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July 2007

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate in Sociology (completion expected 2008)
Stanford University, Stanford, CA
Dissertation: "Geographic Mobility & Homophily"
Committee: Noah Mark (Co-Chair), Paula England (Co-Chair), Michael Rosenfeld, Daniel McFarland, Mark Granovetter

Dissertation Description: This research brings together two significant areas of sociological research in a novel way: geographic mobility (i.e. migration) and the study of segregation and homophily. I propose that geographic mobility structurally constrains friendship homophily in different ways for different characteristics, by removing friendship ties formed during youth and replacing them with ties formed in adulthood. Ties made at different stages in the life cycle are formed in settings that are segregated in different ways, which creates differences in the homophily exhibited by the geographically mobile versus the stable. To test these predictions, I examine data from a variety of sources (the GSS, MCSUI, & NHSLs), including nationally representative data from a survey I constructed specifically for this purpose.

Complex Systems Summer School
Santa Fe Institute, Santa Fe, NM, 2003

MA in Sociology
Stanford University, Stanford, CA, 2002

BA in Philosophy (minor in Psychology)
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 1996

TEACHING & RESEARCH AREAS

Sociological Theory, Social Networks, Segregation\Homophily, Race\Ethnicity, Stratification\Inequality, Status, Geographic Mobility, Community, Civic Engagement, Voluntary Organizations, Life Course Transitions, Sex, Dating, Mating, & Macro-Historical Structural Change.

PUBLICATIONS

McFarland, Daniel A. and Reuben J. Thomas. 2006. "Bowling Young: How Youth Voluntary Associations Influence Adult Political Participation." *American Sociological Review*. 71,3: 401-25.

England, Paula and Reuben J. Thomas. 2006. "The Decline of the Date and the Rise of the College Hook Up." in Arlene Skolnick (ed.) *The Family in Transition*. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

In Progress

Thomas, Reuben J. "Population Size, Network Density, and the Emergence of Inherited Inequality." In progress.

Thomas, Reuben J. "Geographic Mobility and Homophily." In progress.

Thomas, Reuben J. & Daniel A. McFarland. "Bowling Young II: How Youth Voluntary Associations Affect Voting in Early Adulthood." In progress.

McFarland, Daniel A., Reuben J. Thomas, & David Diehl. "Adolescent Societies." In progress.

PRESENTATIONS

Thomas, Reuben J. & Daniel A. McFarland. August 2007. "Bowling Young II: How Youth Voluntary Associations Affect Voting in Early Adulthood." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY.

Thomas, Reuben J. June 2007. "Bowling Young II: How Youth Voluntary Associations Affect Voting in Early Adulthood." Service Learning Works-in-Progress Seminar at The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning & Engagement (CIRCLE), University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

Thomas, Reuben J. August 2006. "Geographic Mobility and Homophily." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, QB.

Thomas, Reuben J. April 2006. "Network Transitivity and Intergroup Relations." International Sunbelt Social Network Conference, Vancouver, BC.

Thomas, Reuben J. August 2004. "Population Size, Network Density, and the Emergence of Inherited Inequality." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.

Zinchenko, E., D. Steinbock, J. Miller, R. J. Thomas. June 2003. "When Dissent Is Good: The Interplay Between Reputation and Social Networks in an Artificial Society". Santa Fe Institute Complex Systems Summer School, Santa Fe, NM.

GRANTS

"Geographic Mobility & Homophily." Stanford University, School of Humanities & Sciences Graduate Research Opportunities Funds. June 2007. \$4,800 for data collection.

"Bowling Young II: How Youth Voluntary Associations Affect Voting in Early Adulthood." The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning & Engagement (CIRCLE), at the University of Maryland. Summer 2006. \$10,050 for one quarter of support.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Stanford University

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|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Spring 2005 | Mixed Methods Research Design | Professor Paula England |
| Winter 2005 | Sex and Love in Modern Society | Professor Paula England |
| Fall 2003 | Introduction to Sociology | Professor Rebecca Sandefur |
| Spring 2003 | Introduction to Sociology | Instructor: Kyra Greene |
| Fall 2002 | Introduction to Sociology | Professor Rebecca Sandefur |

Research Assistant, Stanford University

Summers 2003, 2004, & 2007 with Professor Daniel McFarland
"Adolescent Societies"

Summer 2005 to Present with Professor Paula England
"The College Social Life Survey"

Summer 2002 to Spring 2006 (8 quarters) with Professor Noah Mark
"The Emergence of Stratification," "Concurrency & HIV Transmission," "Network Transitivity & Intergroup Relations," & related projects

Statistical Software Consultant, Social Science Data & Software, Stanford University Library, Summer 2005 to Present

In this part-time role, I assist Stanford undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and staff in choosing and using both quantitative and qualitative software for their research. I also teach quarterly workshops that introduce students and staff to statistical software packages.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Committees in the Department of Sociology, Stanford University:
Admissions Committee, Graduate Representative 2006-07
Curriculum Committee, Graduate Representative 2005-06
Graduate Student Social Committee, Co-Chair 2003-04
Computing Committee, Graduate Representative 2002-03

REFERENCES

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