VITA

Catherine Stepniak

Present Position	Graduate Student
	Department of Sociology
	Center on Aging and the Life Course
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Education

(2024)	Dual-Title Ph.D. in Sociology and Gerontology, Purdue University
2020	M.S. in Sociology, Purdue University
2018	B.S. in Psychology and Sociology, Midwestern State University
	Minor, Women and Gender Studies

Awards, Honors, and Fellowships

2018-2019	Lynn Fellowship, Purdue University
Fall 2016	Best Poster Presentation in Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Forum for the Fain Art Center, Midwestern State University
Spring 2016	Best Poster Presentation in Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Forum for the Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities, Midwestern State University

Research Interests

Aging and the Life Course; Sibling Relations; Family Relationships and Health; Family Caregiving

Accepted Manuscripts

J. Jill Suitor, Megan Gilligan, Reilly Kincaid, Yifei Hou, **Catherine Stepniak,** and Siyun Peng. Forthcoming. "How Widowhood and Gender Shape the Impact of Maternal Favoritism on Adult Children's Psychological Well-Being." *The Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences.*

Manuscripts Under Review

Catherine Stepniak, J. Jill Suitor, and Megan Gilligan. "Mothers' Functional Limitations and Relationships with Adult Children: The Moderating Role of Social Structural Characteristics." R&R, *Research on Aging.*

Manuscripts in Preparation

J. Jill Suitor, Yifei Hou, **Catherine Stepniak,** Destiny Ogle, and Yufu Jiang. "Intergenerational Ties and Older Adult Health and Well-Being." Being prepared for submission to the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Global Public Health.*

J. Jill Suitor, Megan Gilligan, **Catherine Stepniak,** Robert Frase, Yifei Hou, and Destiny Ogle. "Effects of Immediate Family Members' Deaths on Relationships Among Siblings in Adulthood: A Within-Family, Mixed-Method Approach." Being prepared for submission to *Journal of Marriage and Family.*

J. Jill Suitor, Megan Gilligan, **Catherine Stepniak,** Robert Frase, Yifei Hou, and Destiny Ogle. "Role of Gender in the Effects of Immediate Family Members' Deaths on Adult Children's Psychological Well-Being." Being prepared for submission to *Annual Sociological Review.*

Yifei Hou, J. Jill Suitor, **Catherine Stepniak,** Megan Gilligan, Destiny Ogle, and Yufu Jiang. "Costs of Raising Grandchildren on Grandmother-Adult Child Relations in Black and White Families" Being prepared for submission to *The Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences.*

J. Jill Suitor, Robert Frase, Megan Gilligan, and **Catherine Stepniak.** "The Power of Daughters: The Role of Sibship Gender Composition on Mother-Adult Child Relations. Being prepared for submission to *Journal of Marriage and Family.*

Presentations at Scholarly Meetings

Stepniak, Catherine, J. Jill Suitor, and Megan Gilligan. 2020. "Mothers' Health and Relationship Quality with Adult Children: The Moderating Role of Gender and Race." Presented at Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Philadelphia, PA, November.

Rurka, Marissa, J. Jill Suitor, Megan Gilligan, Yifei Hou, and **Catherine Stepniak**. 2020 "Patterns and Predictors of Adult Children's Self-Perceptions as Mothers' Primary and Secondary Caregivers."   Presented at the Meetings of the Gerontological Society of America, Held Virtually, November.

Suitor, J. Jill, Megan Gilligan, **Catherine Stepniak**, Yifei Hou and Robert Frase. 2020. "Role of Gender in the Effects of Immediate Family Network Members' Deaths on Adult Children's Psychological Well-Being." Presented at the Sunbelt Social Networks Conference, Held Virtually, July.

Stepniak, Catherine, J. Jill Suitor, Megan Gilligan, Karl Pillemer, and Marissa Rurka. 2019. "Race Differences in the Consequences of Adult Children's Problems on Mothers' Psychological Well-Being." Presented at Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Austin, TX, November.

Suitor, J. Jill, Megan, Gilligan, Marissa Rurka, Yifei Hou, and **Catherine Stepniak.** 2019. "Changes in the Psychological Costs of Maternal Favoritism for Daughters and Sons as Mothers Age." Presented at Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Austin, TX, November.

Rurka, Marissa, J. Jill Suitor, Megan Gilligan, Yifei Hou, and **Catherine Stepniak.** 2019. "Patterns and Predictors of Adult Children's Perceptions as Mothers' Primary and Secondary Caregivers." Presented at Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York City, NY, August.

Suitor, J. Jill, Megan Gilligan, **Catherine Stepniak**, Marissa Rurka, Yifei Hou, Karl Pillemer. 2018. "The Roles of Gender and Mothers' Care Preferences in the Impact of Caregiving on Adult Children's Marital Quality." Presented at Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA, November.

Diekhoff, Deana Danilova, George M. Diekhoff, and **Catherine Stepniak.** 2017. "Gender Moderates the Relationship Between BMI and Emotional Response to One's Body" Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, San Antonio, TX, March.

Stiles, Beverly L., Newman Wong, and **Catherine Stepniak.** 2017 "Sexual Knowledge and Attitudes of Hooking Up: Does Being Sexually Active Make a Difference?" Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association, Austin, TX, April.

Other Presentations

Stepniak, Catherine, J. Jill Suitor, and Megan Gilligan. 2020. "Mothers' Functional Limitations and Relationships with Adult Children: The Moderating Role of Social Structural Characteristics." Presented at Annual CALC Scholars in the Spotlight, West Lafayette, IN, March.

Research Experience

Research Assistant. 2018-2021. "Parent-Child Relations: Within Family Differences-II." Funded by the National Institute on Aging (2RO1 AG18869-04; 1R56AG062767-01), J. Jill Suitor, PI.