

JAX KYNN, M.A., M.S.W.

they/them/theirs

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work Michigan State University Focus: Macro-level interventions, systems-involved youth Advisor: Heather McCauley, Sc.D.	Expected, 2025
Master of Social Work Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey Focus: Management and Policy Concentration: Violence Against Women and Children Advisor: Judy Postmus, PhD, ACSW	2015
Master of Art, Gender Studies Central European University Thesis: “‘At least, it's not genocide': Internationalized gender equality standards and the neglect of ethnicity in contemporary Rwandan policies concerning sexual violence” Advisor: Elissa Helms, PhD	2013
Bachelor of Science, Political Science Florida State University Minor: Religion Graduated Summa Cum Laude	2011
Bachelor of Art, International Affairs Florida State University Minor: Spanish Graduated Summa Cum Laude	2011

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

SPARK Lab Co-Director Michigan State University East Lansing, MI	Sept 2020-present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Selected projects and work:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The Public Will Campaign: Four-year research project funded by CDC working in Northern Michigan communities to shift social norms around child sexual abuse.○ Gender Equity Reading Initiative (GERI): Grand Rapids-based project helping public libraries to create and evaluate a project offering developmentally appropriate social justice-focused books to children and their families.○ Creating Protective Environments Through School Policy Development: Five-year CDC-funded project focused on evaluate and develop inclusive and protective K-12 school policies.	

- **Fair Play:** Assisting Otterbein University researchers to design evaluation of bystander intervention and sexual violence prevention program targeting student athletes.
- **Minority Stress in Transgender Individuals:** NIH-funded project to develop and validate instrument to measure minority stress in transgender and gender diverse individuals.

Graduate Research Assistant

Consortium on Sexual and Gender Minority Health

Michigan State University

Jan 2021-present

East Lansing, MI

- Assist new Consortium director to increase the reach of the Consortium through new faculty and student membership, creating a regular newsletter, maintaining communication throughout the university via listserv, and developing new resources for Consortium members

Editing/Media Specialist II

Center for Research on Ending Violence

f.k.a. Center on Violence against Women and Children

Jan 2020-Dec 2021

New Brunswick, NJ

- *Selected projects and work:*
 - **Anatomy of Violence podcast:** Created, engineered and edited podcast that focused on providing public with information about violence on college campuses and how victims/survivors can access services. The podcast covered a variety of topics, including: LGBTQ+ students, athletes and law enforcement. Each episode, researchers in the field were interviewed. The podcast was a part of technical assistance of a grant to focused on connecting victims/survivors with services.
 - **Coffee Chats with Researchers podcast:** Engineered and edited podcast that focused on interviews with violence against women researchers. The podcast was a part of dissemination efforts for an NIJ Violence Against Women research consortium.

Research Associate

Education Development Center

Sept 2016-Jan 2020

New York, NY

- *Selected projects and work:*
 - **International gender-based violence projects:** Consulted with international development branch on several project proposals that focus on gender violence prevention, namely in sub-Saharan Africa
 - Conducted background research to aid in proposal and instrument development for Sub-Saharan Africa projects focusing on issues, such as the link between gender-based violence prevention and education.
 - Worked in Zambia on information-gathering trip to garner information from government and non-governmental officials about the current state and future plans for gender-based violence victims' services and gender-based violence prevention.
 - **New York City's Computer Science for All Initiative (CS4All)**
 - Managed and lead case study instrument development, data collection and analysis.

- Conducted interviews with teachers, school administration, Department of Education staff to better understand the effectiveness and impact of CS4All's efforts to bring computer science to NYC's low-income and minority youth.
 - Developed recommendations for Department of Education to integrate for future years of initiative.
- ***PLUM Rx: Engaging low-income urban families and children, ages 6-9, in outdoor science learning***
 - Developed instruments, including surveys, observation and interview protocols.
 - Led data collection for four research sites.
 - Assisted in data analysis, reporting and dissemination.
- **Proposal Development:** Developed innovative proposals that focus on interventions that connect underprivileged youth to STEM career development training

Project Coordinator

Center for Research on Ending Violence

f.k.a. Center on Violence Against Women and Children

Sept 2015-Sept 2016

New Brunswick, NJ

- ***Providing Services to Trafficking Victims: Understanding Practices Across the Globe***
 - Managed the entirety of the project that sought to explore the different best practices for a variety of service providers in different regions of the world who worked with victims of human trafficking.
 - Supervised three research assistants that helped with data collection.
 - Managed relationship and communication with partner organization.
 - Conducted over 30 interviews with service providers from 26 countries/6 continents in multiple languages.
 - Led analysis of data, report writing and dissemination.

Research Assistant

Center for Research on Ending Violence

f.k.a. Center on Violence Against Women and Children

Oct 2013-Aug 2015

New Brunswick, NJ

- ***Selected projects and work:***
 - ***Evaluating the Domestic Violence Liaison Project***
 - Led initial data collection efforts on each U.S. state's domestic violence liaison or equivalent.
 - Led literature review for project's first research brief.
 - ***Exploratory Project on Domestically Trafficked Adolescents in New Jersey***
 - Developed qualitative instruments to review Department of Children and Families case files and create recommendations for the agency.
 - Analyzed case file and stakeholder interview data.
 - Co-authored three research briefs.

Management & Policy Masters of Social Work Intern

Jersey Battered Women's Services

Sept 2014-Apr 2015

Morristown, NJ

- ***Teen Dating Violence Awareness***
 - Designed pre and post-test evaluation tools, implemented tool use and analyzed results for teen dating violence prevention program implemented in classrooms

- Integrated technology and social media into teen dating violence awareness programming, using Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to publicize agency’s campaign and connect to local middle and high schools
- Led the planning and implementation of annual teen leadership conference on teen dating violence for over 100 high school students and student assistant counselors
- **Yellow Card Program**
 - Developed white papers about strategies to build new teen dating violence program that focused on young male athletes
 - Planned stakeholder meetings with local coaches and school administrators to gauge support and interest in implementing new program
 - Helped to develop website and social media accounts to create and maintain teen participation and interest in the program
- **Human Trafficking policies:**
 - Updated agency’s human trafficking training materials to include evidence-based interventions, new anti-trafficking policies and the intersection of human trafficking and domestic violence
 - Developed training and awareness raising presentations for different types of audiences, like agency volunteers, community members, and agency staff.
- **Police data analysis:**
 - Analyzed police response to domestic violence, and wrote report on findings and trends in New Jersey.
 - Used findings to develop recommendations for Domestic Violence Response Teams (teams of staff and volunteers that work in police stations as a representative or support for domestic violence victims)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer

Michigan State University

May 2022-Present

- Understanding Violence & Abuse in Adulthood [mixed BSW/MSW course]:
 - I designed and taught this course. We focused on discussing theories about why violence and abuse occur, learning about a variety of types of violence/abuse, and discussing therapeutic interventions for violence victims/survivors
- Introduction to Feminisms [Women and Gender Studies, undergraduate course]:
 - I designed and taught this asynchronous online course. Students utilized weekly readings to examine and explore different types and aspects of feminisms and queer theories. Throughout the semester, students worked on a feminist activism project that they implemented. Their final project was a reflection of the project.

Lecturer

**School of Social Work
University of Michigan**

May 2021-Present

- Introduction to Organizational and Community Practice:
 - This introductory course covers a broad overview of important organizational management and community practice ideas, strategies, and challenges. Students work together in this course to analyze a community-level issue, development an intervention, and locate potential funding to implement the intervention. Their final projects for this course are grants proposals that would introduce their issue of interest to potential funders.

- Program Evaluation:
 - This course provides students with an introduction to program evaluation concepts, strategies and methods, and I focus on giving students opportunities to apply what they learn in class to clinical and macro social practice.
- Child development: infancy to early adulthood:
 - Required course for MSW student in child welfare track. This course provides an overview of physical, cognitive, and socio-emotional development throughout childhood, as well as major theories that are commonly used to conceptualize development. I encourage students to apply class topics to their social work practice with children and families.

Lecturer

School of Social Work

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Sept 2017-Present

- Research Methods in Social Work I:
 - First of two required research-focused MSW courses. I provide students with an introduction into research concepts and methods, and specifically relate them to social work practice and social work research.
- Social Welfare Policy & Services II: Violence Against Women & Children
 - Second of two required policy-focused MSW courses. This advanced policy course provided students with a foundational understanding of how policy around violence against women and child have evolved throughout the history of U.S. politics. Students learned how to analyze and critique current policies with an intersectional lens.
- Advanced Contemporary Policy: Interpersonal Violence
 - Second of two required policy-focused MSW courses. This course was a modified and updated version of SWPS II (above). In this course, students focused on learning about social welfare policies concerning different types of interpersonal violence, such as intimate partner violence, hate crimes, and human trafficking. Students learned how to critically analyze and evaluate policies' effectiveness and unintended consequences from a feminist, anti-racist and intersectional perspective.
- Understanding Violence & Abuse in Adulthood
 - Second of two required human development courses. This advanced course provided students with a deep dive into theories on the causes of violence and abuse committed by and to adults. Coursework also focused on applying theories and evidence-based interventions to real world social problems, and how violence and abuse may impact their social work practice.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Publications

Christensen, C., Jeon, J., Hostetter, C. R., Doyle, M., & **Kynn, J.** (2023). Facilitators and Barriers to Sexual and Gender Minority Youth Development: Addressing Accessibility and “Isms”, Building Collaborations, and Supporting Mental Health in Community-based Organizations. *Children and Youth Services Review*.

PettyJohn, M. E., **Kynn, J.**, Anderson, G. K., & McCauley, H. L. (2023). Secondary institutional betrayal: Implications for observing mistreatment of sexual assault survivors secondhand. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

Reid, T., **Kynn, J.**, and McCauley, H. L. (2023). Resilience in the Context of Sexual Violence: A Scoping Review. *Journal of Family Violence*.

Holloway, B.T., Hostetter, C.R., Morris, K., **Kynn, J.**, & Kilby, M. (2023). "We're all we have": Envisioning the future of mutual aid from queer and trans perspectives. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*.

Goldstein, M., Famularo, L., & **Kynn, J.** (2018). Researching a new pathway for promoting children's active outdoor science exploration in urban setting. *Journal of Outdoor Recreation, Education, and Leadership*, 11(2), 101-119.

Goldstein, M., Famularo, L., & **Kynn, J.** (2018). From Puddles to Pigeons: Learning about Nature in Cities. *Young Children*, 73(5).

Goldstein, M., Pierson, E., **Kynn, J.**, & Famularo, L. (2018). Connecting urban families with environmental science. *Connected Science Learning*, 5.

Steiner, Jordan J., **Kynn, J.**, Stylianou, A. M., & Postmus, J. (2018). Providing services to trafficking survivors: Understanding practices across the globe. *Journal of Evidence-Informed Social Work*, 15(2), 150-168.

Book Chapters

Pfeffer, C. A. & **Kynn, J.** (in press). Division of Labor. In A. E. Goldberg (Ed.), *The SAGE Encyclopedia of LGBTQ Studies* (2nd ed.). SAGE.

Pfeffer, C. A. & **Kynn, J.** (in press). Sexualities. In A. E. Goldberg (Ed.), *The SAGE Encyclopedia of LGBTQ Studies* (2nd ed.). SAGE.

Kynn, J., Kattari, L., & Pfeffer, C. A. (in press). Queer. In A. E. Goldberg (Ed.), *The SAGE Encyclopedia of LGBTQ Studies* (2nd ed.). SAGE.

Kynn, J., Boyke, H., & Holloway B. T. (2023). We'll Make Our Own Space: Making LGBTQ+ Spaces Accessible. In S. K. Kattari (Ed.), *Exploring Sexuality and Disability: A Guide for Academics and Health and Human Service Professionals*. Routledge.

Holloway, B. T., **Kynn, J.**, & Boyke, H. (2023). For Us, By Us: Mutual Aid Efforts in Disabled Queer and Trans Communities. In S. K. Kattari (Ed.), *Exploring Sexuality and Disability: A Guide for Academics and Health and Human Service Professionals*. Routledge.

Klein, L. B., Singh, Rose C. B., **Kynn, J.**, and McClean, K. J. (2023). Disabled and/or Chronically Ill Survivors of Sexual Violence and Intimate Partner Violence. In Kattari, S. K. (Ed.), *Exploring Sexuality and Disability: A Guide for Human Service Professionals*. Routledge.

Smith-Darden, J.P., McCauley, H.L., **Kynn, J.**, Orchowski, L.M., & Reidy, D. E. (2021). Social Marketing Approaches to Raising Awareness about Men's Violence Against Women: Theory, Research and Practice. In L. M. Orchowski & A. Berkowitz (Eds). *Engaging Boys and Men in Sexual Assault Prevention: Theory, Research and Practice*. Elsevier.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Co-Principal Investigator. (Co-PI: Hannah Boyke). *A Framework for Identifying and Measuring Institutional Courage and Institutional Betrayal within Immigration Court. The Center for Institutional Courage.* October 2021–October 2022. \$4,000.

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Michigan State University, 2023-2024
The Leadership Fellows Program, \$1000 award

The Caucus of LGBTQ Faculty & Students in Social Work, 2023
CSWE Conference Scholarship, \$200 award

Michigan State University, 2022-2023
Education Opportunity Fellowship, \$3000 award

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

“I can make a difference”: Assessing the impact of *Fair Play: Sexual Violence Prevention for Athletes*. North American Society for Sport Management Annual Conference, May 2023.

Immigrants’ Access to Legal Representation for Immigration Court in the United States. Council for Social Work Education’s Annual Program Meeting, November 2022.

We’re Here, We’re Queer: Defining, Conducting, and Engaging Queer Research in the Cis Het Academy. Woodhull Foundation’s Sexuality Freedom Summit, August 2022.

Institutional Courage and Institutional Betrayal in United States Immigration Courts. International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, May 2022.

Exploring the Impact of Institutional Betrayal on Youth Who Have Experienced Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking. International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, May 2021.

Resilience in the Context of Sexual Violence: A Scoping review (poster). Society for Social Work & Research. January 2022.

Challenges and Strategies to Achieve Equity in Computer Science Education. American Evaluation Association, November 2018

Designing and Implementing OST Evaluations: Data Collection Challenges. American Education Research Association, April 2018

Bringing Families Together for Outdoor Science Learning. Beyond School Hours, February 2018

Evaluating CS4All Initiatives—Challenges and Opportunities. Special Interest Group on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE), February 2018

Providing Services to Trafficking Survivors: Understanding Practices Across the Globe (poster). Society for Social Work & Research Conference, January 2018

How is Sexual Violence of the Rwandan Genocide Memorialized? Conference on Gendered Memories of Conflict, December 2012

NON-PEER REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

Queer Faculty Panels: Being Queer, Trans, or Non-binary in Academia and Social Work. University of Michigan, November 2021.

Sex Trafficking Victim Rights and Dignity Campaign. Minnesota National Association of Social Workers Annual Conference, June 2012.

SERVICE

Reviewer, Peer Reviewed Journals

Journal of Sociology & Social Work, 2023

Children & Youth Services, 2022- present