

Kate Elizabeth Masley

Menomonee Falls, WI
katemasley@msn.com

EDUCATION

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, August 2007

Ph.D. in Medical Anthropology, Advanced to Candidacy in August 2004

Graduated Summa cum laude, Defended Dissertation in May 2007, GPA: 4.0

Dissertation Title: *Living the "Latina Paradox": An Ethnography of Pregnant and Postpartum Mexican Immigrants in Northeast Ohio*

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, January 2002

Master of Arts in Medical Anthropology, GPA: 4.0

Graduated Summa cum laude

Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, May 1998

Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, Concentration in Women's Studies

Graduated Magna cum laude with highest departmental honors

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Instructor, School of Health Sciences, Cleveland State University, 1/09-Present

As an instructor in the School of Health Sciences at Cleveland State University, I have been teaching three online courses that I designed: HSC 393/570: *Health Disparities*, HSC 305/505: *Culture and Health Care* and HSC 344/544: *Social Issues in Health Care*. I have also taught HSC 502: *Leadership in Health Sciences*. In addition, I have advised and mentored undergraduate and graduate students with their independent research projects.

Health Disparities Curriculum Developer, Center for Health Equity, Cleveland State University, 8/07-Present

As a consultant, I am assisting in the development of a health disparities curriculum for Cleveland State University (NIH P60 EXPORT Grant) by creating online modules based on the California Newsreel documentary series, *Unnatural Causes*, and an undergraduate/graduate course, HSC 393/570: *Health Disparities*. Currently, I am in the process of developing an online undergraduate/graduate course focused on Community-Based Participatory Research Methods.

Ethnographer, SmartRevenue, 1/11-Present

I conduct ethnographic research and interviews in local retail stores in the Milwaukee/ Madison/ Chicago areas for consumer and market research.

Director, Research Center for Women and Girls, Alverno College, 8/09-2/11

As Director, I was in charge of creating and developing the new Research Center for Women and Girls (RCWG) at Alverno College from the ground up. Under my leadership, the RCWG was a collaborative, multidisciplinary, and action-oriented research center focused on initiating positive social change in the lives of women and girls in Milwaukee and beyond.

As Director, I led and mentored a team of 8 undergraduate and graduate student researchers who conducted research projects focusing on topics, such as women's health, relational aggression/bullying, body image/self-esteem, pregnancy & birth, women, work, and pay equity, and health disparities. With every project we conducted, we applied intersectionality theory and looked closely at the root causes of these issues and inequalities. In addition to research, I had the responsibility of initiating and maintaining community outreach/partnerships and creating a center that acted as a bridge from academia to the community.

Project Coordinator, Hispanic Nursing Project, Carroll University, 8/08-2/09

As Coordinator of the Hispanic Nursing Project (The HNP was a federally funded academic support program, HRSA Grant Number 6-D19HP04154-05-01), I advised and mentored 60 undergraduate economically and/or educationally disadvantaged nursing students who planned to work as bilingual, culturally competent nurses in Spanish-speaking communities after graduating from Carroll University. Along with organizing tutoring/peer mentoring programs and diversity/cultural programs both on campus, in the community, and in local schools, I also planned and executed outreach events to encourage students to interact and build relationships with Hispanic community members. In addition, I organized and led a Summer Institute for incoming freshmen students to help them transition into college life. I met with freshmen students on a weekly basis and I was also in frequent contact with their professors regarding the students' progress. My duties also included overseeing the grant budget. In addition, I worked closely with the Director of Student Success/Retention and Academic Support professionals to make sure that HNP students had the support that they needed to continue to succeed throughout their four years in the rigorous nursing program at Carroll University.

Assistant Professor, Department of Health Sciences, Cleveland State University, 8/07-5/08

In this multidisciplinary department focused on providing a curriculum that prepares students for careers in healthcare, I taught the undergraduate and graduate course, HSC 305/505: *Culture and Health Care*. I also designed and instructed two undergraduate and graduate courses: HSC 346/570 *Women's Health* and HSC 393/544: *Social Issues in Health Care: Focus on Health Disparities*. I advised and mentored undergraduate and graduate students with their independent research projects. I also took a lead role in developing a health disparities curriculum for Cleveland State University (NIH P60 EXPORT Grant). Additionally, I was an affiliated faculty member in the CSU Women's Studies Department.

Graduate Assistant, Anthropology Department, Case Western Reserve University, 9/05-5/06; 8/00-5/02

As a graduate assistant in the CWRU Department of Anthropology, I lectured and led discussions in undergraduate and graduate classes (ANTH 314: *Cultures in the United States*, ANTH 504: *Anthropological Research Design*) along with proctoring and correcting undergraduate exams/papers. I also worked as a research assistant on faculty members' grant-funded research projects which focused on topics ranging from women's health and domestic violence to experiences of schizophrenia and mental illness.

RESEARCH AREAS OF INTEREST

- Women's Health and Reproductive Studies/Justice
- Health Disparities
- Cultural Competency
- Urban Health & Immigrant Health
- Latinas/os in the United States
- African American Women's Health & Political Economy of Women's Health

EXTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (BCS 0413836), 9/04-5/07

A grant funding my dissertation research focusing on Mexican immigrant women's pregnancy management practices and childbirth experiences titled, *Living the "Latina Paradox": An Ethnography of Pregnant and Postpartum Mexican Immigrants in Northeast Ohio*.

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (ID: 0413836), 9/02-9/05

A three-year fellowship supporting my graduate education and living expenses.

National Science Foundation Summer Institute for Research Design in Cultural Anthropology Student, July 28, 2003-August 16, 2003

A three-week intensive workshop focusing on research design in cultural anthropological dissertation research projects and grant writing.

All-USA College Academic Second Team, February 1998

Recognized and honored for cross-cultural anthropological research on Honduran and Ohioan women's experiences of pregnancy and childbirth by USA Today.

UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Cleveland State University Engaged Learning Faculty-Student Grant, awarded in 4/08, A summer grant to support an undergraduate student's research experience on my research project, which focused on providing necessary sociocultural and ethnographic context to the variation of pregnancy, childbirth, and infant health outcome experiences among a multiethnic sample of mothers in Cleveland, Ohio.

CWRU Baker-Nord Center for Humanities Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 7/06-5/07

A year-long fellowship to support the completion of my dissertation titled, *Living the 'Latina Paradox': An Ethnography of Pregnant and Postpartum Mexican Immigrants in NE Ohio*.

CWRU College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, 1/06-5/06

A semester-long fellowship (requires participation in weekly interdisciplinary seminars with doctoral students & includes stipend) to support the beginning stages of dissertation writing.

CWRU Baker-Nord Center for Humanities Graduate Research Grant, 12/05-Present

A grant covering my travel expenses for the purposes of collecting data for my dissertation research.

Phi Beta Kappa Grant from CWRU, April 2005

A grant supporting my dissertation research focusing on pregnancy management, childbirth practices, and ethnic identity among Mexican immigrant and Mexican Americans in Northeast Ohio.

CWRU Department of Anthropology Graduate Assistantship, 9/05-5/06; 8/00-5/02

CWRU Flora Stone Mather Center for Women Conference Scholarship Recipient, June 2005
A scholarship funding participation in the National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference.

CWRU Endowment-Sponsored Mentorship Program Grant Recipient, September 2003
A grant funding the presentation of my paper, "Waiting and Gestating in the 'Other America': An Ethnography of an OB/GYN Clinic Waiting Room," at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in November 2003 in Chicago, IL.

Phi Beta Kappa Grant from CWRU, April 2003
A grant supporting my preliminary dissertation research on pregnancy management practices and the daily lives of Latinas in Cleveland, Ohio.

CWRU Department of Anthropology Urban Health Summer Grant, April 2003
A grant supporting my preliminary dissertation research on pregnancy management practices and the daily lives of Latinas in Cleveland, Ohio.

CWRU Eva L. Pancoast Fellowship, April 2001
A grant to conduct preliminary dissertation research in Santa Rosa de Copán, Honduras focusing on the pregnancy management practices and childbirth experiences among Honduran women.

RESEARCH/FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

Current Research

I am currently in the process of turning my dissertation, *Living the "Latina Paradox": An Ethnography of Pregnant and Postpartum Mexican Immigrants in Northeast Ohio*, into a book. I have just begun talking with different university presses about the possibility of publishing my manuscript.

Recent Research

As Director of the Alverno College Research Center for Women and Girls, I led several different research projects focusing on pregnancy and birth, body image/self-esteem, bullying/relational aggression, and women, work, and the political economy. One major research project that I led involved conducting ethnographic research on the range of lived experiences among women and girls living in the central city of Milwaukee, with a particular focus on women and girls of color. A qualitative project such as this was crucial because it contributed much-needed context to the quantitative data that had already been collected so far on women and girls in Milwaukee (e.g., data from the 2007 and 2010 Status of Girls in WI reports, the 2004 Status of Women in WI report, and 2006 Status of Women in Milwaukee County report). In addition, it was our hope that a project such as this would help dispel many negative stereotypes particularly surrounding urban women/girls of color and reproductive health.

Dissertation Research

From 10/04-5/07, I conducted my dissertation research titled, *Living the "Latina Paradox": An Ethnography of Pregnant and Postpartum Mexican Immigrants in Northeast Ohio*. My research was rooted in what many public health researchers call the "Latina Paradox." According to this "paradox," statistics show that Mexican women in the U.S. are generally having healthy babies (i.e., their children are born of a healthy weight and rarely premature).

Even though many Mexicans in the U.S. generally represent a low-income group, lack sufficient health insurance, and many maintain low education rates and low prenatal care utilization, Mexican women are still giving birth to healthy infants. This project sought to understand what Mexican women and families in the United States may be doing to help prevent poor infant health outcomes.

This study has two major findings regarding women's reproductive practices. First, this study provides Mexican immigrant women's own perspective on the "Latina paradox" and why U.S. Mexicans are giving birth to healthy babies. Mexican women attributed these positive infant health outcomes to their pregnancy practices, which they characterized as "taking care of ourselves." Even Mexican immigrants who reported not following this constellation of practices described them as practices that they learned from their mothers and which contribute to healthy babies. A second important finding is that the cost and payment structure of biomedical care is linked to patterns of use of informal pregnancy management and postpartum practices. Specifically, in locations which require per-visit fees, as opposed to more flexible payment plans, women relied more on informal practices.

In sum, these findings demonstrate that Mexican immigrants in Northeast Ohio use a range of biomedical and informal pregnancy management and postpartum practices which are affected by their cultural background and the socioeconomic realities of the biomedical system. As such, this study provides support for investigations of the "Latina paradox," which acknowledge and examine both sociocultural and structural factors shaping Mexican women's pregnancy and postpartum practices.

Preliminary Dissertation Research

From 9/03-8/04, I worked on a preliminary dissertation research project titled, *Investigating the Experiences of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Becoming a Mother Among Latinas in Cleveland*. This research was funded by CWRU's Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Society and the Department of Anthropology's Urban Health Initiative. I conducted participant observation in the OB/GYN clinic at MetroHealth Medical Center's McCafferty Health Center and conducted semi-structured interviews with pregnant Latinas and Latina mothers about their experiences of pregnancy, pregnancy management, childbirth, and motherhood.

Preliminary/Exploratory Dissertation Research Abroad

From 5/02-6/02, as a Case Western Reserve University Eva L. Pancoast Fellow, I conducted exploratory ethnographic research in Santa Rosa de Copán, Honduras, in which my aims were as follows: 1.) to gain a better understanding of the ranges of pregnancy and birth contexts existing in Western Honduras and on a broader level, 2.) to gain a better understanding as to how Latin American women in their countries of origins take care of themselves and their unborn children during pregnancy.

Research Experience in Case Western Reserve University Faculty Projects

As a graduate assistant in the Department of Anthropology at Case Western Reserve University, I worked on faculty research projects funded by the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health, and the Cleveland Foundation in which I collected, coded, and analyzed qualitative and quantitative data focusing on schizophrenia and domestic violence.

Past Research Experiences as an Undergraduate

My research experience began as an undergraduate anthropology student at Kenyon College. As the first cultural anthropology student to ever receive a Kenyon College Summer Science Scholar grant, I conducted a comparative ethnographic research project on women's views towards pregnancy and childbirth both in Knox County, Ohio, and in the Department of Cortés, Honduras. This cross-cultural comparative study acted as my senior honors thesis.

AFFILIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Society, Member, May 1998 – Present
Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Member, May 1998 – Present
Sigma Delta Epsilon: Graduate Women in Science, Member, September 2005 – May 2008
American Anthropological Association, Member, September 2000-Present
Society for Medical Anthropology, Member, September 2000-Present
Association for Feminist Anthropology, Member, September 2000-Present
Society for Applied Anthropology, Member, October 2003-Present
Council on Anthropology and Reproduction, Member, March 2003-Present
Society for the Anthropology of North America, Member, 5/02-5/03, 3/06-Present
National Women's Studies Association (NWSA), Member, 10/09-Present
Midwest Sociological Society, Member, 12/08-Present
Reviewer, Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health, July 2007-Present
Reviewer, National Science Foundation, Cultural Anthropology Program, 11/09-Present
Doulas of North America (DONA) International, Member, February 2002-Present
Doula Network of Northeast Ohio, Member, February 2002-May 2008
HOLA (Hispanas Organizadas de Lake y Ashtabula), Member, November 2004 – August 2009
HOLA, Member, Board of Directors, November 2006-August 2009
Images of Us (IOU) Sports, Board Member, 5/10-Present
Family Planning Association of NE Ohio, Member, Advisory Council, Jan. 2008-August 2009
Cleveland State University Women's Studies Faculty, Member, August 2007-May 2008
University's Advisory Council on Women, CWRU, Graduate Student Member, 11/02 – 8/04
Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, CWRU, Member, 8/00-8/07
Women of the World/Women's Health Conference Committee, Member, 8/09-2/11
Girls in Charge Coalition, Member, 8/09-2/11
NWSA Girls' Studies Interest Group, Member, 10/09-Present
Professional Dimensions, Member, 1/10-Present
LIHF (Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families) Social Determinants of Health Taskforce, Member, 10/10-Present

RELATED WORK/ LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

DONA-Certified Birth Doula

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 2008-Present

Cleveland, Ohio, January 2004-May 2008

A birth doula is a trained labor support person that assists women during pregnancy and birth. I began training in January 2004 and became certified by DONA in October 2006. I volunteered as a bilingual birth doula at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio from September 2004-May 2008. I supported and helped women, many of whom were Spanish-speaking only, who did not have support during pregnancy and birth. I am currently a birth doula in Milwaukee and I hope to continue my volunteer doula practice.

Co-founder of the Women's Reproductive Health Forum

Case Western Reserve University, September 2001 – May 2003

The Women's Reproductive Health Forum was an interdisciplinary student group that focused on women's reproductive health issues and concerns along with bringing speakers to campus.

Lower and Middle School Spanish Teacher, Morgan Park Academy

Chicago, Illinois, August 1999-June 2000

I designed and implemented Spanish curriculum for students in kindergarten through sixth grade and incorporated Hispanic cultural appreciation and awareness.

Lower and Middle School Teacher, Hector Emilio Medina Bilingual School

Santa Rosa de Copán, Honduras, August 1998 – April 1999

I was responsible for creating and implementing curriculum for Honduran students in second, third, fourth, and sixth grades in all academic content areas.

CAMO Organizer and Volunteer, Central American Medical Outreach

Santa Rosa de Copán, Honduras, August 1998 – April 1999

I led and conducted art activities with children in a local hospital who were survivors of Hurricane Mitch. I organized medical supplies in a local hospital as part of Hurricane Mitch relief efforts. I also assisted the Director with data entry and performed clerical duties.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Presenter with Melissa Ugland, MPH, "Sexual Assault Against Women: An Examination of Progress, or Lack Thereof, Since the Anti-Rape Movement of the 1970s," 2011 Wisconsin Women's Studies Conference and the UW System LGBTQ Conference, Madison, WI, March 2011

Presenter with Student Researchers Ciara King, Benetria McGowan, and Jenny Saucerman, "A History of Birth: Contributions from Lamaze International and the International Childbirth Educators Association (ICEA)," ICEA and Lamaze International Mega Conference, Milwaukee, WI, September 2010

Presenter, "Status of Girls in Wisconsin: Findings from the 2010 Research Update," Annual Women's Fund Meeting, Madison, WI, Summer 2010

Presenter with Veronica Dahlberg, "Blending Advocacy with Ethnography to Understand Latino Immigrant Experiences of ICE Raids," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 2008

Presenter, "Inescapable Inequalities: Reproduction among Midwestern Undocumented Mexican Immigrants," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, November 2007

Presenter, "La Partera, La Clinica, a Healthy Diet, Taking Care of Ourselves, and La Cuarentena: Pregnant and Postpartum Midwestern Mexicans Avoiding Disaster," Society for the Anthropology of North America Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, April 2007

Presenter, "The Anthropology of North America: Cited Not Nearly Enough and Still Earning Respect," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, November 2006

Co-organizer of panel, "So, you want to be anthropologist? The Politics, Pressures, and Pleasures of Conducting Fieldwork in the U.S.," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, November 2006

Presenter, "Exploring Pregnancy Management Among Latinas and Treating Them as Experts," Society for Medical Anthropology and Society for Applied Anthropology Joint Meeting, Dallas, Texas, March 2004

Presenter, "Waiting and Gestating in the 'Other America': An Ethnography of an OB-GYN Clinic Waiting Room," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, November 2003

Presenter, "Addressing the 'Latina Paradox' in Ethnographic Fieldwork," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 2002

Presenter, "Applying an Anthropological Analysis to the 'Latina Paradox'," Middle Atlantic Graduate Student Conference on Latin America, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, October 2002

Presenter, "Unraveling the 'Latina Paradox,'" Society for the Anthropology of North America and Canadian Anthropology Society Joint Meeting, University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, May 2002

UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

Presenter with Graduate Student Researcher Meg Rao, "Tools to Understand and Tackle Bullying in the Girl World," Building a Bully-Free Community Forum: How NOT to be a Bystander, Waukesha, WI, November 2010

Invited guest, "Status of Girls in Wisconsin," WUWM Milwaukee Public Radio's Lake Effect with Mitch Teich, Milwaukee, WI, May 2010,
http://www.wuwm.com/programs/lake_effect/view_le.php?articleid=977

Presenter with Student Researchers Kaela Broemer, Kassie Cornelius, Katie Krueger, Carolyn Mattox, Meg Rao, and Bridgett Shepherd, "Findings from the Status of Girls in Wisconsin: A Research Update," Alverno College Conference Center, Milwaukee, WI, April 2010

Presenter, "Situating Women and Girls at the Very Center: The New Alverno College Research Center for Women and Girls," Alverno College Roundtable, Milwaukee, WI, March 2010

Presenter, "Alverno College Research Center for Women and Girls: An Introduction," Girls in Charge Coalition meeting, Milwaukee, WI, February 2010

Invited guest, "Status of Girls and Women in Wisconsin," WUWM Milwaukee Public Radio's Lake Effect with Mitch Teich, Milwaukee, WI, February 2010
http://www.wuwm.com/programs/lake_effect/view_le.php?articleid=919

Presenter of poster with Evelyn Baldeon, “An Exploratory Research Study of Traditional and Spiritual Health Among Latinos in Northeast Ohio,” CSU College of Science Research Day, Cleveland, Ohio, May 2008

Presenter of poster with Ravinder Sandhu, B.S., “An Exploration of the Impact of Medical Technology During Pregnancy and Childbirth in Northeast Ohio,” CSU College of Science Research Day, Cleveland, Ohio, May 2008

Presenter, “Pregnancy Management Practices and Childbirth Experiences Among Mexican Immigrants in Northeast Ohio,” MetroHealth Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio, November 2007

Presenter of poster, “Living the ‘Latina Paradox’: Mexican Immigrants in Northeast Ohio,” Research ShowCASE, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, April 2007

Presenter, “An Ethnography of Pregnancy Management Practices Among Latinas in Cleveland,” Urban Health Summer Research Fellows Roundtable, Department of Anthropology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, October 2003

Presenter, “An Ethnographic Study on Honduran and Ohio Women’s Experiences of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Becoming a Mother,” University Women’s Coalition Meeting, Case Western Reserve University, March 2002

PUBLICATIONS AND THESES

Masley, K., Katie Krueger, Kaela Broemer, Meg Rao, Cassie Cornelius, Carolyn Mattox, and Bridgett Shepherd. 2010. *Status of Girls in Wisconsin Research Update*. Alverno College Research Center for Women and Girls.

Masley, K. 2007. *Living the “Latina Paradox”: An Ethnography of Pregnant and Postpartum Mexican Immigrants in Northeast Ohio*. Ph.D. Dissertation, Case Western Reserve University.

Masley, K. “The Anthropology of North America: Cited Not Nearly Enough and Still Earning Respect,” *North American Dialogue: The Journal of the Society for the Anthropology of North America* 10(2007): 1-5.

Masley, K. “Notes from the Field,” *Council on Anthropology and Reproduction Newsletter* 14(2007):6.

Masley, K. “Waiting and Gestating in the ‘Other America’: An Ethnography of an OB/GYN Clinic Waiting Room,” *Graduate Discourse Journal: The Case Western Reserve University Journal of Medical Anthropology* 3(2007): 20-29.

Masley, K. “Dispelling the Myths and Shattering the Stereotypes Surrounding Latinas: Contributions from Ethnography and ‘Alternative’ Forms of Data,” *Graduate Discourse Journal: A Journal of Student Work from Case Western Reserve University* 2(2003): 31-46.

Masley, K. “Unrolling from the ‘Primitive’ to the ‘Civilized,’” *Graduate Discourse Journal: A Journal of Student Work from Case Western Reserve University* 1(2001): 65-73.

Masley, K. 1998. *Women's Views on Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Becoming a Mother: A Cross-Cultural Comparative Study*. Honors Thesis, Kenyon College.

LANGUAGES

Spanish (fluent), Maya Hieroglyphics