

# Tara A. McKay

Center for Medicine, Health & Society  
Vanderbilt University  
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## POSITIONS

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- 2015-present    **Assistant Professor**  
Center for Medicine, Health & Society, Vanderbilt University
- Affiliated Faculty**  
Department of Sociology, Vanderbilt University  
Department of Health Policy, Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health, Vanderbilt University Medical Center
- 2013-2015    **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholar in Health Policy Research**  
University of California, Berkeley/University of California, San Francisco
- 2006-2012    **Study Coordinator**  
Community Based Research, AIDS Project Los Angeles
- 2005-2006    **Data Analyst**  
Undergraduate Research Center, Occidental College

## EDUCATION

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- 2013            **PhD in Sociology**, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2008            **M.A. in Sociology**, University of California, Los Angeles.  
Area Concentrations: Social Stratification, Social Demography
- 2005            **B.A. in Psychology**, with Honors, Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA.

## AREAS OF INTEREST

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LGBT Health, Health Policy, Global Health, HIV, Medical Sociology, Sociology of Development, Gender & Sexualities, Demographic and Survey Research, Qualitative Methods, Africa, Undergraduate Research

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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- 2017    Currier, Ashley and **Tara McKay**. "Pursuing Social Justice through Public Health: Gender and Sexual Diversity Activism in Malawi." *Critical African Studies*.
- McKay, Tara** and Stefan Timmermans. "Beyond Health Effects? Examining the Social Consequences of Community Levels of Uninsurance Pre-ACA." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*.

## Tara A. McKay

- 2016 **McKay, Tara**. "From Marginal to Marginalised: The Inclusion of Men Who Have Sex with Men in Global and National AIDS Programmes and Policy." *Global Public Health* 11(7-8): 902-922.
- McKay, Tara** and Nicole Angotti. "Ready Rhetorics: Political Homophobia and Activist Discourses in Malawi, Nigeria, and Uganda." *Qualitative Sociology*. DOI: 10.1007/s11133-016-9342-7.
- 2013 Mutchler, Matt G., **Tara McKay**, Bryce McDavitt, and Kristie K. Gordon. "Using Peer Ethnography to Address Health Disparities in Hard-to-Reach Populations of Young Men." *American Journal of Public Health* 103(5): 849-852.
- 2012 Bogart, Laura M., Glenn J. Wagner, Matt G. Mutchler, Brian Risley, Bryce McDavitt, **Tara McKay**, and David J. Klein. "Community HIV Treatment Advocacy Programs May Support HIV Treatment Adherence." *AIDS Education and Prevention* 24(1): 1-14.
- McKay, Tara**, Bryce McDavitt, Sheba George, and Matt G. Mutchler. "'Their Type of Drugs': Substance Use, Sex, and Social Boundaries among Young African American and Latino Gay and Bisexual Men." *Culture, Health & Sexuality* 14(10): 1183-1196.
- 2011 Craney, Chris, **Tara McKay**, April Mazzeo, Janet Morris, Cheryl Prigodich, and Robert deGroot. "Cross Discipline Perceptions of the Undergraduate Research Experience." *Journal of Higher Education* 82(1): 92-113.
- McKay, Tara** and Matt G. Mutchler. "The Effect of Partner Sex: Nondisclosure of HIV Status to Male and Female Partners among Men who Have Sex with Men and Women (MSMW)." *AIDS & Behavior* 15(6): 1140-1152.
- Mutchler, Matt G., **Tara McKay**, Honghu Liu, Norman Candelario, Bill Stackhouse, Trista Bingham, and George Ayala. "Sex Drugs, Peer Connections, and HIV: Use and Risk among African American, Latino, and Multiracial Young Men who have Sex with Men (YMSM) in Los Angeles and New York." *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Social Services* 23(2): 271-295.
- Mutchler, Matt G., Glenn Wagner, Burt Cowgill, **Tara McKay**, Brian Risley, and Laura Bogart. "Improving HIV/AIDS Care through Treatment Advocacy: Going beyond Client Education to Empowerment by Facilitating Client-Provider Relationships." *AIDS Care* 23(1): 79-90.
- 2010 Hatfield, Laura A., Margherita E. Ghiselli, Scott M. Jacoby, Anne Cain-Nielson, Gunna Killian, **Tara McKay**, and B.R. Simon Rosser. "Methods for Recruiting Men of Color Who Have Sex with Men in Prevention-for-Positives Interventions." *Prevention Science* 11(1): 56-66.
- 2009 Timmermans, Stefan and **Tara McKay**. "Clinical Trials as Treatment Option: Bioethics and Health Inequities in Substance Dependency." *Social Science & Medicine* 69(12):1784-1790.
- McKay, Tara** and Stefan Timmermans. "The Bioethical Misconception: A Reply to Lidz." *Social Science & Medicine* 69(12):1793-1796.
- 2008 Mutchler, Matt G., Laura M. Bogart, Marc N. Elliot, **Tara McKay**, Marika J. Suttorp, and Mark A. Schuster. "Psychosocial Correlates of Unprotected Sex without Disclosure of HIV-positivity among African-American, Latino, and White Men who Have Sex with Men and Women." *Archives of Sexual Behavior* 37(5):736-748.

## Tara A. McKay

- 2006 Gorman, Andrea H., David Schwartz, Jonathan Nakamoto, and **Tara McKay**. "Popularity, Social Acceptance, and Aggression in Adolescent Peer Groups: Links with Academic Performance and School Attendance." *Developmental Psychology* 42(6):1116-1127.

### COMMISSIONED RESEARCH REPORTS

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- 2011 **McKay, Tara**, and Miguel Muñoz-Laboy. "Latino Men who have Sex with Men and Women & HIV Prevention." (Broadsheet) Acción Mutua/Shared Action, AIDS Project Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA. [http://www.sharedaction.org/pdf/BISEX\\_FINAL\\_021711.pdf](http://www.sharedaction.org/pdf/BISEX_FINAL_021711.pdf)
- 2011 Mutchler, Matt G., Bryce McDavitt, and **Tara McKay**. "Final Report from the 2010 APLA Client Survey." Study commissioned by AIDS Project Los Angeles.
- 2009 Mutchler, Matt G. and **Tara McKay**. "Final Executive Report from the Sexual Health Study in South Los Angeles." Study commissioned by AIDS Project Los Angeles.
- 2008 Mutchler, Matt G. and **Tara McKay**. "Final Report from the 2008 APLA Client Survey." Study commissioned by AIDS Project Los Angeles.
- 2007 Mutchler, Matt G. and **Tara McKay**. "Final Report from the Sex-Drugs and HIV Study." Study commissioned by AIDS Project Los Angeles and Gay Men's Health Crisis, New York, NY.

### GRANTS

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- 2017-2018 **Co-I**  
"Marginalized Populations: How do LGBT Policies impact the Health of People and Places"  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
P.I.: Christopher Carpenter, Vanderbilt University
- 2015-2018 **Co-I**  
Supplement Award: "Social Networks and Health among Older Lesbian and Gay Men"  
Primary Award: "Understanding How Personal Networks Change" (R01)  
National Institute on Aging  
P.I.: Claude Fischer, UC Berkeley
- 2012-2013 **Co-PI**  
"Dissertation Research: The Local Implementation of Global AIDS Prevention Policies"  
National Science Foundation  
P.I.: Stefan Timmermans, UCLA
- 2009 **Graduate Investigator**  
"Seed Grant: Clinical Trials as Treatment Options for People Living with HIV and AIDS"  
California Center for Population Research, UCLA  
Faculty Sponsor: Stefan Timmermans, UCLA
- 2007-2008 **Research Training Fellow**  
"Disclosure of HIV Status among Latino Men Who Have Sex with Men and Women"  
California HIV Research Program  
Faculty Sponsor: Stefan Timmermans, UCLA

## Tara A. McKay

Community-Based Organization Sponsor: Matt G. Mutchler, AIDS Project Los Angeles

- 2007 **Graduate Summer Research Fellow**  
“Perceptions of Voluntary Counseling and Testing for HIV in Rural Malawi”  
Graduate Division, UCLA  
Faculty Mentor: Susan Cotts Watkins, California Center for Population Research
- 2005-2012 **Study Personnel**  
“Sex Drugs and HIV: Perceptions of Young Gay Men of Color” (R03)  
National Institute on Drug Abuse  
PI: Matt Mutchler, AIDS Project Los Angeles
- “Evaluation of Treatment Advocacy in Improving HIV Care Management” (R01)  
National Institute on Nursing Research  
PI: Laura Bogart, Rand Corporation
- “Treatment Advocacy Intervention for HIV-Positive African Americans” (R01)  
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities  
PI: Laura Bogart, RAND Corporation
- “Medical Mistrust, Social Networks, and Disparities in HIV Care among Blacks” (R01)  
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities  
PI: Laura Bogart, Children’s Hospital Corporation
- “Pilot Intervention for Discrimination and Medical Mistrust among HIV Positive Black Men” (R34)  
National Institute on Mental Health  
PI: Laura Bogart, Children’s Hospital Corporation
- “Positive Connections: RCT HIV Prevention Program for Persons with HIV” (R01)  
National Institute on Mental Health  
PI: B.R. Simon Rosser, University of Minnesota

### **OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

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- 2012-2013 **Graduate Research Assistant**  
Keeping Gay and Bisexual Men Safe: A Critical History of HIV Prevention  
Canadian Institute of Health Research  
P.I.: Adam Isaiah Green, University of Toronto
- 2012 **Graduate Research Assistant**  
External Evaluation of the Southern African Regional Social and Behaviour Change  
Communication (SBCC) Programme, as Implemented in Malawi  
UK Department for International Development (Dfid)  
P.I.: Paul Hutchinson, Tulane University
- 2011-2013 **Graduate Student Researcher**  
Spillover Effects of Communities without Health Insurance  
National Science Foundation  
P.I.: Stefan Timmermans, UCLA

## Tara A. McKay

- 2010, 2007     **Fieldwork and Data Collection Graduate Research Assistant**  
Malawi Longitudinal Study of Families and Health (MLSFH)  
National Institute of Child Health and Development  
P.I.: Hans Peter Kohler, University of Pennsylvania
- 2004-2005     **Project Coordinator**  
Social Development Lab, Occidental College

### HONORS AND AWARDS

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- 2012           **Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship**
- 2012           **UCLA Dissertation Completion Fellowship**
- 2012           **Elizabeth Blackwell Graduate Paper Award**, Center for the Study of Women, UCLA
- 2011           **Martin Levine Dissertation Award**, Honorable Mention, Sexualities Section, ASA
- 2010           **Excellence in Teaching Award**, Department of Sociology, UCLA
- 2009, 2006     **Graduate Fellowship**, Sociology, UCLA
- 2008           **Rosenstein Student Scholarship Award**, HIV/AIDS Section, APHA
- 2008           **Excellent Poster Presentation Award**, Student Section, APHA
- 2004, 2003     **Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellow**, Occidental College

### TEACHING

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- 2015-           **Instructor**  
Center for Medicine, Health & Society, Vanderbilt University  
*MHS 1920: Politics of Health*. Spring 2016, Fall 2017.  
*UNIV 3225/UNIV 5225: The Nation's Health: From Policy to Practice*. Spring 2017.  
*MHS 3890/MHS2610: Responding to Global Health Crises*. Fall 2015; Spring 2016, Spring 2017.  
*MHS 6500: Quantitative Data Analysis (Graduate)*. Fall 2016.
- 2011-2012     **Instructor**  
Department of Sociology, UCLA  
*Sociology 20: Research Methods*. Summer, 2011; Summer 2012.
- 2007-2009     **Teaching Assistant**  
Department of Sociology, UCLA  
*Sociology 1: Introduction to Sociology*. Spring 2008.  
*Sociology 20: Research Methods*. Winter 2008; Spring 2009.  
*Sociology 138: Death, Suicide, and Trauma*. Winter 2009.  
*Sociology 157: Social Stratification*. Fall 2008.  
*Sociology 170: Medical Sociology*. Fall 2007.
- 2003           **Teaching Assistant**, Occidental College.  
*Psychology 210: Behavioral Statistics*. Fall 2003.

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## MENTORSHIP & RESEARCH SUPERVISION

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- 2016- **Undergraduate Honor's Thesis Supervision**, Vanderbilt University  
Paige Kelley; Lausanne Miller
- 2016- **Internship Supervision**, Vanderbilt University  
Miller Morris
- 2015- **Master's Committee**, Vanderbilt University  
Juliana Buccino (Chair); Peter Kent-Stoll (Co-Chair); Alexandra Blair (Chair)
- 2015- **Undergraduate Research Supervisor**, Vanderbilt University  
Sarah Hoffner; Linda Cui; Sarah Giordano
- 2014-2015 **Graduate Research Supervisor**, UC Berkeley
- 2014 **Mentor**, UCLA College Fellows Program
- 2014 **Undergraduate Research Mentor**, Sally Casanova Scholars, California Predoctoral Program
- 2010-2012 **Graduate Fellowship Coordinator**, UCLA

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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**Social Media Content Editor**, ASA Sexualities Section (2012-present)

**Student Representative**, ASA Sexualities Section (2012-2013)

**Conference Organizing Committee**, Thinking Gender, UCLA Center for the Study of Women (2011)

**Reviewer:** *American Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Problems*, *Sociological Forum*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Gender & Society*, *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, *Journal of Homosexuality*, *Global Public Health*, *International Journal of Epidemiology*, *AIDS & Behavior*, *Journal of Men's Health*, *Sage Publications*.

## INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

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**MHS** Publicity Committee (Chair; 2015-present)  
Graduate Curriculum Committee (2016-2017)  
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2015-2016)  
MHS Colloquium Committee (2015-2016)

**VU** Faculty Advisor, Partners in Health: Engage (2015-present)

## INVITED TALKS, LAST 5 YEARS

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(\* denotes presenting co-author if other than myself)

- 2016 (October) with Nicole Angotti and \*Rachel Sullivan Robinson. "HIV Interventions and Homophobic Backlashes in Sub-Saharan Africa." Bill and Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

## Tara A. McKay

- (August) "Prioritizing Gay Men and Other Men Who Have Sex with Men in Global and National AIDS Policy." Mathematica Policy Research, Oakland, CA.
- (April) "HIV & African Politics." Guest Lecture, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- (March) "Global Health Policy & Gay Men" Guest Lecture, Department of Sociology, American University, Washington, D.C.
- 2015 (December) Panelist, World AIDS Day Panel, Lambda Association, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- (November) "Explaining Differences in Criminalization Laws in Three African Countries." Guest Lecture, Public Policy Studies, Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University, Vanderbilt University, TN.
- 2010 (November) "Ethical Issues in the Collection and Analysis of Health and Biomarker Data." Panelist, California Center for Population Research, University of California, Los Angeles.

### **SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, LAST 5 YEARS**

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*(\* denotes presenting co-author if other than myself)*

- 2016 (December) with Nicole Angotti and \*Rachel Sullivan Robinson. "Health Interventions, Anti-Western Sentiment, and Homophobia in Sub-Saharan Africa." African Studies Association, Washington, D.C.
- (August) "The Effects of Aid on Attitudes toward Homosexuality in Malawi." American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA.
- (August) with Ashley Currier. "Pursuing Social Justice through Public Health: Gender and Sexual Diversity Activism in Malawi." American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA.
- (August) with \*Rachel Sullivan Robinson and Nicole Angotti. "Health Interventions, Anti-Western Sentiment, and Homophobia in Sub-Saharan Africa." American Sociological Association Comparative Historical Section Pre-Conference, Seattle, WA.
- (July) "Including Men Who Have Sex with Men in National AIDS Programs, 2001-2014." Poster presented at the International AIDS Conference, Durban, South Africa.
- (April) "Social Networks and Health among Older LGBT Adults in the San Francisco Bay Area." International Network for Social Network Analysis, Newport Beach, CA.
- (March) "Pursing Social Justice through Public Health in Malawi and the US South." Conference on the Politics of Health in the US South, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2015 (August) with Nicole Angotti. "Ready Rhetorics: International LGBT Activism, Local Contexts, and Political Homophobia in Malawi, Nigeria, and Uganda." American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.

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- (June) "Beyond Health Effects? The Social Consequences of Community Levels of Uninsurance pre-ACA." Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholars Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- (April) with \*Nicole Angotti. "Love Crimes: The Expansion of Criminalization of Same-sex Sex in Three African Countries." Population Association of America, San Diego, CA.
- 2014 (August) "The Implementation-Autonomy Trade Off: How Concerns about Policy Implementation Shape the Structures and Strategies of Intergovernmental AIDS Organizations." American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- (May) "Communities and Uninsurance: Examining the Consequences of Uninsurance for Health, Health Care, and Community Functioning." Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholars Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2013 (October) with \*Tom G. McKay, Jeremy Chatwin, and Carter Milhous. "Motivating Interest in Electrical Engineering through Altruism at the Middle School Level." Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Global Humanitarian Technology Conference, San Jose, CA. DOI: [10.1109/GHTC.2013.6713664](https://doi.org/10.1109/GHTC.2013.6713664)
- \*\*This paper is a collaboration with electrical engineers and high school educators interested in promoting female participation in STEM education through humanitarian pathways. We introduce a curriculum for high school students to learn mechanical engineering by building a product with humanitarian applications in Malawi.
- (April) with Stefan Timmermans. "Spillover effects of uninsurance: The effects of neighborhood levels of uninsurance on collective efficacy." Population Association of America, New Orleans, LA.
- 2012 (August) "Assessing the emergence of men who have sex with men (MSM) as a global HIV priority: Social processes and new directions for sexualities research." American Sociological Association Sexualities Section Pre-Conference, Denver, CO.
- (November) "Understanding Gender in State and Transnational Policy Agendas." Social Science History Association, Vancouver, Canada.
- (November) "Inside the 'Black Box': Avenues for Future Research on Homophobia, Rights, and Health." National Women's Studies Association, Oakland, CA.
- 2011 (August) with Ashley Currier. "Same-Sex Marriage Politics in Africa." American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2010 (August) with Bryce McDavitt, Sheba George, and Matt G. Mutchler. "Doing 'Sex Drugs': Accomplishing Social Identities as Young African American and Latino Gay and Bisexual Men." American Sociological Association, Atlanta, GA.
- (July) with Matt G. Mutchler, Bryce McDavitt, and Sheba George. "Using Peer Ethnographers to Explore Insider Accounts of Sexual Risk and Substance Use." Poster presented at the International AIDS Conference, Vienna, Austria.