

Kaitlin H. Joshua

Department of Sociology
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2027 (expected)

Examination Areas: Medical Sociology, Family Sociology

Dissertation: “Fruits of Our Labor: A Qualitative Model of Fertility”

Advisor: Jessica Su

M.A., Department of Sociology, 2024

Thesis: “‘Beyond Baby Blues’: Making Sense of Postpartum Depression Online”

Advisor: Taylor Hargrove

B.A., Medicine, Health, and Society, Economics Vanderbilt University, 2021

Honors in Medicine, Health, and Society

AREAS OF INTEREST

Reproduction, Health/Medicine/Illness, Family Sociology, Fertility, Gender, Transition to Parenthood, Mental Health, Qualitative Methods, Mixed Methods

FUNDING & AWARDS

2026	Odum Award for Excellence, UNC Sociology Small Research Grant, UNC Sociology (\$420)
2024	Graduate Student Transportation Grant, UNC Graduate School (\$1,500)
2023	Graduate Research Fellowship Program, National Science Foundation (\$147,000) Summer Research Stipend, UNC Sociology (\$4,000)
2022	Summer Research Stipend, UNC Sociology (\$4,000)
2019	Lovinger Family Internship Fund, Vanderbilt University Career Center (\$5,000)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles

Joshua, Kaitlin H. 2026. “‘I thought I could postpartum-proof my experience’: Embodying, resisting, and negotiating medicalization online.” *Social Science & Medicine*.

Allison, Bianca A., Alessandra Angelino, **Kaitlin H. Joshua**, Lydia Strayhorn, Peyton Rogers, and Emily S. Mann. 2024. “‘It Means Being Safe, Having Power over One’s Body’: Black Female Adolescent Experiences with Reproductive Health Counseling in Primary Care.” *Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology*.

Conference papers

Allison, Bianca A., Alessandra C. Angelino, **Kaitlin H. Joshua**, Peyton Rogers, and Lydia Strayhorn. 2023. "126. Black Female Adolescent Experiences with Reproductive Health Counseling in Primary Care: A Qualitative Study." *Journal of Adolescent Health*.

Works in progress

Joshua, Kaitlin H., Jenna Wertsching, Dana Haynie, Amanda Thompson, Lisa Pearce. "Who's In a Family? Composition and Boundaries in Self-Reported Families during Pregnancy."

Su, Jessica Houston, **Kaitlin H. Joshua**. "Feeding into Inequality: How Breastfeeding Shapes Gendered Roles in Parenting and Paid Employment in the United States."

Joshua, Kaitlin H. "Labors of Love: Gender, Equity, and Emotion Work in Aspiring Parents."

PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

2026

"Labors of Love: Gender, Equity, and Emotion Work in Aspiring Parents." UNC Social Forces Colloquium Series; Chapel Hill, NC; September 2026.

"Fruits of Our Labor: A Qualitative Model of Fertility." Tar Devils Sociology Symposium; Chapel Hill, NC; February 2026.

2025

"Fruits of Our Labor: A Qualitative Model of Fertility." Inequality Workshop, UNC Sociology, Chapel Hill, NC; September 2025.

"Conceiving Online: Anticipation, Family Planning, and Aspiring Parenthood." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Student Forum Section, Roundtable on Geography, Space, and Place, Chicago, IL; August 2025. [Presider]

Joshua, Kaitlin H., Jenna Wertsching, Dana Haynie, Amanda Thompson, Lisa Pearce. "Family Networks and Prenatal Distress." International Network for Social Network Analysis Sunbelt Conference, Social Support and Health, Paris, France; June 2025.

"'Beyond Baby Blues': Making Sense of Postpartum Depression Online." Population Association of America, Section on Fertility, Family Planning, Sexual Behavior, and Reproductive Health Poster Session, Washington, D.C.; April 2025.

"'Beyond Baby Blues': Making Sense of Postpartum Depression Online." Tar Devils Sociology Symposium, Durham, NC; February 2025.

2024

"'Beyond Baby Blues': Making Sense of Postpartum Depression Online." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Mental Health Section on Socioecological Determinants of Mental Health, Montréal, QC; August 2024.

Joshua, Kaitlin H, Bianca A. Allison, and Emily S. Mann. “‘I wanted to see what other people are going through’: How Black adolescents evaluate sources of sexual and reproductive health information in North Carolina.” Workshop on Race and Ethnicity, UNC Sociology Department, Chapel Hill, NC; January 2024.

2023

Joshua, Kaitlin H, Bianca A. Allison, and Emily S. Mann. “Reinforcing autonomy, building trust: Black girls’ evaluations of sources of sexual and reproductive health information.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Medical Sociology Section on Medical Mistrust, Misinformation, and Health, Philadelphia, PA; August 2023.

2020

“‘Restoring Cultures of Life’: Examining the Narrative Strategies of Pro-Life Facebook Groups.” Vanderbilt University Undergraduate Research Fair, Nashville, TN; September 2023.

TEACHING

Instructor of Record

Fall 2025	SOCI 89, Gender Equity in S.T.E.M. (co-taught)
Summer 2025	SOCI 422, Sociology of Mental Health and Illness
Summer 2024	SOCI 130, Family and Society

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Spring 2024	SOCI 124, Sex and Gender in Society
Fall 2023	SOCI 121, Population Problems
Spring 2023	SOCI 430, Sociology of Food and Food Justice
Fall 2022	SOCI 122, Race and Ethnicity
Spring 2022	SOCI 172, Introduction to Population Health
Fall 2021	SOCI 422, Sociology of Mental Health and Illness

Guest Lectures

“Gender and Health”
 Course: Sex and Gender (Spring 2024)
 “‘Beyond Baby Blues’: Making Sense of Postpartum Depression Online”
 Course: Qualitative Research Methods (Fall 2023)

SERVICE (by academic year)

2025-2026

Founder and Facilitator, Fellowship & Grants Working Group, UNC Sociology

2024-2025

Graduate Student Representative, Hiring Search Committee, UNC Sociology
 Reviewer, NSF GRFP Writing Workshop, UNC Materials Research Society

2023-2024

Reviewer, NSF GRFP Writing Workshop, UNC Materials Research Society
 Social Committee, UNC Sociology

2021-2023

Recruitment Committee, UNC Sociology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Project Coordinator, Carolina Population Center; 2023-2024

Graduate Research Assistant, UNC School of Medicine; 2022

Press Intern, Committee on Oversight and Reform, U.S. House of Representatives; 2020

Press Intern, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives; 2019

MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association (2021-present)

Section on Medical Sociology

Section on Family Sociology

Section on Sex and Gender

Section on Mental Health