

ABIGAIL WILLIAMS-BUTLER

aw643@rutgers.edu

Curriculum Vitae

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
390 George St.
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(848) 932-9326

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

7/18 – Present Assistant Professor
Child Welfare and Well-Being Research Unit
School of Social Work
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ

11/16 – 6/18 Postdoctoral Associate
Child Welfare and Well-Being Research Unit
School of Social Work
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

5/20 – Present Faculty Affiliate
Child and Adolescent Data Lab
School of Social Work
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

EDUCATION

PhD May 2017
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan
School of Social Work and Department of Psychology

MS May 2013
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Department of Psychology

MSW August 2010
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois
School of Social Work

BA May 2008
Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois
Department of Psychology

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2019 Program for Early Career Excellence Mini Grant, \$300
Fellow, Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network Summer Research Institute
NICHD Summer Training Institute for Early Careers Scholars on Child Abuse and Neglect
- 2018 National Institute of Mental Health New Investigator Award
- 2017 NRMN-CAN Grant Writing and Professional Development Conference
National Archive of Criminal Justice Data Workshop Travel Stipend, \$1250
Perspectives on Social Work Journal Best Reviewer of 2016
- 2016 Bobbe and Jon Bridge Award for Engaged Scholarship, \$3,222
- 2015 German Centre of Gerontology Speaker Honorarium, €250
John W. Holmes Award, \$10,000
Doctoral Scholarship for Underrepresented Students, \$1,000
- 2014 Shapiro/Malik/Forrest Award, \$2,000
Travel Award for the Biennial Division 45 Research Conference, \$500
Internationalizing the Doctoral Program: Poverty Alleviation in Quito, Ecuador
- 2013 The LIFE Course: Evolutionary and Ontogenetic Dynamics Fellow
Vivian A. and James L. Curtis Endowed Scholarship, \$18,000
- 2011 Travel Award for SSWR Conference, \$400
- 2010 Field Placement Tuition Waiver, \$10,000
- 2009 Alpha Delta Mu National Social Work Honor Society

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

*Denotes a student or trainee at the time of the work

Peer Reviewed Manuscripts

Williams-Butler, A., Duron, J., Costantino, A.*, & Schmidt, A. (In Press). Relational permanence and delinquency among African American adolescents in foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review*.

Bosk, E.A., **Williams-Butler, A.**, & Ruisard, D., & MacKenzie, M. (In Press). Frontline staff characteristics and capacity for trauma-informed care: Implications for the child welfare workforce. *Child Abuse & Neglect*.

Hong, J., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Garthe, R., Kim, J.*, & Voisin, D. (2020). Relationship between coping strategies and peer victimization among low-income African American youth living in Chicago. *Child and Youth Care Forum*, 49(2), 287-302.

Williams-Butler, A., Gale, A., & Dorsey, M. (2019). Gender differences among Black adolescents in foster care: The relationship between relational permanence and psychological well-being. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*. Doi.org/10.1080/15548732.2019.1636922.

Greenfield, B.*, **Williams-Butler, A.**, Fay, K. P.*, Duron, J. F., Bosk, E. A., Stepleton, K.*, & Mackenzie, M. J. (2019). Maternal Adverse Childhood Experiences, current cumulative risk, and

behavioral dysregulation among child welfare involved children. *Developmental Child Welfare*, 1(4), 327–343.

Williams-Butler, A. (2018). Reducing delinquency among African American youth in foster care: Does gender make a difference in crossover prevention? *Children and Youth Services Review*, 94, 563-571.

Williams-Butler, A., Ryan, J. P., McLoyd, V. C., Schulenberg, J. E., & Davis-Kean, P. E. (2018). Psychological well-being among African American adolescents in foster care: The role of relational permanence. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 27(10), 3277-3287.

Williams, A. B., Ryan, J. P., Davis-Kean, P. E., McLoyd, V. C., & Schulenberg, J. E. (2017). The discontinuity of offending in African-American youth in the juvenile justice system. *Youth & Society*, 49, 610-633.

Ryan, J. P., **Williams, A. B.**, & Courtney, M. E. (2013). Adolescent neglect, juvenile delinquency, and the risk of recidivism. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 42, 454-465.

Patton, D.U., Hong, J. S., **Williams, A. B.** & Allen-Meares, P. (2013). A review of research on school bullying among African American youth: An ecological systems analysis. *Educational Psychology Review*, 25, 245-260.

Algood, C. L., Hong, J. S., Gourdine, R. M., & **Williams, A. B.** (2011). Maltreatment of children with developmental disabilities: An ecological systems analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 33, 1142-1148.

Manuscripts Under Review

Duron, J.F., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Schmidt, A., & Colon, L. (Revise & Resubmit). Mentors' experiences of mentoring justice-involved adolescents: A narrative of developing connection despite differences. *Journal of Community Psychology*.

Dorsey, M., **Williams-Butler, A.**, & Howell, T. H. (Revise & Resubmit). Black adolescent female experiences navigating gender-based violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

Williams-Butler, A., Golden, K.*, Mendez, A.*, Stevens, B.* (Under Review). Intersectionality and child welfare policy: Implications for Black women, children and families. *Child Welfare*.

Bosk, E. A., Li, W., Folk, J.B., & **Williams-Butler, A.** (Under Review). All in the family: Parental misuse, harsh parenting, and youth substance misuse. *Pediatrics*.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Williams-Butler, A. (In Preparation). Applying intersectionality to child serving systems: Implications for the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

Williams-Butler, A., Liu, F.*, Howell, T., Musa, T.* (In Preparation). Mental health service use and re-arrest across time among Black justice-involved youth: An intersectional analysis. *Children & Youth Services Review*.

Duron, J. F., **Williams-Butler, A.,** & Boxer, P. (In Preparation). Trauma exposure and mental health needs among adolescents involved with the justice system. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*.

Duron, J. F., **Williams-Butler, A.,** Liu, F.Y.*, Nesi, D.*, Fay, K.*, & Kim, E. (In Preparation). Do proximal vs. distal Adverse Childhood Experiences influence functional impairment of justice-involved adolescents over time? *Child Abuse & Neglect*.

Howell, Anthony, Duron & **Williams-Butler, A.** (In Preparation). ACEs, early sexual debut, and substance use among Black adolescents in the juvenile justice system.

Book Chapters

McLoyd, V. C., Jocson, M. R., & **Williams, A. B.** (2016). Linking poverty and children's development: Concepts, models, and debates. In L. M. Burton & D. Brady (Eds.), *The Oxford handbook of the social science of poverty*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Research Reports

Bosk, E., **Williams-Butler, A.,** Kautz, S., & Mendez, A.* (2020). In-home recovery program baseline data report. Department of Children and Families, Trenton, NJ, 39 pages.

Williams-Butler, A., Mendez, A.* & Bosk, E. (2019). Attachment, self-regulation, and competency (ARC) evaluation preliminary trends results. Center for Great Expectations. Somerset, NJ, 14 pages.

Duron, J., **Williams-Butler, A.,** Boxer, P. (2019). Reports of trauma among justice involved youth: Examining associations. State of New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission. Trenton, NJ, 15 pages.

Child Welfare and Well-Being Research Unit. (2018). DCF Needs Assessment 2018 Survey findings and synthesis: Needs and service use among children, their families of origin, and resource parents. New Brunswick, NJ, 194 pages.

Ryan, J.P., Chiu, Y., & **Williams, A. B.** (2011). Is there a link between child welfare and disproportionate minority contact in juvenile justice? *Models for Change: Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice*. MacArthur Foundation. (Policy brief 12-11), 4 pages.

Williams, A. B. (2009). India study abroad experience reflection paper. Archives of the Child In Need Institute. Kolkata, India, 11 pages.

Research Reports in Preparation

Williams-Butler, A., Mendez, A.* & Bosk, E. (In Preparation). Care Plus Baseline Data Report. Care Plus. New Brunswick, NJ.

Williams-Butler, A., Mendez, A.* & Bosk, E. (In Preparation). Attachment, self-regulation, and competency (ARC) evaluation preliminary trend results – March 2020. Center for Great Expectations. Somerset, NJ.

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

Science Trends (January 8, 2019). Reducing Delinquency Among African American Youth in Foster Care. <https://sciencetrends.com/reducing-delinquency-among-african-american-youth-in-foster-care/>.

CURRENT RESEARCH FUNDING

Co-Principal Investigator 1/2020-6/2020
Weapons, Violence, and Trauma in the Juvenile Justice Population
Center on Gun Violence Research, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey-\$10,000
Co-PI: Jacquelynn Duron, PhD (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey)

Co-Investigator 1/2020-6/2023
Evaluation of In-Home Recovery Services
Department of Children & Families & The Nicholson Foundation-\$546,286
PI: Emily Bosk, PhD (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey)

Co-Investigator 1/2019-6/2020
NJ CARES Evaluation of Bergen County's Community Treatment Services Center
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Grant # SM063241-\$200,000
PI: Emily Bosk, PhD (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey)

Co-Investigator 1/2018-12/2020
Integrating Parent-Infant Mental Health and Home-Based Treatment of Substance Use Disorder: Examining the START Model
New Jersey Department of Health, Grant # DFHS18IOT003-\$789,529
PI: Emily Bosk, PhD (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey)

Co-Investigator 12/2016-6/2021
Integrating Substance Abuse Treatment with Trauma-Informed Practice, Evaluation of the Center for Great Expectations Introduction of the ARC Training Model
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Grant # SM63062-\$400,000
PI: Emily Bosk, PhD (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey)

PREVIOUS RESEARCH FUNDING

2016 Rackham One-Term Dissertation Fellowship, \$9,869

- 2015 Global Social Work Learning Community International Research Grant, \$3,000
2014 Rackham Spring/Summer Research Partnership Grant, \$8,000
Rackham Travel Grant, \$700
2013 Rackham Pre-candidate Research Grant, \$1,500
Rackham International Travel Grant, \$950

INVITED TALKS

Williams-Butler, A. (2019). Strengths based approaches for understanding positive outcomes for African American youth in foster care. Title IV-E Dialogue Series. University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Social Work. Madison, Wisconsin.

Williams-Butler, A. (2019). Identifying intervention targets to improve positive outcomes among African American youth in the juvenile justice system. Racial Democracy Crime and Justice Network. Newark, NJ.

Williams-Butler, A. (2019). Identifying intervention targets to uncover what works in predicting positive outcomes. Crime and Justice Summer Research Institute. Newark, NJ.

Williams-Butler, A. (2018). Resilience, practice, and patience: A model on how to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline. Rutgers Graduate School of Education Lecture Series. New Brunswick, NJ.

Duron, J., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Bosk, E. (2018). Supporting trauma-informed practices among high school students: A participatory mixed methods study. Initiative for Education and Justice Steering Committee. New Brunswick, NJ.

Child Welfare and Well-Being Research Unit. (2018). Phase IV DCF Needs Assessment: Findings and Discussion. Department of Children and Families. Trenton, NJ.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Williams-Butler, A., Golden, K.*, Mendez, A.* (2020). Historical and policy contexts for Black children receiving child welfare services. Society for Social Work Research. Washington, DC.

Treitler, P*., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Nesi, D*., & Duron, J. (2020). Type of mental health service use and reduced recidivism among justice-involved adolescents. Society for Social Work Research. Washington, DC.

Howell, Anthony, Duron & **Williams-Butler, A.** (2020). ACEs, early sexual debut, and substance use among Black adolescents in the juvenile justice system. Society for Social Work Research. Washington, DC.

Duron, J. F., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Liu, F. Y.*, Nesi, D.*, Fay K. P. *, & Kim, B. K. E. (2019). The Association between Adverse Experiences over Time and the Functional Capacity of Justice-Involved Youth. The American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, CA.

Greenfield, B.*, **Williams-Butler, A.**, Pirozzolo Fay, K.*, Duron, J., Stepleton, K., & Bosk, E., (2019). Maternal ACEs, cumulative risk & child behaviors among child welfare involved families. Society for Research on Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Pirozzolo Fay, K.*, Ocasio, K., Stepleton, K.*, Bosk, E., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Duron, J., Gale, A., MacKenzie, M. (2019). An experimental test of two survey conditions with child welfare staff. Society for Social Work Research. San Francisco, CA.

Duron, J. F., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Liu, F. Y.*, Nesi, D.*, Fay K. P. *, & Kim, B. K. E. (2019). Examining proximal and distal Adverse Childhood Experiences among justice-involved youth: What is the relation to functional impairment? 26th Annual Colloquium, American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Salt Lake City, UT.

Williams-Butler, A. (2019). Reducing delinquency among African American youth in foster care: Is gender promotive in crossover prevention? Society for Social Work Research. San Francisco, CA.

Williams-Butler, A., Gale, A., Dorsey, M. (2019). Psychological well-being among Black adolescents in foster care: Does gender make a difference? Society for Social Work Research. San Francisco, CA.

Bosk, E., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Gale, A., Ruisard, D., MacKenzie, M., & Bruce, C. (2019). Frontline staff characteristics and internal capacity for trauma-informed practice: Implications for the adoption and implementation of trauma-informed care. Society for Social Work Research. San Francisco, CA.

Dorsey, M., & **Williams-Butler, A.** (2019). Navigating gender and community violence: A theoretical perspective for understanding development of Black adolescent females. Society for Social Work Research. San Francisco, CA.

Greenfield, B.*, Bosk, E., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Ocasio, K., Fay, K.* (2019). Forward not back: The persisting need for relationship-based services in child welfare. Society for Social Work Research. San Francisco, CA.

Duron, J., Nesi, D.*, Liu, F. *, **Williams-Butler, A.**, Kim, E. (2019). Examining the relationship between Adverse Childhood Experiences and delinquency among justice-involved youth. Society for Social Work Research. San Francisco, CA.

Fay, K.*, Ocasio, K., Stepleton, K.*, Bosk, E., **Williams-Butler, A.**, Duron, J., Gale, A., Mackenzie, M. (2019). A quasi-experimental test of two survey incentive conditions with child welfare staff. Society for Social Work Research. San Francisco, CA.

Williams-Butler, A., Duron, J., Schmidt, A., & Hanten, G. (2018). Social relationships and the potential for delinquency. The American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, Georgia.

Duron, J., **Williams-Butler, A.,** Schmidt, A., & Hanten, G. (2018). Community mentors working with at-risk and justice-involved youth: What do they think about mentoring? The American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, Georgia.

Schmidt, A., Hanten, G., Duron, J., & **Williams-Butler, A.** (2018). Prosocial status and recidivism in justice-involved male adolescents. The American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, Georgia.

Kim, B. K., Duron, J., **Williams-Butler, A.,** Nesi, D. *, & Liu, F. Y. * (2018). Reframing desistance: A positive youth development framework for juvenile justice. The American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, Georgia.

Cox, X. * & **Williams-Butler, A.** (2018). Using resilience theory and trauma-informed practice to disrupt the school to prison pipeline. Prison University Project. San Quentin, California.

Williams-Butler, A. (2018). The Moonlight Effect: Social relationships and the potential for delinquency. Society for Research and Child Development. Phoenix, Arizona.

Williams-Butler, A. & Liu, F. Y. * (2018). Mental health use and positive outcomes among African American justice involved youth. National Institute of Mental Health. Rockville, Maryland.

Stepleton, K. *, Fay, K. *, Ocasio, K., **Williams-Butler, A.,** Gale, A., MacKenzie, M. (2018). Improving response rates for child welfare staff surveys: A quasi-experimental study. The American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. New Orleans, Louisiana.

Williams-Butler, A. (2018). Psychological well-being among Black adolescents in foster care: The role of relational permanence. Society for Social Work Research. Washington, D.C.

Duron, J., **Williams-Butler, A.,** Schmidt, A., Colon, L. *, & Hanten, G. (2018). Community Mentors Working with Justice-Involved Youth: What Do They Think about Mentoring? Society for Social Work Research. Washington, D.C.

Schmidt, A. T., Maloney, K.A., Duron, J., Li, X., **Williams-Butler, A.,** & Hanten, G. R. (2018) Prosocial attributes predict rate of reoffending in adolescent males over a two-year follow-up. The American Psychology and Law Society Annual Meeting. Memphis, Tennessee.

Hallmon, A., **Williams-Butler, A.,** Anaza, E. (2017). The role of sport as a significant out-of-school activity for Black youth. National Alliance of Social Workers in Sports. Dallas, Texas.

Williams-Butler, A. Ryan, J. P., McLoyd, V. C., Davis-Kean, P. E., & Schulenberg, J. E. (2017). Relational permanence: What is it? What are its predictors? Is it correlated with positive outcomes among African American adolescents in foster care? The LIFE Academy at the Institute for Social Research. Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Williams, A. B., Ryan, J. P., McLoyd, V. C., & Davis-Kean, P. E. (2015). The Role of Relational Permanence Among African American Youth in Foster Care. The LIFE Academy at the Institute for Social Research. Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Williams, A. B. (2015). Factors that Lead to Grandparent Childcare in Germany Across Time: Are there Differences between East and West? German Centre of Gerontology Lecture. Berlin, Germany.

Williams, A. B. (2015). The impact of social welfare policy on intergenerational family formation in the United States and Germany. German Centre of Gerontology Lecture. Berlin, Germany.

Williams, A.B., Chopik, W. J., Antonucci, T. C., & Lindenberger, U. (2014). Integrating diverse populations into theories of lifespan development. Moderated discussion during the LIFE Academy at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development. Berlin, Germany.

Williams, A. B., Patton, D. U., Pingel, E. M., Patel, S. Y., Wallace, B., & Zimmerman, M. A. (2014). Pathways to academic success: Perceptions of what makes the difference among low-income Black female adolescents. American Psychological Association, Division 45, Eugene, Oregon.

Wallace, B., Patel, S. Y., **Williams, A. B., Patton, D. U., Pingel, E. M., & Zimmerman, M. A.** (2014). Positive milestones: Experiences that make the difference in the lives of low-income African American males. Society for Research on Adolescence, Austin, Texas.

Williams, A. B., Patton, D. U., Pingel, E. M., Patel, S. Y., Wallace, B., & Zimmerman, M. A. (2014). Pathways to success: Perceptions of what makes the difference among low income African American female adolescents. Society for Research on Adolescence, Austin, Texas.

Williams, A. B. (2013). Mapping Resilience Trajectories for African American Youth in the Juvenile Justice System. Developmental Psychology Brown Bag Lecture. Ann Arbor, MI.

Williams, A. B., Davis-Kean, P. E., & Ryan, J. P. (2013). The discontinuity of offending among African American youth. Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, Washington.

Williams, A.B., Davis-Kean, P.E., & Ryan, J. P. (2012). The discontinuity of offending trajectories in the juvenile justice system. Centre for Longitudinal Studies Conference, London: United Kingdom.

Williams, A. B. & Ryan, J. P. (2012). Girl delinquency: Identifying unique needs and modeling recidivism. Society for Social Work Research, Washington, D.C.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, School of Social Work
Developmental Perspectives on Infant and Child Well-Being (Course Developer)
-Spring 2020, Spring 2019
Social Welfare Policy and Services I
-Fall 2019, Fall 2018

University of Michigan, School of Social Work
Adolescent Development and Behavior
-Winter 2015
Introduction to Social Welfare Policy and Services
-Fall 2014
Evaluation in Social Work, Guest Speaker
-Fall 2014

University of Michigan, Department of Psychology
Introduction to Psychology
-Winter 2014, Fall 2013

MENTORING & ADVISING

Doctoral Students

Kate Golden
Feng-Yi Liu
Alicia Mendez
Peter Treitler (Research Internship)

MSW and Master's Level Students

Anna Brownschidle
Amanda Costantino
Quaniya Jenkins
Madelyn Rodriguez
Hima Sathian
Breana Stevens
Jaime Weiss

McNair Scholars

Takondwa Musa
Ja'Wana Wilson

Undergraduate Students

Diane Akasike

Stacy Duong

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

National

2019 – Present Adolescent and Youth Cluster Abstract Reviewer, Society for Social Work and Research

School and University Service

2018 – Present Founding Member, Initiative for Education and Justice Steering Committee
2017 – 2019 Member, Child and Adolescent Well-Being Certificate Planning Committee
2013 – 2015 Treasurer, Doctoral Student Organization
2013 – 2015 Student Representative, Developmental Psychology Brown Bag Committee
2012 – 2012 Historian, Black Student Psychological Association
2011 – 2012 Student Representative, Doctoral Committee
2008 – 2011 Student Member, Diversity Committee
2008 – 2009 Community Service Chair, Graduate Social Work Association
2008 – 2009 Student Member, International Committee

REVIEWING

Journal Reviewer

Child Maltreatment

Children and Youth Services Review

Criminal Justice & Behavior

Developmental Psychology

Journal of Comparative Family Studies

Journal of Public Child Welfare

Editorial Board

Perspectives on Social Work Journal

Translational Issues in Psychological Science

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Leadership and Management, Association of American Medical Colleges

Leadership and Interpersonal Style, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Postdoctoral Mentor Training, National Research Mentoring Network

Project Management, Project Management Institute

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Criminology
Council on Social Work Education
Society for Social Work and Research