Curriculum Vitae

**RYON J. COBB, PH.D.**

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| Rutgers School of Social Work | Office Phone: 213.373.4553 |
| 120 Albany St, | Email: Ryon.Cobb@rutgers.edu |
| New Brunswick, NJ 08901 | ORCID: 0000-0002-1775-4621 |

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| **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS** | |
| 2022– | (Incoming) Assistant Professor of Social Work |
|  | Chancellor’s Scholar for Inclusive Excellence in Research on Black Americans |
|  | Rutgers University, New Brunswick |
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| 2020–2022 | Assistant Professor of Sociology |
|  | University of Georgia |
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| 2018–2020 | Assistant Professor of Social Work |
|  | University of Texas, Arlington |
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| **EDUCATION** |  |
| 2013 | **Ph.D.,** Sociology |
|  | Florida State University |
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| 2003 | **B.A.,** Secondary Education |
|  | Indiana University, Bloomington |

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| **TRAINING** |  |
| 2021–present | **KL2 Scholar**, Clinical and Translational Research Scholars Program |
|  | Georgia Clinical and Translational Science Association |
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| 2015–2018 | **Postdoctoral Trainee,** Center of Biodemography and Social Biology |
|  | University of Southern California |
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| 2013–2015 | **Postdoctoral Scholar**, Roybal Institute on Aging |
|  | University of Southern California |

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| **PUBLICATIONS** |
| H-Index: 11; Number of times cited: 412; \*Indicates current or student/postdoc collaborator at the time of publication |
| **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles** |
| 1. Irizarry, Y, Monk, E.P., & **Cobb, R.J.** (Accepted**)** Race-Shifting in the United States: Latinxs, Skin Tone, and Ethnoracial Alignments. *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 2. Erving, C.L., **Cobb, R.J.**, & Sheehan, C.M. (2022). Attributions for Everyday Discrimination and All-Cause Mortality Risk Among Older Black Women: A Latent Class Analysis Approach. *The Gerontologist*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnac080> |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Rodriguez, V.J.,\* Brown, T.H., Louie, P., Farmer, H.R., Sheehan, C.M., ... and Thorpe Jr, R.J. (2022). Attribution for Everyday Discrimination Typologies and Mortality Risk Among Older Black Adults. *Social Science & Medicine*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2022.115166> |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Sheehan, C.M., Nguyen, A.W., & Johnson, D. (2022). COVID-19 hardships and self-reported sleep quality among American adults in March and April 2020: Results from a nationally representative panel study. *Sleep Health*. DOI: [10.1016/j.sleh.2022.01.001](http://doi.org/10.1016/j.sleh.2022.01.001) |
| 1. Hamler, T.C.,\* Nguyen, A.W., Mouzon, D.M., Taylor, H.O., Qin, W., & **Cobb, R.J.** (2022). COVID-19 and Psychological Distress: Racial Differences Among Middle-Aged and Older Adults. *The Gerontologist*. DOI: [10.1093/geront/gnac043](http://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnac043) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Sheehan, C.M., Louie, P., & Erving, C.L. (2022). Multiple Reasons for Perceived Everyday Discrimination and All-Cause Mortality Risk Among Older Black Adults. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series A*, *77*(2), 310-314. DOI: [10.1093/gerona/glab281](http://doi.org/10.1093/gerona/glab281) |
| 1. Hanus, S.L., Simons,\* L.G., Lei, M. -K., **Cobb, R.J.**, & Simons, R.L. (2022). Romantic Relationship Status, Quality, and Depressive Symptoms Among Middle-Aged and Older Black Women. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*. DOI: [10.1093/geronb/gbac016](http://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbac016) |
| 1. Nguyen, A.W., Miller, D., Bubu, O.M., Taylor, H.O.,**\*** **Cobb, R.J.**, Trammell, A. R., & Mitchell, U. A. (2022). Discrimination and Hypertension Among Older African Americans and Caribbean Blacks: The Moderating Effects of John Henryism. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*. DOI: [10.1093/geronb/gbab215](http://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbab215) |
| 1. Perry, S. L., **Cobb, R.J.**, Whitehead, A. L., & Grubbs, J. B. (2022). Divided by Faith (in Christian America): Christian Nationalism, Race, and Divergent Perceptions of Racial Injustice. *Social Forces*. DOI: [10.1093/sf/soab134](http://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soab134) |
| 1. Assari, S., Boyce, S., Mistry, R., Thomas, A., Nicholson, H. L., **Cobb, R.J.**, . . . Zimmerman, M. A. (2021). Parents’ Perceived Neighborhood Safety and Children’s Cognitive Performance: Complexities by Race, Ethnicity, and Cognitive Domain. *Urban Science*, *5*(2), 46. DOI: [10.3390/urbansci5020046](http://doi.org/10.3390/urbansci5020046) |
| 1. Erving, C.L., & **Cobb, R.J.** (2021). Neighborhood Social Group Participation and Depressive Symptoms Among Mid-to-Late Life Black Americans: Does the Association Differ by Ethnicity?. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, *23*(3), 478-486. DOI: [10.1007/s10903-020-01070-x](http://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-020-01070-x) |
| 1. Assari, S., Boyce, S., Bazargan, M., Thomas, A., **Cobb, R.J.**, Hudson, D., . . . Zimmerman, M. A. (2021). Parental Educational Attainment, the Superior Temporal Cortical Surface Area, and Reading Ability among American Children: A Test of Marginalization-Related Diminished Returns. *Children*, *8*(5), 412. DOI: [10.3390/children8050412](http://doi.org/10.3390/children8050412) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Erving, C.L., & Carson Byrd, W. (2021). Perceived COVID-19 health threat increases psychological distress among Black Americans. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *44*(5), 806-818. DOI: [10.1080/01419870.2021.1867216](http://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2021.1867216) |
| 1. Stewart, Q.T., **Cobb, R.J.**, & Keith, V.M. (2020). The color of death: race, observed skin tone, and all-cause mortality in the United States. *Ethnicity &amp; Health*, *25*(7), 1018-1040. DOI: [10.1080/13557858.2018.1469735](http://doi.org/10.1080/13557858.2018.1469735) |
| 1. Thorpe, R.J., **Cobb, R.**, King, K., Bruce, M. A., Archibald, P., Jones, H. P., . . . Hudson, D. (2020). The Association Between Depressive Symptoms and Accumulation of Stress Among Black Men in the Health and Retirement Study. *Innovation in Aging*, *4*(5). DOI: [10.1093/geroni/igaa047](http://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igaa047) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Thorpe, R.J., & Norris, K.C. (2020). Everyday Discrimination and Kidney Function Among Older Adults: Evidence From the Health and Retirement Study. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series A*, *75*(3), 517-521. DOI: [10.1093/gerona/glz294](http://doi.org/10.1093/gerona/glz294) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Parker, L.J., & Thorpe, R.J. (2020). Self-reported Instances of Major Discrimination, Race/Ethnicity, and Inflammation Among Older Adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. *Journals Of Gerontology Series A-Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences*, *75*(2), 291-296. DOI: [10.1093/gerona/gly267](http://doi.org/10.1093/gerona/gly267) |
| 1. Nguyen, A. W., Hamler, T. C., & **Cobb, R.J.** (2018). Discrimination and Chronic Kidney Disease among Caribbean Blacks: The Effects of Immigration and Social Status. *Race and Social Problems*, *10*(3), 248-258. DOI: [10.1007/s12552-018-9234-4](http://doi.org/10.1007/s12552-018-9234-4) |
| 1. Shelton, J.E., & **Cobb, R.J.** (2017). Black Reltrad: Measuring Religious Diversity and Commonality Among African Americans. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *56*(4), 737-764. DOI: [10.1111/jssr.12378](http://doi.org/10.1111/jssr.12378) |
| 1. Thorpe, R.J., Parker, L. J., **Cobb, R.J.,** Dillard, F., & Bowie, J. (2017). Association between discrimination and obesity in African-American men. *Biodemography and Social Biology*, *63*(3), 253-261. DOI: [10.1080/19485565.2017.1353406](http://doi.org/10.1080/19485565.2017.1353406) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Üsküp, D.K., & Jefferson, S.T. (2017). Congregational Composition and Explanations for Racial Inequality Among Black Religious Affiliates. *Race and Social Problems*, *9*(2), 163-169. DOI: [10.1007/s12552-017-9208-y](http://doi.org/10.1007/s12552-017-9208-y) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Thomas, C.S., Laster Pirtle, W.N., & Darity, W. A. (2016). Self-identified race, socially assigned skin tone, and adult physiological dysregulation: Assessing multiple dimensions of “race” in health disparities research. *SSM - Population Health*, *2*, 595-602. DOI: [10.1016/j.ssmph.2016.06.007](http://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2016.06.007) |
| 1. Park, J.Z., Martinez, B. C., **Cobb, R.**, Park, J.J., & Wong, E.R. (2015). Exceptional Outgroup Stereotypes and White Racial Inequality Attitudes toward Asian Americans. *Social Psychology Quarterly*, *78*(4), 399-411. DOI: [10.1177/0190272515606433](http://doi.org/10.1177/0190272515606433) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.**, Dougherty, K., Park, J., & Perry, S. (2015). Congregational Size and Attitudes towards Racial Inequality among Church Attendees in America. *Religions*, *6*(3), 781-793. DOI: [10.3390/rel6030781](http://doi.org/10.3390/rel6030781) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Perry, S. L., & Dougherty, K. D. (2015). United by Faith? Race/Ethnicity, Congregational Diversity, and Explanations of Racial Inequality. *Sociology of Religion*, *76*(2), 177-198. DOI: [10.1093/socrel/sru067](http://doi.org/10.1093/socrel/sru067) |
| 1. Tope, D., Pickett, J.T., **Cobb, R.J.**, & Dirlam, J. (2014). Othering Obama. *Sociological Perspectives*, *57*(4), 450-469. DOI: [10.1177/0731121414536140](http://doi.org/10.1177/0731121414536140) |
| **Other Publications** |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.** (2013). Still Divided by Faith? Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America, 1977–2010. In J. R. Hawkins (Ed.), *Christians and the Color Line* (pp. 128–139). Oxford University Press. [DOI: 10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199329502.003.0006](https://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199329502.003.0006) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.**, (2013). The Commercial Church: Black Churches and the New Religious Marketplace in America. *Black Theology*. DOI: 10.5860/CHOICE.49-2613 |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.** (2013). American Religion: Contemporary Trends. By Mark Chaves. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2011. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *52*(3), 648–649. DOI: 10.1111/jssr.12054 |
| 1. Hill, T.D.,& **Cobb, R.J.** (2011)**.** Religious Involvement and Religious Struggles. In *Toward a sociological theory of religion and health* (pp. 239-260). Brill. DOI: [10.1163/ej.9789004205970.i-277.68](https://doi.org/10.1163/ej.9789004205970.i-277.68) |
| 1. **Cobb, R.J.** (2010). Watch This! The Ethics and Aesthetics of Black Televangelism by Jonathan L. Walton. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *49*(4), 772–774. DOI: 10.1111/j.1468-5906.2010.01546\_2.x |
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| **EXTRAMURAL FUNDING** | |  |
| **Ongoing Research Support** | |  |
| Dates: | August 1st,2021–June 30th, 2022 |  |
| Investigator: | PI: **Cobb, R.J.** |  |
| Title: | Gene-Environment Interaction in Renal Aging Among Older Blacks and Whites | |
| Agency: | Georgia Clinical and Translational Science Association | |
| Amount: | $147,108 |  |
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| Dates: | July 1st,2021–present |  |
| Investigator: | PI: Thumma, S.; **Cobb, R.J.** (Regional Advisor) |  |
| Title: | Exploring the Pandemic Impact on Congregations |  |
| Agency: | The Lilly Endowment |  |
| Amount: | $5,4000,000 |  |
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| Dates: | July 1st,2021–present |  |
| Investigator: | PI: **Cobb, R.J.** |  |
| Title: | Early Life Adversity, Perceived Control, and Renal Aging Among Older Blacks | |
| Agency: | Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research | |
| Amount: | $27,000 |  |
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| Dates: | November 1st, 2020–present |  |
| Investigator: | PI: **Cobb, R.J.** |  |
| Title: | Childhood stressors, cardiometabolic risk, and kidney function decline among older Whites, Blacks, and Latinos | |
| Agency: | Program to Increase Diversity in Behavioral Medicine and Sleep Disorders Research | |
| Amount: | $10,400 |  |
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| **Completed Projects** | |  |
| Dates: | August 1st, 2019–July 31st, 2021 |  |
| Investigator: | PI: **Cobb, R.J.** |  |
| Title: | Race/Ethnicity, SES, and Age-Related Kidney Function Decline in Late Life |  |
| Agency: | Division of Loan Repayment; National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities | |
| Amount: | $60,000 |  |
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| Dates: | August 1st, 2014–July 13st, 2015 |  |
| Investigator: | PI: **Cobb, R.J.** |  |
| Title: | Health Shocks and Health Behavior Change |  |
| Agency: | Minority Aging Health Economics Research Center | |
| Amount: | $20,000 |  |

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| **AWARDS, HONORS, AND RECOGNITION** | |
| 2020 | Editor’s Choice Designation, *Journals of Gerontology: Series A* |
| 2018–2020 | Early Career Fellow, Congruent Mentorship to Reach Academic Diversity in Neuroscience Research Program, New York University |
| 2016–2018 | Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research Postdoctoral Fellowship, National Institute on Aging |
| 2015–2016 | Post-doctoral Traineeship, National Institute on Aging T32 Multidisciplinary Research Training in Gerontology Program, Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California |
| 2013 | Diversity Scholar Citation, National Center for Institutional Diversity, University of Michigan |
| 2012 | Dissertation Fellow, Louisville Institute |
| 2012 | Alternate, Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship |
| 2012 | Graduate Student Teaching Award, Florida State University |
| 2011 | Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research Dissertation Award, National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities |
| 2011 | Summer Research Fellow, John Templeton Foundation |
| 2010 | Summer Research Fellow, Eli Lilly Foundation |
| 2008–2011 | Predoctoral Fellow, Ford Foundation Fellowship |

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| **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & EXPERIENCE** | |
| 2016 | Butler-Williams Scholars Program, National Institute on Aging |
| 2016 | Structural Equation Modeling Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research |
|  | University of Michigan |
| 2016 | Grantwriting Uncovered: Maximizing Strategies, Help, Opportunity, Experience Program, National Research Mentoring Network |
| 2015 | New Connections Symposium, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation |
| 2014 | University of Michigan |
| 2013 | Summer Institute on Aging, RAND Corporation |
| 2012 | Summer Research Workshop on Spirituality and Health, Duke University |
| 2012/6 | Summer Training Workshop, African American Aging Research, Program for Research on Black Americans, and Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research |
| 2011 | Summer Training Workshop, Congregations and Social Change Calvin College |
| 2010 | Summer Training Workshop, The Power of Race in American Religion, Calvin College |
| 2009 | Summer Training Workshop, Hierarchical Linear Modeling Scientific Software Institute |

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| **SELECTED CONFERENCES** | |
| 2019 | Nguyen, A.W., Hamler, T.C., \* & **Cobb, R.J.** “Discrimination and Chronic Kidney Disease among Caribbean Blacks: The Effects of Immigration and Social Status.” *Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research* |
| 2019 | **Cobb, R.J.**, Thorpe Jr, R.J., and Norris, K.C. “Race, Age, and Kidney Function Decline: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study.” *Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America* |
| 2019 | **Cobb, R.J.,** Sheehan, C.M., Louie, P., & Erving, C.L. “Perceived Mistreatment and All-Cause Mortality Among Older Adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study.” *Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America* |
| 2017 | **Cobb, R.J.**, Thorpe Jr, “Everyday Discrimination and Blood Pressure Among Older Hypertensive Adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study.” *International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics* |
| 2016 | **Cobb, R.J.**, Ailshire, J.A., and Crimmins, E.M. “Education and Smoking Cessation Among Survivors of a Recent Health Shock in Middle and Later Life: The Moderating Effect of Race/Ethnicity.” *Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America* |
| 2016 | **Cobb, R.J.** “Perceived Skin Tone and Skin Tone Discrimination Among African Americans: Evidence from the National Survey of American Life.” *International Stress Conference* |
| 2016 | **Cobb, R.J.**, Ailshire, J.A., and Crimmins, E.M. “Race/Ethnicity & Smoking Cessation Among Survivors of a Recent Health Shock in Middle and Later Life: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study.” *Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America* |
| 2015 | **Cobb, R.J.**, Perry, S.L., & Dougherty, K.D. “Race, Religion, and Understanding Racial Inequality in the United States.” *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association* |
| 2014 | **Cobb, R.J.**, Perry, S.L., & Dougherty, K.D. “United by Faith? Race/Ethnicity, Congregational Diversity, and Explanations of Racial Inequality.” *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association* |
| 2013 | **Cobb, R.J.**, Dougherty, K., Park, J., & Perry, S. “Congregational Size and Attitudes towards Racial Inequality among Church Attendees in America.” *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association* |

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| **INVITED TALKS AND SYMPOSIA** | |
| 2019 | Panelist, Funding Opportunities for Early-Career Scholars in the Social Sciences, Annual Conference of Ford Fellows |
| 2019 | Presenter,Perceived Discrimination and Health Among Older Adults, Annual Meeting for the Gerontological Society of America |
| 2018 | Religion and Racial Inequality Among Black Millennials, gOD-Talk: A Black Millennials and Faith Conversation, Smithsonian Institute |
| 2016 | Unpacking Racial Health Disparities: Towards a Biopsychosocial Model of Health Disparities. Program for Research on Black Americans, University of Michigan |
| 2016 | Psychosocial Stressors, Race/Ethnicity, and Biological Risk: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. Department of Sociology, University of Houston |
| 2011 | Presenter, Divided by Faith: Race, Evangelicalism, and Beliefs about Racial Inequality, Department of Sociology both are USC Baylor University |

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| **TEACHING EXPERIENCE** | |
| University of Georgia | |
|  | SOCI 34580: Topics in African American Sociology and Health |
|  | SOCI 4650: Sociology of Aging |
| University of Texas at Arlington | |
|  | SOCW 2302: Life Span Development and Human Behavior |
|  | SOCW 4335: Aging in the American Society |
| University of Southern California | |
|  | SOC S225: Sociology of Health on the Body |
|  | SOC S475: Medical Sociology |
|  | GERO 585: The Aging Family |
| Florida State University | |
|  | SYD 4700: Race and Minority Relations |
|  | SYA 4300: Methods of Social Research |

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| **ACADEMIC SERVICE** | |
| Editorial Boards |  |
| 2020–present | Review for Religious Research |
| 2020–2021 | Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences |
| 2018–2021 | Social Problems |
| Conference Organizing | |
| 2022 | Conference Co-Organizer, Annual Meeting of the Ford Foundation Fellows Conference |
| 2019 | Conference Co-Organizer, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion |

Service to the Discipline

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| 2019 | Invited Panelist, Finding and Getting the Most Out of Your Postdoctoral Fellowship Experience, Gerontological Society of America |
| 2015 | Member, Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, Section on Racial & Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association |
| 2014 | Member, Distinguished Article Award Committee, Section on Religion, American Sociological Association |
| 2013 | Member, Membership Committee, Association for the Sociology of Religion |
| 2013 | Member, Nominations Committee, Section on Racial & Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association |
| 2013 | Student Representative, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Membership and Outreach Committee |
| 2013 | Student Representative, Membership and Outreach Committee, Society for the Study of Social Problems |
| 2013 | Member, James E. Blackwell Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, Section on Race and Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association |
| 2012 | Member, Committee on Committees, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association |
| 2012 | Member, Founder's Award for Scholarship & Service Committee, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association |
| 2011 | Invited Panelist, Academic Networking for Underrepresented Scholars/Scholars of Color, Ford Foundation and National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine |
| 2010 | Invited Panelist, Honors Program Roundtable Discussions, American Sociological Association |
| 2010 | Conference Advisor, Divided by Faith: A Retrospective Conference, Indiana Wesleyan University |

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| **REVIEWING ACTIVITIES** | |  |
|  | American Sociological Review | Journal of Gerontology: Medical Science |
|  | Ethnic and Racial Studies | Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences |
|  | Innovation on Aging | Social Forces |
|  | Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion | Social Problems |
|  | Journal of Affective Disorders | Sociological Forum |
|  | Journal of Community Psychology | Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review |

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| **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS** | |
|  | American Sociological Association |
|  | *Sections: Aging & Life Course, Racial & Ethnic Minorities, Religion, Medical Sociology* |
|  | Association of Black Sociologists |
|  | Gerontological Society of America |
|  | Population Association of America |
|  | Society for the Scientific Study of Religion |
|  | Society for the Study of Social Problems |
|  | Society for Social Work Research |