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## MELISSA ALCARAZ

Department of Sociology  
The Ohio State University  
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### EMPLOYMENT

2021 – present      Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University

### EDUCATION

2018 – present      PhD, Sociology, The Ohio State University (*expected Summer 2021*)  
Graduate Affiliate, Institute for Population Research  
*Dissertation:* “Mexican Adolescent Partnering Behaviors, Goals, and  
the Transition to Adulthood in a Declining Migration Context.”

2018                  M.A., Sociology, The Ohio State University  
Graduate Affiliate, Institute for Population Research  
*Master’s thesis:* “Mothers Matter: The Role of Parents’ Education in  
Predicting Children’s Educational Persistence in Mexico.”

2016                  B.S., Sociology, Brigham Young University

### RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Transition to adulthood: variation in adolescent aspirations and expected timing/sequencing of transitions to adult roles

Fertility, education, and migration: fertility intentions and educational aspirations and outcomes, education and fertility intentions in high-migration contexts, gender differences in fertility intentions, tied migration and relationship quality and union stability

Work and family conflict

Regional focus: United States, Mexico; additional experience in high-migration contexts of Mozambique and Nepal

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

(\*INDICATES GRADUATE STUDENT COLLABORATOR, †INDICATES EQUAL AUTHORSHIP)

Alcaraz, Melissa<sup>†</sup>, Ashley Larsen Gibby<sup>†</sup>, and Nancy Luke. 2020. “Non-Parental Family Members as Brokers of Family Social Capital: Compensatory Time Use in India.” *Social Sciences* 9(12):217.

Alcaraz, Melissa. 2020. “Beyond Financial Resources: The Role of Parents’ Education in Predicting Children’s Educational Persistence in Mexico.” *International Journal of Educational Development* 75:102188.

Edmunds, Chrissa<sup>\*†</sup>, and Melissa Alcaraz<sup>†</sup>. 2021. “Childhood Material Hardship and Adolescent Mental Health.” *Youth & Society*. (OnlineFirst).

Downey, Douglas B, David M. Quinn, and Melissa Alcaraz. 2019. "The Distribution of School Quality: Do Schools Serving Mostly White and High-SES Children Produce the Most Learning?" *Sociology of Education* 92(4):386-403.

### **MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW**

Alcaraz, Melissa. *Revise and resubmit*. "Marry, Attend School, or Migrate?: Adolescent Marital Aspirations within a Context of Declining Migration." (At *International Migration Review*.)

Alcaraz, Melissa, Sarah R. Hayford, and Jennifer E. Glick. *Revise and resubmit*. "Desired Fertility and Educational Aspirations: New Evidence from a Context of Rapid Social Change." (At *Journal of Marriage and Family*.)

### **MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS**

Alcaraz, Melissa. "More than Friends: Profiles of Adolescent Romantic Relationships in Rural Mexico."

Alcaraz, Melissa. "Getting Together, Getting in Trouble: Inventive Parenting, Moral Capital, and Collective Narratives in Mexican families."

Glick, Jennifer, Sarah Miller\*, Melissa Alcaraz, and Dirgha J. Ghimire. "Educational Aspirations and Migration: A Comparative Approach."

Hayford, Sarah, Melissa Alcaraz, Jennifer Glick, and Scott Yabiku. "Raising Boys and Girls in a Context of Rapid Social Change."

### **AWARDS/GRANTS**

#### *Internal Grants*

2019 Alumni Grant for Graduate Research and Scholarship, Graduate School, The Ohio State University. \$5,000.

2019 Silverman Research Grant, Department of Sociology, The Ohio State University. \$1,800.

2019 Summer Methods Training Grant, Department of Sociology, The Ohio State University. \$400.

2016 – 2017 Graduate Enrichment Fellowship, Graduate School, The Ohio State University. \$25,452.

#### *External Grants*

2019 – 2020 Administrative supplement to "Family Migration Context and Early Life Outcomes." Research supplement to promote diversity in health-related research; financial support for graduate student. National Institutes of Health, NICHD. With Sarah Hayford and Jennifer Glick, PIs. \$66,028. Awarded for 18-month period from January 2019 – June 2020.

2018 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program – Honorable Mention

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS (+INDICATES PRESENTER)**

2021

Alcaraz, Melissa+. "Getting Together, Getting in Trouble: Inventive Parenting, Moral Capital, and Collective Narratives in Mexican families." Paper accepted for presentation at the

2021 Annual American Sociological Association Meeting in August 2021. (Virtual conference due to COVID-19 pandemic.)

Alcaraz, Melissa+. “More than Friends: Profiles of Adolescent Romantic Relationships in Rural Mexico.” Paper accepted for poster presentation at the 2021 Annual Population Association of America meeting in May 2021. (Virtual conference due to COVID-19 pandemic.)

Alcaraz, Melissa<sup>†</sup>, Ashley Larsen Gibby<sup>†</sup>, and Nancy Luke. 2020. “Non-Parental Family Members as Brokers of Family Social Capital: Compensatory Time Use in India.” Paper accepted for poster presentation at the 2021 Annual Population Association of American meeting in May 2021. (Virtual conference due to COVID-19 pandemic.)

## 2020

Alcaraz, Melissa+. “More than Friends: Profiles of Adolescent Romantic Relationships in Rural Mexico.” Paper presented at the 2020 Annual BGSU/OSU Graduate Student Conference on Population, Bowling Green State University, October 30, 2020.

Alcaraz, Melissa+. “Marry, Attend School, or Migrate?: Adolescent Marital Aspirations within a Context of Declining Migration.” Paper accepted for presentation at the 2020 Annual American Sociological Association meeting in San Francisco, California, August 2020. (Conference moved online due to COVID-19 pandemic.)

Alcaraz, Melissa+, and Sarah Hayford. “Gender Differences in Adolescent Time Use: Comparisons Across Three Low-Income Settings.” Paper accepted for presentation at the 2020 Annual Population Association of America meeting in Washington, D.C., April 24, 2020. (Conference canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic.)

Edmunds, Chrisse\*, and Melissa Alcaraz+. “Early Childhood Hardship and Adolescent Mental Health.” Paper accepted for presentation at the 2020 Annual Population Association of America meeting in Washington, D.C., April 24, 2020. (Conference canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic.)

## 2019

Alcaraz, Melissa+. “Beyond Financial Resources: The Role of Parents’ Education in Predicting Children’s Educational Persistence in Mexico.” Paper presented at the 2019 Annual Population Association of America Meeting in Austin, Texas, April 12, 2019.

Alcaraz, Melissa+, Sarah R. Hayford, and Jennifer E. Glick. “Desired Fertility and Educational Aspirations: New Evidence from a Context of Rapid Social Change.” Paper presented at the Annual Population Association of America Meeting in Austin, Texas, April 11, 2019.

Alcaraz, Melissa+, Sarah Hayford, and Jennifer E. Glick. “Desired Fertility and Migration Aspirations: Comparative Results from Three High-Migration Contexts.” Paper presented at the 2019 Annual Conference of the *Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies*, Potsdam, Germany, September 27, 2019.

Edmunds, Chrisse\*+, and Melissa Alcaraz+. “Early Childhood Hardship and Adolescent Mental Health.” Presented in roundtable presentation at the 2019 Annual American Sociological Association Meeting in New York City, New York, August 13, 2019.

Glick, Jennifer+, Sarah Miller\*, Melissa Alcaraz, and Dirgha J. Ghimire. “Educational Aspirations and Migration: A Comparative Approach.” Paper presented at the 2019 Annual Population Association of America Meeting in Austin, Texas, April 11, 2019.

2018

Alcaraz, Melissa<sup>+</sup>, Sarah R. Hayford, and Jennifer E. Glick. “Desired Fertility and Educational Aspirations: New Evidence from a Context of Rapid Social Change.” Paper presented at the 2018 Annual Conference of the *Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies*, Milan, Italy, July 9, 2018.

Alcaraz, Melissa<sup>+</sup>. “Beyond Financial Resources: The Role of Parents’ Education in Predicting Children’s Educational Persistence in Mexico.” Paper presented at the 2018 Annual BGSU/OSU Graduate Student Conference on Population, Bowling Green State University, November 2, 2018

2017

Hayford, Sarah<sup>+</sup>, Melissa Alcaraz, Jennifer Glick, and Scott Yabiku. “Raising Boys and Girls in a Context of Rapid Social Change.” Poster presented at the International Population Conference, Cape Town, South Africa, October 31, 2017.

## **WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS**

2020 – 2021            U.S. Population Reference Bureau Policy Communication Training Program, NIH Policy Fellow.

Summer 2019            Russell Sage Foundation Summer Institute on Migration Methods.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### *Formal Positions*

Spring 2021            Recitation Instructor/Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University.

*Responsibilities:* Teaching two separate recitation sessions for 60 students in Statistics in Sociology.

Autumn 2015            Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, Brigham Young University.

*Responsibilities:* Assisted in classroom management and instruction of over 150 students in Introductory Sociology.

### *Guest Lectures*

Spring 2021            Guest lectured on “Advanced Social Science Research Methods” in SOCIOL 3487: Research Methods in Sociology at Ohio State University.

Autumn 2020            Guest lectured on “Sociology of Immigration” in SOC 481: Crime, Justice, and Corrections class at Brigham Young University.

Spring 2018            Guest lectured on “Sociology of Education” in SOCIOL 1101: Introductory Sociology class at Ohio State University.

## **RESEARCH AND POLICY EXPERIENCE**

2017 – 2021            Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Sociology, The Ohio State University.

Working with Dr. Sarah Hayford on Family Migration and Early Life Outcomes project, a large, multi-site, NIH-funded data collection project.

*Responsibilities:* Coding of in-depth qualitative interviews, analysis of quantitative survey data, interview training, translation, questionnaire

development, and preparing manuscripts for conference presentations and review for publication.

Spring 2016 Policy Intern, White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, Department of Education, Washington, D.C.  
*Responsibilities:* Research of and outreach to organizations around the country dedicated to improving educational access and attainment for Latinos.

### **DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

2020 – 2021 Graduate Student Representative, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology.

2019 – 2020 Graduate Student Representative, Spring Awards Committee, Department of Sociology.

2019 – 2020 Secretary, Migration and Mediterranean Studies Forum, The Ohio State University.

2018 – 2019 President, Sociology Graduate Student Association.

2018 – Present Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Sociology Graduate Student Association.

2018 – 2019 Graduate Student Mentor, Sociology Graduate Student Association.

2017 – 2018 Mentoring Committee, Sociology Graduate Student Association.

### **DEPARTMENT WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIPS**

SocPOP, Working group on population and demography  
SocPIE, Working group on power, inequality, and economy  
Working group on qualitative methods  
Working group on immigration and migration

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Sociological Association  
*Section Memberships:* Culture; Children and Youth; Family; Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility; International Migration; Population; Sociology of Education.

Population Association of America  
Society for Longitudinal and Lifecourse Studies

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Ad-hoc reviewer: *International Migration Review*, *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, *Social Problems*, *American Sociological Review*.

Social media communications team, ASA International Migration section, 2020-2021.

Social media team, Population Association of America Annual Meeting 2020.

### **LANGUAGES**

Fluent: English and Spanish

## PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Dr. Sarah Hayford (academic advisor)  
Professor and Director of Graduate Studies  
Department of Sociology  
Associate Director, Institute for Population Research  
The Ohio State University  
[hayford.10@osu.edu](mailto:hayford.10@osu.edu)

Dr. Kammi Schmeer  
Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology  
The Ohio State University  
[schmeer.1@osu.edu](mailto:schmeer.1@osu.edu)

Dr. Reanne Frank  
Professor  
Department of Sociology  
The Ohio State University  
[frank.219@osu.edu](mailto:frank.219@osu.edu)

Dr. Hollie Nyseth  
Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology  
The Ohio State University  
[brehm.84@osu.edu](mailto:brehm.84@osu.edu)

Dr. Jennifer E. Glick  
Hoffman Professor of Sociology & Demography  
Department of Sociology  
Director, Population Research Institute  
Pennsylvania State University  
[jeg115@psu.edu](mailto:jeg115@psu.edu)

Dr. Douglas B. Downey  
Professor of Sociology  
Director of Undergraduate Studies  
Department of Sociology  
The Ohio State University  
[downey.32@osu.edu](mailto:downey.32@osu.edu)