society for Research on Child Development Conference. Virtual Conference.
- Ravindran., N., **Merrin, G. J.**, Fairclough, J., Phelps, B., Zoppolat, G., Balzarini, R. N., & Slatcher, R. B. (2021, April). Longitudinal Within-Person Associations between COVID-19-Related Stressors, Parents' Emotions, and Parent-Child Interactions. Paper to be presented at the Society for Affective Science Virtual Conference.
- Fairclough, J., **Merrin, G. J.**, Hong, J. S., Mountain, S., & Voisin, D. (2021, April). *Religiosity and associations with substance use and delinquency among urban African American adolescents*. Individual flash talk paper to be presented at the 2021 Society for Research in Child Development Virtual Biennial Meeting, April 7-9, 2021.
- Marsico, C., Holt, M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Fairclough, J., Shah, T., Green, J. G., & Fogelman, P. (2021, April). *Adolescents' exposure to direct and indirect immigration-based harassment: Associations with social emotional and academic functioning*. Symposium to be presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Convention, Virtual.
- Shah, T. N., Wyatt O., Holt, M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Marsico, C., Green, J., & Fogelman, P. (2021, April). *Identity-Based Harassment Experiences at the Intersection of Race, Ethnicity, and Sexual Orientation: Associations with Functioning*. Poster to be presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Convention, Virtual.
- Valido, A., Torgal, C., Ingram, K., Espelage, D. L., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Davis, J. P. (2020, August). *Intra-familial violence and verbal and physical aggression among early adolescents: Moderating role of school sense of belonging*. Symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Washington DC.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Koval, A., & Moselle, K. (2020, July). *The need for full cross continuum secondary and tertiary encounter data to inform integrated service delivery for patients with substance use disorders*. Symposium presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Convention, Washington DC.
- Leadbeater, B. J., Sturgess, C., **Merrin, G. J.**, Ames, M., & Thompson, K. (2020, July). *Predictors of Early-Onset Cannabis Use in Adolescence and Risks for Substance Use Disorder Symptoms in Young Adulthood*. Symposium presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Convention, Washington DC.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Davis, J. P., Ingram, K., & Espelage, D. L. (2020, April). *Examining social ecological predictors of youth gang entry among serious juvenile offenders: A survival analysis*. Poster scheduled to be presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence Annual Convention, San Diego, CA16
- Espelage, D. L., Davis, J. P., Ingram, K. M., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2020, April). *Exposure to parental and community violence with bullying perpetration and cyber and face-to-face victimization among adolescents*. Symposium scheduled to be presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence Annual Convention, San Diego, CA.
- Ingram, K., Davis, J. P., Espelage, D. L., Hatchel, T., & **Merrin, G. J.**, Valido, A., & Torgal, C. (2020, April). *Longitudinal Associations Between Features of Toxic Masculinity and Bystander Willingness to Intervene in Bullying Among Middle School Boys*. Symposium presented at the American Education Research Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Jones, A., Espelage, D. L., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2019, August). *Examining Classes of Sexual Violence*

- Victimization among Latina/o High School Students and Associations with Suicidal Ideation and Attempts and Help Seeking Behaviors.* Symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL.
- Ingram, K., Davis, J. P., Espelage, D. L., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2019, May). *Exploring Interpersonal Risk Factors for Teen Dating Violence Longitudinally across Adolescence.* Symposium presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Ingram, K., Espelage, D. L., & **Merrin, G. J.**, Heinhorst, J., & Valido, A. (2019, May). *Exploring the Role of Virtual Reality in Bullying Prevention: Evaluation of a Pilot Trial.* Symposium presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Ames, M., Leadbeater, B., & **Merrin, G. J.**, Sturgess, C., & Contreras, A. (2019, May). *Adolescent Patterns of Peer Victimization: Concurrent and Longitudinal Health Correlates.* Poster presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Marsico, C., Holt, M. K., Green, J. G., Espelage, D. L., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2019, April). *Harnessing the power of youth: An evaluation of the Anti-Defamation League's peer leader program.* Symposium presented at the American Education Research Association Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada.
- Forber-Pratt, A. J., Zape, M. P., & **Merrin, G. J.**, (2018, August). *Construction and Preliminary Validation of the Disability Identity Development Scale (DIDS).* Symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Espelage, D. L., Ingram, K. M., Davis, J. P., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Valdio, A. (2018, August). *A social-ecological analysis of teen dating violence perpetration.* Symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Thompson, K., Ames, M., & Leadbeater, B. J. (2018, July). *Marijuana Trajectories in Canadian Youth: Associations with Substance Use and Mental Health.* Poster presented at the Research Society on Marijuana Conference, Fort Collins, C.O.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Leadbeater, B. J., Sturgess, C., Ames, M., & Thompson, K. (2018, July). *Predicting and Preventing Early Onset Marijuana Use: The Cumulative Influence of Risk and Protective Factors.* Poster presented at the Research Society on Marijuana Conference, Fort Collins, C.O.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Thompson, K., & Leadbeater, B. J. (2018, May). *Transitions in the use of multiple substances from adolescence to young adulthood.* Poster presented at the Society for Prevention Science Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Merrin, G. J.**, & Leadbeater, B. J. (2018, May). *Do classes of polysubstance use in adolescence differentiate growth in substances used in the transition to young adulthood?* Symposium presented at the Society for Prevention Science Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Thompson, K. T., Ames, M., Leadbeater, B. J., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2018, May). *Associations between marijuana use trajectories and educational and occupational success for Canadian youth.* Symposium presented at the Society for Prevention Science Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Thompson, K., & Leadbeater, B. J. (2018, May). *Transitions in substance use patterns from adolescence to young adulthood.* Symposium presented at the Modern Modeling Methods Conference, Storrs, CT.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Davis, J. P., Berry, D., D'Amico, E. J., & Dumas, T. M. (2018, May). *The longitudinal associations between substance use, crime, and social risk among emerging adults: A longitudinal within and between-person latent variables analysis.* Symposium presented at the Modern Modeling Methods Conference, Storrs, CT.
- Dumas, T., Davis, J. P., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Neighbors, C. (2018, April). *Peer drinking groups: A longitudinal assessment of members' binge drinking, group norm overestimation, and within-group status.* Symposium presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence Convention, Minneapolis, MN.
- Davis, J. P., Dumas, T., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2018, April). *The mechanistic role of social context: Results from two studies investigating crime, substance use, and self-regulation.* Symposium presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence Convention, Minneapolis, MN.



- Leadbeater, B. J., Thompson, K., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Ames, M. E. (2017, November). *Trajectories of marijuana use across a decade: Their predictors in adolescence and impact on health, academic, social, and economic outcomes in young adulthood*. Symposium presented at the Public Health Association of BC, Vancouver, BC.
- Espelage, D. L., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2017, June). *Measuring school climate to inform prevention: The promise of multi-informant surveys and observation methodologies*. Symposium presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Convention, Washington, DC.
- Thompson, K., **Merrin, G. J.**, Ames, M. E., & Leadbeater, B. J. (2017, June). *Trajectories of marijuana use in Canadian youth and association with substance use, mental health, and behavioral problems in adolescence and young adulthood*. Symposium presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Convention, Washington, DC.
- King, M., **Merrin, G. J.**, Espelage, D. L., & Grant, N. J. (2017, April). *Victimization, suicidal ideation, and intersectionality among LGBQ youth and students with disabilities*. Symposium presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biannual Convention, Austin, TX.
- Espelage, D. L., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Davis, J. (2017, April). *Longitudinal analysis of affective empathy, attitudes supportive of bullying, and bully perpetration among middle school youth*. Symposium presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biannual Convention, Austin, TX.
- Espelage, D. L., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2016, November). *Violence victimization among sexual minority high school students: Impact of school disorganization on mental health outcomes*. Symposium presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Davis, J. P., Berry, D., D'Amico, E. J., & Dumas, T. M. (2016, August). *The longitudinal associations between substance use, criminal behavior, and social risk among emerging adults: A longitudinal within and between-person latent variables analysis*. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Denver, CO.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Hatchel, T., & Espelage, D. L. (2016, August). *An examination of parental monitoring and school connectedness on suicidality among LGBQ youth*. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Denver, CO.
- Hatchel, T., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Espelage, D. L. (2016, August). *Peer victimization and suicidality among LGBQ youth: What protects youth?* Symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Denver, CO.
- Espelage, D. L., & **Merrin, G. J.** (2016, August). *Violence among LGBQ students: Impact of school climate and disorganization on mental health outcomes*. Symposium presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Denver, CO.
- Merrin, G. J.**, Davis, J., Jones, A. E., Hatchel, T., & De La Rue, L. (2016, May). *Longitudinal effects of maternal depression, stress, and economic hardship on the development of childhood behavior problems among at-risk mothers: Recommendations for prenatal and postnatal prevention*. Paper presented in an invited symposium (Sloboda and Bukkoski Cup) at the annual meeting of the Society for Prevention Research, San Francisco, CA.
- Jones, A. E., **Merrin, G. J.**, Charmaraman, L., & Espelage, D. L. (2016, April). *School climate, gender, context, and consequences: Effectively addressing middle school sexual harassment at school*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, D.C.
- Charmaraman, L., Jones, A. E., **Merrin, G. J.**, & Espelage, D. L. (2016, April). *Predicting early adolescent online sexual harassment. Association with dismissive attitudes, peer support, and school belonging*. Poster presented at the Biannual Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Baltimore, MD.
- Hong, J. S., **Merrin, G. J.**, Crosby, S., Hernandez-Jozefowicz, D., Lee, J., & Allen-Meares, P. (2016, January). *Factors Associated with Immigrant Youths' Perceptions of School Safety: An Application of the Social-Ecological Framework*. Paper presented at the Society for Social Work and Research Conference, Washington D.C.
- Davis, J., **Merrin, G. J.**, Berry, D., Dumas, T. M., Hong, J. S., & Smith, D. C. (2015, October).

- Examining within-person and between-person effects of victimization and social risk on cannabis use among emerging adults in substance-use treatment.* Paper presented at the Society for the Study on Emerging Adulthood, Miami, FL.
- Merrin, G. J.,** King, M. T., & Espelage, D. L. (2015, August). *An examination of teacher-student interactions on a middle school playground.* Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Toronto, CA.
- Merrin, G. J.,** Berry, D. J., & Espelage, D. L. (2015, May). *Developmental changes in delinquency from early to late adolescence: Associations with parental monitoring and peer deviance.* Paper presented at Hong Kong University, Faculty of Education Conference, Hong Kong, China.
- Espelage, D. L., **Merrin, G. J.,** & De La Rue, L. (2015, March). *Relational aggression among middle school students: A social network study.* Paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Philadelphia, PA.
- Merrin, G. J.,** Berry, D. J., & Espelage, D. L. (2015, March). *Developmental changes in delinquency from early to late adolescence: Associations with parental monitoring and peer deviance.* Poster presented at the Biannual Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Philadelphia, PA.
- Rivers, T., **Merrin, G. J.,** & Espelage, D. L. (2013, April). *Examining roasting among middle school student: The initial construction of a roasting scale.* Roundtable discussion at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Merrin, G. J.,** River, T., & Espelage, D. L. (2013, April). *"First person I see, I'm bout to get to ridin' on." Exploring the effects of roasting among middle school students.* Roundtable discussion at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Rivers, T., **Merrin, G. J.,** & Espelage, D. L. (2012, October). *Ritual insults among African American middle school students: Causing harm or passing time?* Poster presented at the National Conference in Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology, Lawrence, Kansas.
- Gates, E., **Merrin, G. J.,** & Case, A. (2012, November). *When worlds collide: Practicing restorative circles at a juvenile hall.* Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.
- Merrin, G. J.,** De La Rue, L., & Espelage, D. L. (2012, August). *The association of past victimization and gang involvement: Concerns for future violence perpetration.* Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Orlando, FL.
- Merrin, G. J.,** & Espelage, D. L. (2012, April). *Cumulative risk factors leading to delinquency and antisocial behavior.* paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, Canada.

## INVITED TALKS

- Merrin, G. J.,** Hong, J. S., & Espelage, D. L. (2019, November). *Are the risk and protective factors similar for gang-involved, pressured-to-join, and non-gang involved youth? A social-ecological analysis.* Symposium presented at the Voice of Our Youth, Dane County Youth Authority Research Summit, Madison, WI.
- Forber-Pratt, A., **Merrin, G. J.,** & Espelage, D. L. (2019, November). *Exploring the intersections of disability, race & gender on peer victimization, suicidal ideation, and school connectedness in high school.* Symposium presented at the Voice of Our Youth, Dane County Youth Authority Research Summit, Madison, WI.

## AWARDS

- Texas Tech University 2020-2021 *Alumni Association New Faculty Award*
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, College of Education 2016-2017 *Outstanding Student Medal Award for Doctoral Students* ([Graduation Speech](#))

- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, College of Education 2015-2016 *Outstanding Teaching Award for Teaching Assistants*
- University of Illinois, College of Education, 2015 Conference Best Paper Award. Paper entitled: Developmental Changes in Delinquency from Early to Late Adolescence: Associations with Parental Monitoring and Peer Deviance
- University of Illinois [Teachers Ranked as Excellent](#) (Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Spring 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2017)
- University of Illinois, College of Education 2013 Conference Best Paper Award. Paper entitled: “First person I see, I’m bout to get to ridin’ on.” Exploring the Effects of Roasting Among Middle School Students

## **MEDIA/PRESS**

- Davis, J. P., & Merrin, G. J. (2016, October 6). Delinquent youths with PTSD need individualized treatment, studies suggest. Interviewer Sharita Forrest with the Illinois News Bureau. Retrieved from <https://illinois.edu/blog/view/6367/414822>
- Davis, J. P., & Merrin, G. J. (2016, December 1). Adolescents with PTSD history more likely to struggle with substance abuse. Interviewer Jess Peterson with the Daily Illini. Retrieved from <http://dailyillini.com/special-sections/2016/12/01/adolescents-ptsd-history-likely-struggle-substance-abuse/>
- Merrin, G. J. (2016, January 21). Personal history with street gangs sparks U. of I. graduate student’s research. Interviewer Sharita Forrest with the Illinois News Bureau. Retrieved from <https://news.illinois.edu/blog/view/6367/314207>

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Society for Prevention Research (SPR)  
 Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA)  
 Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)

## **UNIVERSITY/PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Member - STEM Center for Outreach, Research & Education ([STEM CORE](#))  
 Diversity Scholars Network ([DNS](#))

## **PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**

SPR 2019 – 2020 Code of Conduct Policy Task Force  
 AERA 2016 – 2018 Social Justice and Action Committee: Student Representative  
 AERA 2016 – 2017 Graduate Student Council: Past Chair  
 AERA 2015 – 2016 AERA Council: Student Representative  
 AERA 2015 – 2016 Graduate Student Council: Chair  
 AERA 2014 – 2015 Graduate Student Council: Chair-Elect  
 AERA 2013 – 2014 Division E: Webmaster

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

*Texas Tech University*  
 Graduate Student Award Committee (2021)  
 Methods Qualifying Exam Committee (2020 – 2021)

Interview Committee for the Human Development and Family Studies Ambassadors (2019 – 2020)

*University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

College of Education Diversity Committee

- Student representative (2013-2014)

Department of Educational Psychology Child Development Search Committee

- Student representative (2013-2014)

Department of Educational Psychology Executive Committee

- Student representative (2012-2013)

## **OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT**

- Texas Tech University Community Advocacy Project for Students (2019 – Present)
  - Student Advocate
- Champaign County Juvenile Detention Center (2015 – 2017)
  - Adolescence Advocate
- UP Center of Champaign County (2015 – 2017)
  - Board Member
- Danville, Illinois Public Schools (2015 – 2017)
  - Building a Restorative Justice System within a local High School

## **THESIS & DISSERTATION COMMITTEE MEMBER**

*Completed*

9/2019 Bethany Phelps, Human Development and Family Sciences, Texas Tech University (Chair: Malinda Colwell) (M.S.)

9/2017 Omolola A. Odejimi, Educational Psychology, Texas Tech University (Chair: Todd Little) (Ph.D.)

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

2020 – Present Prevention Science

2020 – Present Psychology of Violence

## **AD HOC REVIEWER - (63 peer reviews completed - [Publons](#) Profile)**

•Addiction •American Journal of Criminal Justice •American Journal of Epidemiology •American Journal of Preventive Medicine •Applied Developmental Psychology •Drug and Alcohol Dependence •JAMA Open Network •Journal of Affective Disorders •Journal of Child and Adolescent Substance Abuse •Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry •Journal of Family Violence •Journal of Orthopsychiatry •Journal of Quantitative Criminology •Journal of Sexual Abuse •Prevention Science •Psychology of Violence •Rural Sociology •Substance Use and Misuse •Violence and Gender

## **STATISTICAL CONSULTING**

Committee for Children (Seattle, Washington) - Evaluation of Second Step Program (2018 – 2020)

Vancouver Island Health Authority (British Columbia, Canada) - Evaluation of health service utilization for patients with substance use and mental health issues. (2017 – 2019)

Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation (Short Hills, New Jersey) - Evaluation of disability programming (2018 – 2019)

