**Laura J. Napolitano, PhD**

Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

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***Employment***

7/21 - Associate Professor of Sociology

Chair (7/22 - )

Graduate School Faculty (2019- )

Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey – Camden

9/13- 6/21 Assistant Professor of Sociology

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey - Camden

9/11 – 8/13 Harold A. Richman Postdoctoral Fellow

Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago

***Education***

2011 University of Pennsylvania

Ph.D. in Sociology

2007 University of Pennsylvania

M.A. in Sociology

2004 Saint Joseph’s University

B.S. in Sociology

***Areas of Interest***

Criminal Justice System and the Family; Family Support; Transition to Adulthood; Barriers to Support; Child Welfare; Social Inequality; Qualitative Methods

***Peer Reviewed Publications (selected)***

**Napolitano, Laura,** Patricia Tevington, Patrick Carr and Maria Kefalas. 2022. “’Longer than I would’ve originally liked and originally thought:’ Postsecondary Debt and Marriage Plans for Young Adults Coming of Age in the Great Recession.” *Sociological Perspectives*, 65(4):684-701. https://doi.org/10.1177/07311214211052019

Stansfield, Richard, Daniel Semenza, **Laura Napolitano,** Melanie Gaston\*, Megan Coleman\* and Maria Diaz\*.2022**.**“The Risk of Family Violence after Incarceration: An Integrative Review.” *Trauma, Violence and Abuse,* 23(2): 476-489. https://doi.org/10.1177/1524838020957986

**Napolitano, Laura,** Frank Furstenberg, and Karen Fingerman. 2021. “How Families Give and Receive: A Qualitative Study of Familial Exchange.” *Journal of Family Issues,* 42(9):2159-2180.

Siegel, Jane, Kate Luther, and **Laura Napolitano**. 2021. “Longitudinal Perspectives on Mother-Child Separation due to Incarceration.” In *Incarcerated Mothers and their Children: Separation, Loss, and Reunification*, edited by J. Poehlmann-Tynan and D. Dallaire. Springer.

Siegel, Jane and **Laura Napolitano**. 2021. “Adult and Child Visiting at Urban Jails: Visitor and Inmate Perspectives on Visiting Experiences and Policies.” *The Prison Journal*, 101(3):331-351.

Stansfield, Richard, Thomas J. Mowen, **Laura Napolitano**, and John Boman. 2020. “Examining Change in Family Conflict and Family Violence After Release from Prison.” *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 47(6):668-687.

Previ, Barbara\*, **Laura Napolitano**, Michelle Meloy and Kristin Curtis. 2020. “Pathways Into College And Away From Crime: Perspectives of Black and Latino/a Youth Growing Up in Single-Mother Households In One of America’s Most Dangerous Cities.” *Children and Youth Services Review* 108, 104561. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2019.104561.

Huo, Meng\*, **Laura Napolitano**, Frank Furstenberg and Karen Fingerman. 2020. “Who Initiates the Help Older Parents Give to Midlife Children.” *Journals of Gerontology: Series B* 75(4):907-918*.*

Tucker, Shelby\*, Michelle Meloy, **Laura Napolitano**, Michelle Lyttle Storrod,\* and Kristin Curtis. 2019. “Mentoring Vulnerable Youth in One of America’s Most Dangerous Cities: From Tough Homes and Violent Streets to College Classrooms.” *Youth Justice* 19(3):262-277.

Parsons, Jeanna[[1]](#footnote-1)\*, Anne H. Gauthier, Sigrid Luhr\*, Roberta R. Iversen, and **Laura Napolitano**. 2018. “Caught in Between: Neoliberal Rhetoric and Middle-Income Families in Canada and the United States.” *Journal of Family Studies* 24(2):170-186.

Tevington, Patricia\*, **Laura Napolitano,** and Frank Furstenberg. 2017. “Financing Children’s Futures: Economic Strategies and Attitudes towards Postsecondary Education among Middle Income Families.” *Sociological Forum* 32(4):726-747*.*

Pryce, Julia, **Laura Napolitano,** and Gina M. Samuels. 2017. “Transition to Adulthood of Former Foster Youth: Multi-Level Challenges to the Help-Seeking Process.” *Emerging Adulthood 5(5):311-321.*

**Napolitano, Laura**. 2015. “’I’m Not Going to Leave Her High and Dry’: Young Adult Support to Parents During the Transition to Adulthood. *The Sociological Quarterly* 56(2):329-354.

**Napolitano, Laura**, Shelley Pacholok, and Frank F. Furstenberg. 2014. “Educational Aspirations, Expectations, and Realities for Middle-Income Families.” *Journal of Family Issues* 35(9) 1200-1226*.*

Dworsky, Amy, **Laura Napolitano**, and Mark Courtney. 2013. “Homelessness During the Transition from Foster Care to Adulthood.” *American Journal of Public Health* 103(S2):S318-S323.

Cherry, Carol, Mary Ropka, Jennifer Lyle, **Laura Napolitano**, and Mary Daly. 2013. “Understanding the Needs of Women Considering Risk Reducing Bilateral Salpingo-Oophorectomy.” *Cancer Nursing* 36(3):E33-E38.

Iversen, Roberta R., **Laura Napolitano**, and Frank F. Furstenberg. 2011. “Middle-Income Families in the Economic Downturn: Challenges and Management Strategies Over Time.” *Longitudinal and Life Course Studies* 2(3):286-300.

Kefalas, Maria, Frank Furstenberg, Patrick J. Carr, and **Laura Napolitano**. 2011. “Marriage is More than Being Together: The Meaning of Marriage for Young Adults.” *Journal of Family Issues* 32(7): 845-875.

Reprinted in *Crossings to Adulthood: How diverse young Americans understand and navigate their lives,* T.S. Swartz, D. Hartmann, and R.G. Rumbaut (editors). Boston: Leiden.; *Family in Transition: Sixteenth Edition,* A.S. Skolnick and J.H. Skolnick, (editors).Boston: Pearson.; *The Family Issues Reader*, C. Shehan (editor). London: Sage.

**Napolitano, Laura**. 2010. “‘You Can’t Count on Nobody in Life:’ Homeless Youth and the Transition to Adulthood.” *Sociological Studies of Children and Youth* 13:107-130*.*

Carr, Patrick J., **Laura Napolitano**, and Jessica Keating. 2007. “We Never Call the Cops and

Here is Why: A Qualitative Examination of Legal Cynicism in Three Philadelphia Neighborhoods.” *Criminology* 45(2):445-480.

***Manuscripts in Progress***

**Napolitano, Laura,** Amanda Ekelburg\*, Richard **Stansfield** andJane Siegel**.** “Selective Fathering and Child Visitation at a Local Jail.” *In Progress*

***Policy Briefs***

**Napolitano, Laura**, Yafit Sulimani-Aidan, and Mark E. Courtney. 2015. “Extended Foster Care in California: Youth and Caseworker Perspectives.” Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

**Napolitano, Laura** and Mark E. Courtney. 2014. “Residential Settings for Young Adults under AB 12: A Preliminary Investigation.” Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Courtney, Mark E., Pajarita Charles, Nathanael J. Okpych\*, **Laura Napolitano** and Katherine Halsted\*. 2014. “Findings from the California Youth Transitions to Adulthood Study (CalYOUTH): Conditions of Foster Youth at Age 17.” Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Courtney, Mark, Amy Dworsky and **Laura Napolitano**. 2013. “Providing Foster Care for Young Adults: Early Implementation of California’s Fostering Connections Act.” Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Dworsky, Amy, **Laura Napolitano**, Elizabeth Barisik, Swathi Reddy, Martha Simon. 2013. The Demoiselle-2-Femme (D2F) Pregnancy Prevention Program Evaluation: Findings from the First Baseline Survey. Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

***Awards and Fellowships***

2024 Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence for Tenured and Tenure Track Faculty – Rutgers University - Camden

2023 PI – *Supporting Incarcerated Parents and Families*– $97,988 Urban Innovation Fund, Rutgers University - Camden

2023 PI - *Supporting Incarcerated Parents and Families* - $23,000 New Jersey Health Foundation

2023 Faculty Leadership Program – Inaugural cohort- Camden, Office of Organizational Leadership - Rutgers University

2022 Co-investigator - *Improving Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Retention After Release From Incarceration*, with Jane Siegel, PhD, Cooper Center for Healing and Rowan University – $25,000 South Jersey Institute of Population Health

2020 Rutgers Camden Online Teaching Certificate Program, Rutgers University - Camden

2020 Research Council Grant, Rutgers University - $5000

2020 Provost’s Fund for Research – Catalyst Grant, Rutgers University - Camden $7500

2020 Writing and Design Lab Fellowship, Rutgers University – Camden

2019 *Opportunity Youth Research Project*, Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities and the Community Change Influence Unit of the Annie E. Casey Foundation (*Not funded, Proposal in Top 3*) $30,000

2018 OASIS Leadership and Faculty Development Fellow, Rutgers University

2016 Digital Teaching Fellowship, Rutgers University - Camden

2014-2015 *Qualitative Interviews in the Family Exchanges Study II*, MacArthur Network on

Transitions to Adulthood Laura Napolitano (PI) and Karen Fingerman (coinvestigator), $25,000.

2014 Civic Engagement Faculty Fellow, Rutgers University – Camden

2011-2013 Harold A. Richman Postdoctoral Fellowship, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago

2012 Building Careers for Research in Child Maltreatment and Intimate Partner Violence: Early Career Scholar Training Program

2005-2010 William Penn Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania

2010 Gertrude and Otto Pollak Summer Research Fellowship, University of

Pennsylvania

2009 Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students

2009 Gertrude and Otto Pollak Summer Research Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania

2007 Conference travel funding, University of Pennsylvania School of Arts and Sciences

***Conference presentations (selected)***

**Napolitano, Laura.** 2023.Careers in Sociology: Translating Sociological Skills for Undergraduates Entering the Job Market.”Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.

**Napolitano, Laura** and Amanda Ekelburg\*. 2022. Child Visitation Experiences at a County Jail.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, CA.

Tevington, Patricia and **Laura Napolitano**. 2019. “Life and Debt for Young Adults Coming of Age in the Great Recession.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY.

**Napolitano, Laura** and Jane Siegel. 2018. “Children’s Visitation at a Local Jail: Incarcerated Fathers’ Perspectives.” Paper presented at the annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.

**Napolitano, Laura.** 2018. “Young Adults, Foster Care, and Homelessness.” Presented at Rutgers University – Camden Chancellor’s Research Spring Symposium, *Fair Housing Act at 50: Successes, Failures and Opportunities,* Camden, NJ.

**Napolitano, Laura** and Jane Siegel. 2017. “Conducting Research in Jails: Unique Challenges, Crucial Perspectives.” Paper presented at the annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.

Siegel, Jane, **Laura Napolitano** and Brianna Chrzanowski\*. 2016. “Visitor and Prisoner Views on Visitation Policies and Practice in an Urban Jail System.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, New Orleans, LA.

Siegel, Jane, **Laura Napolitano**, Mark Bodrog\*, Matthew Hackman\* and Brenna Stone\*. 2015. “Visiting Mom or Dad in Jail: A Comparison of Child-Parent Visitation in Male and Female Jails.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Washington D.C.

Pryce, Julia, **Laura Napolitano**, and Gina Miranda Samuels. 2012. “The Role of Mentors in the Lives of Young Adults Who Have Aged Out of the Child Welfare System.” Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Tampa, FL.

**Napolitano, Laura**. 2011. “‘I Just Wanna Be a Good Person:’ A Longitudinal, Qualitative Examination of Criminal Behavior and the Transition to Adulthood.” Paper presented at the University of Pennsylvania Urban Ethnography Workshop, Philadelphia, PA.

***Service to the Discipline***

Ad hoc Reviewer: *Criminology, American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, Social Problems, Child and Family Social Work, Journal of Interpersonal Violence, The Sociological Quarterly, Children and Youth Services Review, Journal of Family Issues*

***Professional Memberships***

American Sociological Association; American Society of Criminology

1. \* denotes graduate student co-author [↑](#footnote-ref-1)