

Sarah A. Font

The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Sociology and Criminology
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[Google Scholar Profile](#)

Education

<i>Degree/Position</i>	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Institution</i>
Postdoctoral fellow	2016	University of Texas at Austin
Ph.D. in Social Welfare	2014	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Master of Social Work	2008	Western Michigan University
Bachelor of Social Work	2007	Western Michigan University

Employment

2021-2025	Associate Professor of Sociology and Public Policy The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology and Criminology Co-funded faculty member of the Child Maltreatment Solutions Network
2024-2025	Liberal Arts Endowed Fellow
2021-2023	Associate Director of Graduate Studies, Sociology and Criminology
2016-2021	Assistant Professor of Sociology

Current External Funding

2025-2028	Arnold Ventures (Co-PI) Kinship Diversion: An Analysis of Prevalence and Impacts on Crime
2022-2027	R01 HD107154, NICHD (PI) Implications of Parental Incarceration for Child Health and Wellbeing
2018-2024	R01 HD095946, NICHD (PI) System and Social Determinants of the Health of Foster Children
2021-2025	R01 HL158577, NHLBI (Co-I) Child maltreatment and cardiovascular disease risk: examining psychosocial and immunological pathways in a prospective, longitudinal cohort

2023-2027 P50HD089922 NICHD (MPI, Dissemination and Outreach Core [DOC])
Capstone Center for Multidisciplinary Research in Child Abuse and Neglect

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

(*author was student at time of original submission; ^ author was postdoctoral fellow at time of original submission)

1. **Font**, Sarah, Melissa Jonson-Reid, and Peter Siriprakorn*. 2025. ["Who Should Respond to Substance-Exposed Infants? Reflections on U.S. Policies Limiting the Role of Child Protective Services."](#) *Child Protection and Practice*.
2. Font, Sarah and Christopher Mills. 2025. "Safe from Harm? Peers and Criminal Capital Formation in Congregate Foster Care." *Journal of Human Resources* (accepted).
3. Palmer, Lindsey, Sarah A. **Font**, Eunhye Ahn, Rebecca Rebbe, and Julia Reddy. 2025. ["Infants in the Child Welfare System: Exposure and Risks of Parental Alcohol and Drug Misuse."](#) *Maternal and Child Health*.
4. Jones, Dylan M., Sarah A. **Font**, Minjoo Lee, Rebecca Orsi-Hunt, and Hyunil Kim. 2025. ["Sometimes, Only Some Siblings Go to Foster Care: Exploring Split Sibling Groups in a Nationwide Sample."](#) *Child Maltreatment*.
5. Goldstein, Ezra and Sarah **Font**. 2025. ["Prevalence and Treatment of Maternal Substance Use Disorder in Child Welfare."](#) *JAMA Health Forum*.
6. Swanson, Ann S.*, and Sarah A. **Font**. 2025. ["Receipt and Timeliness of Mental Health Assessment, Treatment, and Acute Services Following Foster Care Entry."](#) *Child Maltreatment*.
7. Goldstein, Ezra, Sarah **Font**, Christian Connell, Reeve Kennedy, and Allison Kurpiel*. 2024. ["Do Foster Youth Face Harsher Juvenile Justice Outcomes? Re-investigating Child Welfare Bias in Juvenile Justice Processing"](#). *Criminology and Public Policy*.
8. **Font**, Sarah, and Lindsey Palmer. 2024. ["Left Behind? Educational Disadvantage, Child Protection, and Foster Care."](#) *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
9. Littleton, Tenesha, and Sarah A. **Font**. 2024. ["Racial Residential Segregation and Disparities in Child Protective Services: A Study of Large U.S. Counties."](#) *International Journal on Child Maltreatment: Research, Policy and Practice*.
10. Kurpiel, Allison*, Sarah A. **Font**, and Christian M. Connell. 2024. ["Juvenile Offending among Maltreated Youth: Assessing Type-Specificity and Offense Specialization in the Cycle of Violence."](#) *Crime & Delinquency*.
11. **Font**, Sarah A., Reeve Kennedy^, and Tenesha Littleton. 2023. ["Child Protective Services Involvement and Exclusionary School Discipline."](#) *Child Development*.
12. Sattler, Kierra, Sarah A. **Font**, and Toria Herd^. 2023. ["Foster Care, Kinship Care, and the Transition to Adulthood: Do Child Welfare System Processes Explain Differences in Outcomes?"](#), *Children & Youth Services Review*
13. Palmer^, Lindsey, Toria Herd^, Ann Shun Knobel*, and Sarah A. **Font**. 2023. ["A Longitudinal Analysis of Concerning Psychotropic Medication Regimens among Adolescents in Foster Care."](#) *Journal of Adolescent Health*.
14. Drake, Brett, Dylan Jones, Hyunil Kim, John Gyourko, Antonio Garcia, Richard P. Barth, Sarah A. **Font**, Emily Putnam-Hornstein, Jill Duerr Berrick, Johanna K. P. Greeson, Victoria Cook, Patricia L. Kohl, and Melissa Jonson-Reid. 2023. ["Racial/Ethnic Differences in Child Protective Services Reporting, Substantiation and Placement, With Comparison to Non-CPS Risks and Outcomes: 2005–2019."](#) *Child Maltreatment*.

15. **Font**, Sarah A. & John Fluke. 2024. [“Understanding and Promoting Child Wellbeing After Child Welfare System Involvement: Progress Made and Challenges Ahead”](#). *International Journal of Child Maltreatment*. [Special issue].
16. Lindsey Palmer[^], Sarah A. **Font**, Rebecca Rebbe, John Prindal, and Emily Putnam-Hornstein. 2023. [“Lifetime rates and types of subsequent child protection system contact following a first report of neglect: An age-stratified analysis.”](#) *PLOS One*.
17. Herd[^], Toria, Lindsey Palmer[^], and Sarah A. **Font**. 2023. [“Prevalence and Change in Mental Health Diagnoses for Adolescents in Foster Care: A Longitudinal Analysis.”](#) *Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics*.
18. Potter, Marina H.*, Tenesha Littleton[^], and Sarah **Font**. 2022. [“State Support Policies and Children’s Living Arrangements”](#). *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
19. Palmer, Lindsey[^], Sarah **Font**, Toria Herd[^], John Prindle, and Emily Putnam-Hornstein. 2022. [“Rates of Emotional Disturbance Among Children in Foster Care: Comparing Federal Child Welfare Data and Medicaid Records in Two States.”](#) *Child Maltreatment*.
20. Kennedy, Reeve[^], Marina H. Potter*, and Sarah A. **Font**. 2022. [“Meta-analysis of race disparities in outcomes of foster children”](#), *Journal of Violence, Trauma, & Abuse*.
21. Palmer Lindsey[^], Sarah A **Font**, Andrea Eastman, Lillie Guo, and Emily Putnam-Hornstein. [“What Does Child Protective Services Investigate as Neglect? A Population-Based Study”](#) *Child Maltreatment*.
22. **Font**, Sarah A., Michael C. Caniglia*, Reeve Kennedy[^], and Jennie G. Noll. 2022. [“Child Protection Intervention and the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Females Ages 13-17.”](#) *JAMA Pediatrics*.
23. Potter, Marina*, Reeve Kennedy[^], and Sarah A. **Font**. 2022. [“Rates and Predictors of Child Maltreatment Re-Perpetration against New Victims and Prior Victims”](#) *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
24. **Font**, Sarah A. and Reeve Kennedy[^]. 2022. [“The Centrality of Child Maltreatment to Criminology.”](#) *Annual Review of Criminology*.
25. Russotti, Justin, Sarah A. **Font**, Sheree L. Toth, and Jennie G. Noll. 2022. [“Developmental Pathways from Child Maltreatment to Adolescent Pregnancy: A Multiple Mediational Model.”](#) *Development and Psychopathology*.
26. Kennedy, Reeve S[^]., Sarah A. **Font**, Ann-Christin Haag, and Jennie G. Noll. 2021. [“Childhood Sexual Abuse and Exposure to Peer Bullying Victimization.”](#) *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.
27. **Font**, Sarah A., and Hyun Woo Kim. 2021. [“Sibling Separation and Placement Instability for Children in Foster Care.”](#) *Child Maltreatment*.
28. **Font**, Sarah A., Lawrence M. Berger, Jessie Slepicka*, and Maria Cancian. 2021. [“Foster Care, Permanency, and Risk of Prison Entry.”](#) *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*.
29. Maguire-Jack, Kathryn., Sarah A. **Font**, Rebecca Dillard, Daji Dvalishvili, and Sheila Barnhart. 2021. [“Neighborhood Poverty and Adverse Childhood Experiences over the First 15 Years of Life.”](#) *International Journal of Child Maltreatment*.
30. DiGiovanni, Anna*, and Sarah A. **Font**. 2021. [“Revisiting Conventional Wisdom: What Do We Know from 30 Years of Research on Sibling Placement in Foster Care?”](#) *Children & Youth Services Review*.

31. **Font**, Sarah A. and Kathryn Maguire-Jack. 2021. ["The Scope, Nature, and Causes of Child Maltreatment."](#) *Annals of the American Academy of Social and Political Sciences*.
32. Guastaferrero, K., Sarah A. **Font**, Sheridan Miyamoto, Kathleen M. Zadzora, Katie Walters, K. O'Hara, Allison Kemner, and Jennie G. Noll. 2023. ["Provider Attitudes and Self-Efficacy when Delivering a Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Module: An Exploratory Study."](#) *Health Education & Behavior*.
33. Guastaferrero, Kate, John M. Felt[^], Sarah A. **Font**, Christian Connell, Sheridan Miyamoto, Allison Kemner, Kathleen M. Zadzora, and Jennie G. Noll. 2021. ["Parent-Focused Sexual Abuse Prevention: Results from a Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial."](#) *Child Maltreatment*.
34. Sattler, Kiera M. P.[^] and Sarah A. **Font**. 2021. ["Predictors of Adoption and Guardianship Dissolution: The Role of Race, Age, and Sex among Children in Foster Care."](#) *Child Maltreatment*.
35. **Font**, Sarah A. and Elizabeth T. Gershoff. 2020. [Foster Care: How We Can, and Should, Do More for Maltreated Children](#). *Social Policy Report*.
36. Ruiz, Andrea L.* and Sarah A. **Font**. 2020. ["Role of Childhood Maltreatment on Weight and Weight-Related Behaviors in Adulthood."](#) *Health Psychology*.
37. Hanrath, Lily*, and Sarah A. **Font**. 2020. ["Gender Disparities in Criminal Sentencing for Child Physical Abuse and Neglect."](#) *Crime & Delinquency*.
38. **Font**, Sarah A. and Kathryn Maguire-Jack. 2020. [It's not "Just poverty": Educational, social, and economic functioning among young adults exposed to childhood neglect, abuse, and poverty](#). *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
40. **Font**, Sarah A., Maria Cancian, Lawrence M. Berger, and Anna DiGiovanni*. 2020. [Patterns of intergenerational child protective services involvement](#). *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
41. **Font**, Sarah A. and Kathryn Maguire-Jack. 2020. ["The Organizational Context of the Decision to Substantiate in Child Protective Services Cases."](#) *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.
42. Maguire-Jack, Kathryn, Sarah A. **Font**, and Rebecca Dillard*. 2020. [Child protective services decision-making: The role of children's race and county factors](#). *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*.
43. **Font**, Sarah A., Maria Cancian, and Lawrence M. Berger. 2019. [Prevalence and Risk Factors for Early Motherhood among Low-Income, Maltreated, and Foster Youth](#). *Demography*.
44. **Font**, Sarah A., and Marina H. Potter*. 2019. ["Socioeconomic Resource Environments in Biological, Kinship, and Non-Relative Family Care and Children's Cognitive Performance."](#) *Sociological Inquiry*.
45. Panlilio, Carlomagno C., Sheridan Miyamoto, Sarah A. **Font**, and Hannah Schreier. 2019. ["Assessing Risk of Commercial Sexual Exploitation among Youth Involved with the Child Welfare System."](#) *Child Abuse and Neglect*.
46. Potter*, Marina H. and Sarah A. **Font**. 2019. ["Parenting Influences on Sexual Risk-taking in Adolescents: Differences by Child Welfare Placement Status."](#) *Children & Youth Services Review*.

47. **Font**, Sarah A., Kierra M. P. Sattler*, and Elizabeth Gershoff. 2018. ["When Home is Still Unsafe: From Family Reunification to Foster Care Reentry."](#) *Journal of Marriage and Family*.
48. **Font**, Sarah A., Lawrence M. Berger, Maria Cancian, and Jennifer L. Noyes. 2018. ["Permanency and the Educational and Economic Attainment of Foster Youth in Early Adulthood."](#) *American Sociological Review*.
49. **Font**, Sarah A., Kierra Sattler*, and Elizabeth Gershoff. 2018. [Measurement and Correlates of Foster Care Placement Changes.](#) *Children & Youth Services Review*.
50. Gershoff, Elizabeth T., Sarah A. **Font**, Catherine A. Taylor, Ann Budzak Garza, Denyse Olson-Dorff, and Rebecca H. Foster. 2018. ["A Short-Term Evaluation of a Hospital No Hit Zone Policy to Increase Bystander Intervention in Cases of Parent-to-Child Violence."](#) *Children and Youth Services Review*..
51. Sattler*, Kierra M. P., Sarah A. **Font**, and Elizabeth T. Gershoff. 2018. ["Age-Specific Risk Factors Associated with Placement Instability among Foster Children."](#) *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
52. **Font**, Sarah A., and Jamie Cage*. 2018. ["Dimensions of Physical Punishment and Their Associations with Children's Cognitive Performance and School Adjustment."](#) 2017. *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
53. Slack, Kristen S., Sarah A. **Font**, Kathryn Maguire-Jack, and Lawrence Berger. 2017. ["Predicting Child Protective Services \(CPS\) Involvement among Low-Income US Families with Young Children Receiving Nutritional Assistance."](#) *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.
54. **Font**, Sarah A., and Elizabeth T. Gershoff. 2017. ["Contextual Factors Associated with the Use of Corporal Punishment in U.S. Public Schools."](#) *Children and Youth Services Review*..
55. Sattler*, Kierra M. P. and Sarah A. **Font**. 2017. ["Resilience in Young Children Involved with Child Protective Services."](#) *Child Abuse and Neglect*.
56. Maguire-Jack, Kathryn and Sarah A. **Font**. 2017. ["Community and Individual Risk Factors for Maltreatment."](#) *Child Maltreatment*.
57. Berger, Lawrence M., Sarah A. **Font**, Kristen S. Slack, and Jane Waldfogel. 2017. ["Income and Child Maltreatment in Unmarried Families: Evidence from the Earned Income Tax Credit."](#) *Review of Economics of the Household*.
58. Maguire-Jack, Kathryn, and Sarah A. **Font**. 2017. ["Intersections of Individual and Neighborhood Disadvantage: Implications for Child Maltreatment."](#) *Children & Youth Services Review*.
59. **Font**, Sarah A., Elizabeth T. Gershoff, Catherine A. Taylor, Ann Budzak Garza, Denyse Olson-Dorff, Rebecca H. Foster, Amy Terrero, Monica Nielson-Parker, and Lisa Spector. 2016. ["Staff Responses to Parents Hitting Children in a Hospital Setting."](#) *Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics*.
60. Gershoff, Elizabeth T., Sarah A. **Font**, Catherine A. Taylor, Amy Terrero, Monica Nielson-Parker, Lisa Spector, Rebecca H. Foster, Ann Budzak Garza, and Denyse Olson-Dorff. 2016. ["Medical Center Staff Attitudes about Spanking."](#) *Child Abuse & Neglect*.

61. Gershoff, Elizabeth T. and Sarah A. **Font**. 2016. ["Corporal Punishment in U.S. Public Schools: Prevalence, Disparities in Use, and Status in State and Federal Policy."](#) *Social Policy Report*.
62. **Font**, Sarah A, and Kathryn Maguire-Jack. 2016. ["Pathways from Childhood Abuse and Other Adversities to Adult Health Risks: The Role of Adult Socioeconomic Conditions."](#) *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
63. Kim Hirsch, Bomi, MiYoun Yang, Sarah **Font**, and Kristen Slack. 2016. ["Physically Hazardous Housing and Risk for Child Protective Services Involvement."](#) *Child Welfare*.
64. **Font**, Sarah A. 2015. ["Child Protection Investigations in Out-Of-Home Care: Perpetrators, Victims and Contexts."](#) *Child Maltreatment*.
65. **Font**, Sarah A, and Kathryn Maguire-Jack. 2015. ["Decision-Making in Child Protective Services: Influences at Multiple Levels of the Social Ecology."](#) *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
66. **Font**, Sarah A. 2015. ["Is Higher Placement Stability in Kinship Care By Virtue or Design?"](#) *Child Abuse & Neglect*.
67. **Font**, Sarah. A., and Lawrence M. Berger. 2015. ["Child Maltreatment and Children's](#)
68. [Developmental Trajectories in Early to Middle Childhood."](#) *Child Development*.
69. **Font**, Sarah. A. 2015. ["Are Children Safer with Kin? A Comparison of Maltreatment Risk in Out-Of-Home Care."](#) *Children & Youth Services Review*.
70. Berger, Lawrence M., and **Font**, Sarah A. 2015. ["The Role of Families in Children's Health."](#) *Future of Children*.
71. Berger, Lawrence M., J. Michael Collins, Sarah A. **Font**, Leah Gjertson, Kristen Slack, and Timothy Smeeding. 2015. ["Home Foreclosure and Child Protective Services Involvement."](#) *Pediatrics*.
72. Warren, Emily J., and Sarah A. **Font**. 2015. ["Housing Insecurity, Maternal Stress, and Child Maltreatment: An Application of Family Stress Theory."](#) *Social Service Review*.
73. **Font**, Sarah A. 2014. ["Kinship and Nonrelative Foster Care: The Effect of Placement Type on Child Well-Being."](#) *Child Development*.
74. Maguire-Jack, Kathryn, and Sarah A. **Font**. 2014. ["Predicting Recurrent Maltreatment among High-Risk Families: Applying the Decision-Making Ecology Framework."](#) *Children and Youth Services Review*.
75. **Font**, Sarah A. 2013. ["Service Referral Patterns among Black and White Families Involved with Child Protective Services."](#) *Journal of Public Child Welfare*.
76. **Font**, Sarah A., and Kathryn Maguire-Jack. 2013. ["Academic Engagement and Performance: Estimating the Impact of Out-of-Home Care for Maltreated Children."](#) *Children & Youth Services Review*.
77. **Font**, Sarah A., and Emily J. Warren. 2013. ["Inadequate Housing and the Child Protection System Response."](#) *Children & Youth Services Review*.
78. **Font**, Sarah A. 2012. ["Burnout in Child Welfare: Examining the Role of Employment Characteristics and Workplace Opportunities."](#) *Social Service Review*.
79. **Font**, Sarah A., Lawrence M. Berger, and Kristen S. Slack. 2012. ["Examining Racial Disproportionality in Child Protective Services Case Decisions."](#) *Children & Youth Services Review*.
80. Unrau, Yvonne A., Sarah A. **Font**, and G. Rawls. 2012. ["Readiness for College Engagement among Students Who Have Aged Out of Foster Care."](#) *Children & Youth Services Review*.

Select Invited Committees and Policy Working Groups

- 2024 - Research Consortium on Child Welfare and Medicaid Research
Sponsored/led by: U.S. Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
- 2024 - Bipartisan Policy Center Workgroup on Child Welfare Financing and Accountability
Chairs: Wendell Primus and Cassie Statuto-Bevan
- 2023 - Advisory Committee on the Review of Pennsylvania Policies Affecting Adverse Childhood Experiences
Sponsored/led by: Pennsylvania General Assembly, Joint State Government Commission
- 2023 - Child Abuse Registry Project
Led by: Cathleen Palm, Center for Children's Justice
Sponsored by: Annie E. Casey Foundation
- 2023 - Maltreatment in Out-of-Home Care, Advisory Board
Led by: Amy Dworsky, Chapin Hall
Sponsored by: US Administration for Children and Families
HHS-2022-ACF-OPRE-FA-0149
- 2022 - National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect Advisory Board
Led by: NDACAN Director Christopher Wildeman
- 2022 - Research Advisory Committee, Pennsylvania Office of Children Youth and Families
- 2021 [Child Welfare Analytics Roundtable](#): Towards an Analytic Framework to Address Economic-Related Risk Factors in Child Welfare
Sponsored/led by: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

Commentaries

(* Invited)

1. *Font, Sarah A. [Book review of "Set to see us fail: Debating inequities in the child welfare system of New York."](#) *Contemporary Sociology*, 53(3), 236-238.
2. Drake, Brett, Dylan Jones, Jun-Hong Chen, Sarah Font, Emily Putnam-Hornstein, Richard P. Barth, and Melissa Jonson-Reid. 2024. ["Poverty or Racism? A Re-Analysis of Briggs et al. 2022."](#) *Research on Social Work Practice*.

3. *Font, Sarah A. and Lindsey Palmer. 2022. "[Timely Permanency for Children in Foster Care: Revisiting Core Assumptions about Children's Options and Outcomes](#)." *Court Review* [Journal of the American Judges Association]. Special issue on the Adoption and Safe Families Act.
4. *Font, Sarah A. "[Reflections on the Use of Evidence in Child Welfare](#)". 2022. *Research on Social Work Practice*.
5. *Font, Sarah. 2021. "[Making Meaning of Cumulative Child Welfare System Involvement](#)." *American Journal of Public Health*.
6. *Font, Sarah A. July 30, 2020. [The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Children in Foster Care](#) [Blog Post]. Penn State Social Science Research Institute: Insights from Experts.
7. Font, Sarah A. 2016. [A Defense of "Soft Coercion" in the Child Welfare System and Targeted Programs - A Response to Pelton \(2016\)](#). *Child Abuse and Neglect*.

Editorials and Policy Papers

1. Schaefer Riley, Naomi and Sarah Font. 2025. [Opinion: How did torture of man in Waterbury go on for so long?](#) *Stamford Advocate*.
2. Emily Putnam-Hornstein and Sarah Font. 2024. [Why is national child welfare leadership silent on child deaths?](#) *Imprint News*.
3. Font, Sarah A. and Naomi Schaefer Riley. 2023. [Op/Ed: DCS has failed children it was supposed to protect. This lawsuit shows why](#). *Indianapolis Star*.
4. Font, Sarah A. and Naomi Schaefer Riley. 2023. [Foster Kids Need Permanent Homes](#). *Wall Street Journal*.
5. Herd, Toria and Sarah Font. [How parents can play a key role in the prevention and treatment of teen mental health problems](#). 2022. *The Conversation*.
6. Font, Sarah A. and Naomi Schaefer Riley. 2022. [Massachusetts policies failed Harmony Montgomery](#). *Boston Globe*.
7. Font, Sarah A. and Naomi Schaefer Riley. 2022. [Longer stays in foster care can harm Illinois children](#). *Chicago Tribune*.
8. Font, Sarah A. and Naomi Schaefer Riley. 2021. [Opinion: Why are states putting child sex abuse victims back in the home of their abusive parents?](#) *USA Today*.
9. Font, Sarah Anne and Naomi Schaefer Riley. 2021. [Child welfare after the pandemic](#). *New York Daily News*.
10. Schaefer Riley, Naomi, Brett Drake, Sarah Font, and Emily Putnam-Hornstein. 2021. [What Child Protection Is For](#). Washington, DC: American Enterprise Institute.
8. Font, Sarah A. January 19, 2021. [What Lessons Can the Child Welfare System Take from the COVID-19 Pandemic?](#) Washington, DC: American Enterprise Institute.
9. Font, Sarah A. 2020. [Data Challenges and Opportunities in Child Welfare](#). Washington, DC: American Enterprise Institute.
10. Font, Sarah A. & Elizabeth Gershoff. 2016. [Gershoff and Font: School corporal punishment should be banned](#) *Houston Chronicle*

Books, Book Chapters, and Reports

1. **Font**, Sarah A., and Elizabeth T. Gershoff. 2020. [*Foster Care and “Best Interests of the Child”: Integrating Research, Policy, and Practice*](#). Springer Advances in Child and Family Policy and Practice.
2. **Font**, Sarah A., Kathryn Maguire-Jack, and Rebecca Dillard. 2020. “The Decision to Substantiate Allegations of Child Maltreatment”, in *Decision Making and Judgment in Child Welfare and Protection: Theory, Research, and Practice* [Editors John D. Fluke, Monica Lopez, Rami Benbenishty, Erik J. Knorth, and Donald J. Baumann]. Oxford University Press.
3. **Font**, Sarah A., Sheridan Miyamoto, and Casey Pinto. 2020. [*Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in Pennsylvania*](#). PA: Center for Rural Pennsylvania.
4. **Font**, Sarah A. 2017. “Psychological, Economic, and Physical Health Consequences of Child Maltreatment.” In L. Dixon, D. Perkins, L. A. Craig, and C. Hamilton-Giachritsis (Eds.), *What works in child protection: An evidence-based approach to assessment and intervention in care proceedings*. Wiley-Blackwell.

Public Presentations, Media Interviews, and Media Mentions

1. [4-year-old Harlem boy's death raises questions about child services' response](#) CBS NY [television](2024).
2. [They sleep on cots, travel for showers. Why are kids living in DCS offices, sometimes for weeks?](#) *Indianapolis Star* (2024).
3. Is Less Better? Revisiting the Role of Child Protection and Justice Systems within Vulnerable Families. [Oral Presentation] Duke University Population Research Institute (2024).
4. [The Future of Child Welfare Reform: Taking Incremental Steps on the Path to Big Changes](#). [Podcast] James Bell Associates on behalf of the Children’s Bureau (2024).
5. [How Minnesota’s child protection system exposes kids to more abuse, neglect](#). *Minneapolis Star Tribune* (2023).
6. [Supporting Youth Exiting Foster Care: What Works And What Is Still Needed](#). Institute for Research on Poverty [Webinar] (2023).
7. [Were you ready to be home alone at 13?](#) St. Louis on the Air, St. Louis Public Radio (2023).
8. [Invisible Kids: America’s Journey From Orphanages To Foster Care](#). The Lost Debate [podcast], Branch Media (2023).
9. [Missouri school district reinstates spanking if parents OK](#). *Associated Press* (2022).
10. [Cassville policy needs to be abandoned](#). *Yahoo News* (2022).
11. [Use of Foster Care Went Down During the First Pandemic: Did Maltreatment?](#) *The Imprint* (2022).
12. [State handling of child abuse records and appeals process criticized in new report](#). *The Tribune-Democrat [Harrisburg, PA]* (2020).

13. [Project PA | The process of investigating child abuse](#) Local 21 Harrisburg [Television] (2020).
14. [Destiny was 15 when her outcry sparked a #MeToo reckoning in Texas foster care. Now, the trial.](#) *San Antonio Express News* (2020).
15. ['The perfect storm:' How COVID-19 has multiplied the risk for children in abusive households](#) *Pennsylvania Capital-Star* (2020).
16. [Wisconsin Study Finds Foster Care Besting Reunification on Education Outcomes](#) *Chronicle of Social Change* (2018).
17. [Opinion: Stop beating black children.](#) *New York Times* (2017).
18. [Black Children Are More Likely To Get Hit By School Teachers, Report Says.](#) *Huffington Post* (2016).

Service on Grant Review Panels

2022-2024

National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA)
Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE)
Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin - Madison (IRP)
William T. Grant Foundation
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Israel Science Foundation (ISF)

Previous Awards and Funding Received

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 2017-2022 | P50 HD551411, NICHD (Co-I, Dissemination and Outreach Core [DOC])
Capstone Center for Multidisciplinary Research in Child Abuse and Neglect |
| 2020 | Penn State ICDS Seed Grant (Co-PI)
Creation of a maternal-child Medicaid birth cohort to investigate risks of child welfare system involvement in low income households
Total Funding: \$25,000 |
| 2020 | Penn State Population Research Institute Seed Grant (PI)
Parental Incarceration and Educational Inequalities
Total Funding: \$7,500 |
| 2017-2019 | R21 HD091459, NICHD (Site PI/Co-I)
Emerging Adulthood for Maltreated and Foster Youth
Total Funding: \$423,000 |
| 2018-2019 | Center for Rural Pennsylvania (Co-PI)
Incidence Rates and Risk Factors for Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in Rural and Urban Counties in Pennsylvania
Total Funding: \$49,953 |

- 2018 Center for Justice Research (Co-PI. \$4,800)
Effects of Permanency on the Adulthood Criminality of Former Foster Care Youth
- 2017 Seed Grant (PI, \$7,500)
Population Research Institute, Pennsylvania State University
- 2014 Postdoctoral training fellowship
NICHD, T32 Training Program in Population Studies
Awarded to University of Texas at Austin Population Research Center
- 2014 Honorable mention—Outstanding Social Work Doctoral Dissertation
Society for Social Work and Research
- 2013 Population Health Dissertation Grant
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Scholars Program
- 2013 Irving Piliavin Award
University of Wisconsin – Madison, School of Social Work
- 2012 Doctoral Student Research Paper Award
University of Wisconsin – Madison, School of Social Work

Teaching

At Penn State

(* Designates a class newly designed by me)

HDFS 553 Child Maltreatment Policy and Interventions (Fall 2024)

SOC513 Graduate Research Methods (Fall 2021, Fall 2022)

**SOC497* Public Policy & Social Welfare (Spring 2019, Fall 2020)

CMAS 258 / HDFS 258 / HDFS 297J Introduction to Child Maltreatment & Advocacy Studies
(Fall 2016, 2017, 2019)

**CRIM 537* Crimes Against Children (Spring 2018)

At University of Wisconsin - Madison

SW534 Introduction to Social Statistics (Summer 2012, 2013)