

# XIAORAN SUN

Postdoctoral Scholar (09/2019 – present)

Departments of Pediatrics & Communication, Stanford University

Stanford Data Science Institute

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## EDUCATION

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- 08/2019 Ph.D., Human Development and Family Studies, the Pennsylvania State University  
Graduate Minor in Social Data Analytics
- 12/2016 M.S., Human Development and Family Studies, the Pennsylvania State University
- 07/2015 B.S., Psychology, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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- 2020 – present Scholarship, Stanford Data Science Scholars Program
- 2017 – 2018 Traineeship, Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training – Big Data Social Science (BDSS-IGERT) Training Program, National Science Foundation (Grant DGE-1144860)
- 2015 – 2016 University Graduate Fellowship, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2015 – 2019 Morningside Cultural China Scholarship for Alumni Studying Abroad, Zhejiang University
- 2015 Outstanding Graduate of Zhejiang Province (3.5% of 284,307 college graduates), Ministry of Education of Zhejiang Province, China
- 2014 Li & Fung Scholarship, University of Hong Kong
- 2013 Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship (First-class), Zhejiang University
- 2012 National Academic Scholarship, Ministry of Education of P. R. China

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Adolescent and young adult well-being;  
Family dynamics; contexts around families (technology, family members' work experiences, sociocultural context);  
Innovative statistical and computational methods for studying family and youth development

## SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

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### *Manuscripts Published*

- Sun, X.**, McHale, S. M., & Crouter, A. C. (2020). Perceived underemployment and couple relationships among African American parents: A dyadic approach. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, 26, 82-92. (Media mentions: [APA spotlight](#), [Penn State News](#))
- Skinner, O. D., **Sun, X.**, & McHale, S. M. (2020). Longitudinal links between expressivity and African American parent-adolescent relationships: A dyadic approach. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 29, 442-454.
- Jenkins, A. I. C., Fredman, S. J., Le, Y., **Sun, X.**, Brick, T. R., Skinner, O. D., & McHale, S. M. (2020). Prospective associations between depressive symptoms and marital satisfaction in Black couples. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 34, 12-23.
- Sun, X.**, McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2019). Sibling experiences in middle childhood predict sibling differences in college graduation. *Child Development*, 90, 25-34. (Media mentions: [NICHD](#), [ScienceDaily](#), [Penn State News](#), [The University Network](#), [MedicalResearch](#), [知识分子](#))
- Sun, X.**, McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2019). Sibling dynamics in adolescence predict young adult orientations to couple relationships: A dyadic approach. *Journal of Adolescence*, 77, 129-138.
- Lawson, K. M., **Sun, X.**, & McHale, S. M. (2019). Family-friendly for her, longer hours for him: Actor-partner model linking work-family environment to work-family interference. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 33, 444-452.

Sun, X., McHale, S. M., Crouter, A. C., & Jones, D. E. (2017). Longitudinal links between work experiences and marital satisfaction in African American dual-earner couples. *Journal of Family Psychology, 31* (Special Issue: *Advances in Methods and Measurement in Family Psychology*), 1029-1039.

Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2017). Maternal and paternal resources across childhood and adolescence as predictors of young adult achievement. *Journal of Vocational Behavior, 100*, 111-123.

#### **Chapter Published**

Sun, X.\* & McMillan, C.\* (2018). The interplay between families and technology: Directions for future investigation. In J. Van Hook, S. McHale, & V. King (Eds). *Families and technology*, New York: Springer. (\*Equal contributions)

#### **Manuscripts Under Review**

Sun, X., Ram, N., & McHale, S. M. (accepted with minor revision). *Adolescent family experiences predict young adult educational attainment: A data-based cross-study synthesis with machine learning*.

Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (under review). *Career adaptivity mediates longitudinal links between parent-adolescent relationships and young adult occupational attainment*

Sun, X., McHale, S. M., Updegraff, K. A., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. (under review). *Implications of Mexican-origin youth's work experiences for relationships with fathers*.

#### **PRESENTATIONS AT SCHOLARLY MEETINGS**

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##### **Talk**

Sun, X. (2018, December). *Sibling Dynamics on Social Media: Applying Big Data to Family Studies*. Invited talk at College of Education, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China.

##### **Conference Symposia**

Sun, X. (2019, November). *How Families Help Youth to Flourish: The Role of Family Dynamics in Adolescent and Young Adult Positive Well-Being*. Symposium chaired at the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.

Sun, X. (2019, March). *Leveraging Machine Learning Methods for Research on Child Development in the Big Data Era*. Symposium chaired at the Biennial Meeting of Society for Research on Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Sun, X. (2018, June). *Sociocultural Contexts of the Work-Family Interface: A Call to Identify Resiliency Factors*. Symposium chaired at the Biennial Meeting of Work and Family Researchers Network, Washington, D.C.

Sun, X. (2018, April). *The Role of Family in Adolescent and Young Adult Romantic and Sexual Relationships: A Call for Systems Research*. Symposium chaired at the Biennial Meeting of Society on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN

##### **Paper Presentations**

Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2019, November). *Career adaptivity mediates longitudinal links between parent-adolescent relationships and young adult occupational attainment*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.

Sun, X., McHale, S. M., Updegraff, K. A., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. (2019, November). *Implications of Mexican-origin youth's work experiences for relationships with fathers*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.

Sun, X., & Ram, N. (2019, March). *Family experiences in adolescence predict young adult educational attainment: A machine learning approach*. Paper presented at Biennial Meeting of Society for Research on Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Sun, X., Chi, G., Yin, J., & McHale, S. M. (2018, October). *Sibling interactions and shared interests on Twitter: Analyses of a selected sibling sample based on archived Twitter data*. Paper presented at SRCD Special Topics: Conference on the Use of Secondary and Open Source Data in Developmental Science, Phoenix, AZ.

- Sun, X.,** McHale, S. M., & Crouter, A. C. (2018, June). *Perceived underemployment among African American spouses: Implications for couple relationships*. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of Work and Family Researchers Network, Washington, D.C.
- Lawson, K. M., **Sun, X.,** & McHale, S. M. (2018, June). *The associations between wives' and husbands' work-family environment and work-family spillover: Actor-Partner Interdependence Models*. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of Work and Family Researchers Network, Washington, D.C.
- Sun, X.,** & McHale, S. M. (2018, April). *Sibling dynamics in adolescence predict young adult orientations to couple relationships: A dyadic approach*. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of Society on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN
- Sun, X.,** McHale, S. M., Crouter, A. C., & Jones, D. E. (2017, November). *Longitudinal links between work experiences and marital satisfaction among African American dual-earner couples*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL.
- Sun, X.,** McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2017, November). *Early parental resources predict young adult achievement*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL.
- Padilla, J. & **Sun, X.** (2017, November). *Links between siblings' gender-typed characteristics and sibling relationship qualities*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL.
- Sun, X.,** McHale, S. M., Updegraff, K. A., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. (2017, May). *Sleep duration predicts time spent on homework among Mexican-American adolescents: A daily diary study*. Paper presented at the Pennsylvania State University Mini-Conference on Multivariate/Longitudinal Methods. University Park, PA.

#### **Poster Presentations**

- Sun, X.,** McHale, S. M., Updegraff, K. A., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. (2018, April). *Time spent on homework among Mexican American adolescents: Contextual correlates and implications for achievement*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of Society on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN
- Sun, X.,** McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2017, April). *Sibling experiences in middle childhood: Implications for sibling differences in college graduation*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of Society for Research on Child Development, Austin, TX.
- Mayfield, K., **Sun, X.,** & McHale, S. M. (2016, October). *Correlates of fathers' and mothers' coparenting in African American families*. Poster presented at the special topics meeting, Babies, Boys, and Men of Color, Society for Research on Child Development, Tampa, FL.
- Sun, X.,** Kim, J. J., Fung, J. J., Park, H. & Lau, A. S. (2014, September). *Mothers' and children's implicit theories of intelligence: Implications for child mental health in Hong Kong families*. Poster presented at the Final Presentation Symposium for UCLA Cross-disciplinary Scholars for Science and Technology, Los Angeles, CA.

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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*The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Human Development and Family Studies*

##### **Instructor**

Summer 2019      HDFS 129: Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies (24 students)

##### **Guest Lecturer**

Spring 2017      HDFS 433: Developmental Transition to Adulthood  
                          "Family as a context of young adult career development"

##### **Teaching Assistant**

Spring 2019      HDFS 129: Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies (657 students)  
 Spring 2017      HDFS 249: Adult Development and Aging (60 students)

## SKILLS

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Proficient in R, Python, SAS, Linux, SPSS, and Mplus  
 Proficient in machine learning methods (Python Scikit-Learn, TensorFlow), structural equation modeling, multilevel modeling, mixture models, and text analysis ('nltk')  
 Proficient with text mining using Twitter Application-Programming Interface  
 Proficient with MS Office and Adobe Premiere  
 Proficient in structured interviews, behavioral experiments, and observational coding

## OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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- 2020 Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Journal of Adolescence*  
 Panel Reviewer, *Society of Research on Adolescence*  
 2019 Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, *Developmental Psychology*, *Journal of Family Studies*  
 Panel Reviewer, *National Council on Family Relations* (2019)  
 Co-reviewer, with Susan M. McHale, Ph.D., *Journal of Family Psychology* (2019)  
 2017 Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Journal of Family Psychology* (2017)  
 Co-reviewer, with Susan M. McHale, Ph.D., *Journal of Marriage and Family* (2017)

## NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS AND TALKS

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- Sun, X. (2020, February). "Why is he not texting me back?" How smartphones influence intimate relationships. [in Chinese; "[他为什么总不回我信息?] 手机如何影响亲密关系"] *Ms. Muses, WeChat*, 2593 views.  
 Sun, X. (2018, December). Growing up in the same family, why siblings can become so different? [in Chinese; "同一屋檐下, 兄弟姐妹为何成为不同的人"] *Ms. Muses, WeChat*, 2178 views.  
 Sun, X. (2017, December). "[How to improve your children's academic performances? Perspectives from developmental psychology.](#)" [in Chinese] Invited online parenting workshop by UltraBear Education, Inc., 3031 views.  
 Padilla, J., & Sun, X. (2017, April). "Sibling Relationships in Childhood and Adolescence" The 93rd Annual Pennsylvania Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (PAFCS) Conference, State College, PA.  
 Sun, X. (2017, February). Is a "Churning" Relationship True Love? [in Chinese; "分分合合" 的感情才是真爱吗? ] *Ms. Muses, WeChat*. 2916 views.

## DEPARTMENT SERVICE

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*The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Human Development and Family Studies*  
 08/2018 – 05/2019 Graduate Student Representative to Faculty Meetings  
 08/2017 – 05/2018 Student Advisor

## OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

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- Fall 2014 **Counseling Practicum**, Hangzhou No. 7 People's [Psychiatric] Hospital, Hangzhou, China  
 (Supervisor: Yan Yin, MD)  
 Interviewed patients with obsessive-compulsive disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia  
 2012 – 2015 **Morningside Cultural China Scholars Program**, Zhejiang University  
 Organized Cultural China Annual Forum  
 Interviewed world-renowned leaders in politics, business, and humanities  
 Studied Chinese classical literature on history, Confucianism, and Taoism