

# RACHEL MARGOLIS

Department of Sociology, The University of Western Ontario  
Social Sciences Center #5326  
London, Ontario, Canada; N6A 5C2  
rachel.margolis@uwo.ca

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## EMPLOYMENT

**University of Western Ontario, London ON, Canada** 2011-present  
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology July 2011 - Present  
Core Faculty, Center for Population, Aging, and Health

## EDUCATION

**University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA** 2011  
*Ph.D. Demography & Sociology*  
Dissertation: "Essays on Health, the Process of Aging, and Family Context."  
Committee: Irma T. Elo (chair), Samuel H. Preston, and Jason Schnittker  
Demography Exams: Ph.D. Exam 2008, Masters Exam 2007  
Sociology Exams: Preliminary Exam, with Distinction 2008, Comprehensive Exam in Sociology of the Family and the Life Course 2009  
*M.A. Demography* 2007

**London School of Economics, London, UK** 2005  
*M.Sc. Population & Development*  
*General Course Program, Department of Social Policy* 2002-2003

**Cornell University, Ithaca, NY** 2004  
*B.A. Government*

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social demography; Health and well-being throughout the life course; Medical sociology; Population and development; Population aging; Fertility and the family

## PUBLICATIONS

Margolis, Rachel, and Mikko Myrskylä. 2011. A Global Perspective on Happiness and Fertility. *Population and Development Review* 37(1): 29-56.

Margolis, Rachel. 2010. Childhood Morbidity and Health in Early Adulthood: Life course linkages in a high morbidity context. *Advances in Life Course Research* 15:132-146.

Elo, Irma T., Laryssa Mykyta, Rachel Margolis, and Jennifer F. Culhane. 2009. Perceptions of Neighborhood Disorder: The Role of Individual and Neighborhood Characteristics. *Social Science Quarterly* 90(5):1298-1320.

**WORKING PAPERS**

Margolis, Rachel. Education Differences in Health Behavior Changes and Adherence Among Middle-Aged Americans.

*2011 Winner of the Etienne Van de Walle Prize (Awarded biennially for the best paper in demography written by a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania)*

Margolis, Rachel. Partnership, Family Transitions, and Health Behavior Changes.

Margolis, Rachel. You Do As I Do: Partner's Characteristics and Health Behavior Changes in Middle Age.

Myrskylä, Mikko, and Rachel Margolis. Happiness: Before and After the Kids

Margolis, Rachel, and Frank F. Furstenberg. Class Divergence and Racial Convergence: Changing Trends in Marriage During Pregnancy.

Margolis, Rachel, and Mikko Myrskylä. Family, Money, and Health: Regional Differences in Life Cycle Happiness and its Determinants.

**GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Etienne Van de Walle Prize, Awarded Biennially for the best paper in demography written by a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania	2011
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Societies Scholars Fellowship (Declined)	2011-2013
University of Pennsylvania, SAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship	2010-2011
NIA Training Grant Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania	2009-10
NICHD Training Grant Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania	2006-07, 2008-09
Pilot Award for The Effects of Nutrition and Disease on Child Growth and Adult Health (PARC/Boettner/NICHD Trio award with Samuel H. Preston)	2007-08
GAPSA-Provost Interdisciplinary Innovation Award, \$6,000	2009
Pollak Summer Research Fellowship, \$2,500	2009
SAS Graduate Student Travel Award	2009, 2010
GAPSA Research Student Travel Grant	2007, 2008, 2011
University Fund	2006-09
Center for High Impact Philanthropy, Global Development Initiative	2007
Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship	2007

**OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Research Assistant, Dr. Samuel H. Preston, Professor of Demography** 2007-08  
 Researched the effects of nutrition and disease on child growth and adult health using the Guatemalan INCAP Longitudinal Study and the Human Capital Study.

**Research Assistant, Dr. Irma Elo, Professor of Sociology** 2006, 2008  
 Conducted spatial data analysis, mapping census data and other contextual level data. Researched racial/ethnic disparities in health and birth outcomes for "Communities' Roles in Birth Outcomes" project.

**Summer Fellow, Save the Children, Bolivia** 2007  
 Designed and validated survey instruments to study the connection between Save the Children's health and income generation projects. Conducted qualitative interviews with participants in income generation projects to understand how programs affected families and communities.

**SUPPLEMENTARY TRAINING**

- RAND Summer Institute: Mini-Medical School for Social Scientists, Santa Monica, CA 2009  
 RAND Summer Institute: Workshop on Aging, Santa Monica, CA 2009

**TEACHING**

**Instructor for Demographic Techniques/Population Research Methods** Fall 2011  
 University of Western Ontario

**Instructor for Population and Society**, University of Pennsylvania 2008  
 College of General Studies/College of Liberal and Professional Studies.  
 Designed and taught an undergraduate course for 15 students which provided an introduction to the major topics in demography.

**Guest Lecturer**, University of Pennsylvania  
 "Low Fertility" in Demographic Methods (undergraduate) Fall 2009  
 "Health Behaviors and Population Health" in Medical Sociology (undergraduate) Spring 2011

**Teaching Interests**

Health of populations; Social research methods; Quantitative methods; Demographic methods; Event history analysis; Sociology of the family; Sociology of the life course; Sociology of health and medicine; Population and society.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Early Life Conditions and Later Life Health: Childhood morbidity and later life health. 2011  
 Poster presented at The Long Run Impact of Early Life Events III Conference, Ann Arbor.

Partner Characteristics and the Initiation and Maintenance of Healthy Lifestyle Changes. 2011  
 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington D.C.

Education Differences in the Maintenance of Smoking Cessation and Physical Activity. 2011  
 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington D.C.

Social Support and Healthy Lifestyle Changes: Patterns by Gender and Race. 2011  
 Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia.

A Global Perspective on Happiness and Fertility. Department of Decision Sciences, 2011  
 Bocconi University (Invited presentation)

Education Differences in Healthy Behavior Changes and Adherence. RAND Corporation 2011  
 (Invited presentation)

Education Differences in Healthy Lifestyle Changes and Adherence. University of 2010  
 Massachusetts Boston (Invited presentation)

A Global Perspective on Happiness and Fertility. Department of Sociology, University of 2010  
 Western Ontario. (Invited presentation)

Happiness and Marital Status: Globally and Across Contexts. With Mikko Myrskylä. 2010  
 European Population Conference, Vienna.

Happiness and Marital Status: Globally and Across Contexts. With Mikko Myrskylä. 2010  
 Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Atlanta.

Health Behavior Change among Middle Aged and Older Americans: SES Differences 2010  
 in Changes and Adherence. Annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Dallas.

	Margolis
Happiness and Fertility Globally and Across Countries: Does the Context Matter? With Mikko Myrskylä. Annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Dallas.	2010
Social Class Differences in the Timing of First Sex, First Birth, and Marriage. With Frank F. Furstenberg. Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco.	2009
Multiple Partner Fertility and Relationship Stability. With Laryssa Mykyta. Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Boston.	2008
Early Childhood Disease Patterns and Metabolic Function in Early Adulthood. Annual meeting of the Population Association of America, New Orleans.	2008
Neighborhood Characteristics: Objective versus Subjective Measurement. With Laryssa Mykyta and Irma T. Elo. Annual meeting of the Population Association of America, New York.	2007

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

<b>Organizer of Brown Bag Series: Center for Population, Aging, and Health</b> University of Western Ontario	2011-2012
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### **Professional Memberships**

Population Association of America  
 Sociologists for Women in Society  
 American Sociological Association, Sections: Aging and the Life Course, Sociology of Population, Sociology of the Family, Medical Sociology

<b>Demography Club (Co-Chair)</b> , University of Pennsylvania Organized academic and social events for Demography Ph.D. students and fostered integration between students and faculty members	2007-08, 2009-10
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<b>Organizer, Spanish Language Group</b> , University of Pennsylvania Coordinated Spanish language events for graduate students and faculty associated with the Population Studies Center	2006-08
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<b>Graduate Student Mentor</b> , Graduate Group in Demography Advised two cohorts of new graduate students with their adjustment to graduate life	2007-09
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### **Reviewer**

Population and Development Review, Journal of Health and Social Behavior

## **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

English (native), Spanish (proficient)

## REFERENCES

Dr. Irma T. Elo  
Professor of Sociology  
232 McNeil Building  
3718 Locust Walk  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
popelo@pop.upenn.edu

Dr. Frank F. Furstenberg  
Professor Emeritus, Sociology  
275 McNeil Building  
3718 Locust Walk  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
fff@pop.upenn.edu

Dr. Samuel H. Preston  
Professor of Demography  
289 McNeil Building  
3718 Locust Walk  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
spreston@falcon.sas.upenn.edu

Dr. Jason Schnittker  
Associate Professor of Sociology  
220 McNeil Building  
3718 Locust Walk  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
jschnitt@ssc.upenn.edu