

# Emily A. Ekl

Ph.D. Candidate  
Indiana University - Bloomington

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## EDUCATION

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Exp. 2025    **Ph.D. Sociology**, Indiana University

Dissertation: *The Effects of Status and Structure: Examining Provision of Patient Care by Allied Health Professionals Across Two Organizations*  
Committee: Bernice Pescosolido (chair), Brea Perry, Elaine Hernandez, Koji Chavez, and Jessica Calarco (UW-Madison)

Qualifying Exam: Medical Sociology (2020)  
Ph.D. Minor: Social Science Approaches to Health and Healing Systems

2017    **M.A. Sociology**, Boston College

Thesis: *College Students' Understanding and Discussion of Mental Health Issues: An Analysis of Rhetoric and Context*  
Committee: Stephen J. Pfohl (chair) and David Karp

2016    **B.A. Sociology & History**, Purdue University  
Minors: Statistics, Psychology, and Economics

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Medical Sociology  
Sociology of Mental Health

Work & Occupations  
Stigma

Social Networks  
Social Psychology

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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Nápoles, Tessa M.\*, **Emily A. Ekl**\*, Jeff Nicklas, Laura Pathak, Irene H. Yen, Dani Carrillo, Kathleen de Leon, Nancy J. Burke, Brea L. Perry, and Janet K. Shim. 2024. "Mixed Methods for Research on Support Networks of People Experiencing Chronic Illness and Social Marginalization." *Qualitative Health Research* OnlineFirst [DOI: 10.1177/10497323241235031]

\* Denotes Co-First Authorship

**Ekl, Emily A.**, Tessa M. Nápoles, Jeff Nicklas, Irene H. Yen, Laura Pathak, Janet K. Shim, and Brea L. Perry. 2024. "Social Support in the Urban Safety Net: Assessing Tie Activation among Individuals with Complex Care Needs." *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships* 41(7):1794-1817 [DOI: 10.1177/02654075241229748]

**Ekl, Emily A.**, and Benjamin Gallati. 2023. "The Moderating Effect of Values on the Relationship between Subjective Social Status and Depression: Evidence from MIDUS." *Society & Mental Health* 14(2):145-63 [DOI: 10.1177/21568693231184282]

García, Melissa J., Caroline V. Brooks, Denise Ambriz, **Emily A. Ekl**, Nicholas C. Smith, Gerardo Maupomé, and Brea L. Perry. 2023. "Parenting and Precarity: COVID-19's Impact on Hispanic Immigrant Families." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 85(5):1028-46 [DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12930]

Smith, Nicholas C., Caroline V. Brooks, **Emily A. Ekl**, Melissa J. García, Denise Ambriz, Gerardo Maupomé, and Brea L. Perry. 2023. "The Informal Safety Net: Social Network Activation Among Hispanic Immigrants During COVID-19." *Sociology of Race & Ethnicity* OnlineFirst [DOI: 10.1177/23326492231162348]

Halpern-Manners, Andrew, Jane D. McLeod, Elizabeth M. Anderson, and **Emily A. Ekl**. 2022. "Disability, COVID-19, and the College Experience." *Social Science & Medicine - Population Health* [DOI: 10.1016/j.ssmph.2022.101195]

**Ekl, Emily A.**, and Caroline V. Brooks. 2022. "Take the Day Off: Examining the Sick Role for Chronic Back Pain by Race and Gender." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 85(3): 300-24. [DOI: 10.1177/01902725221078541]

\* *First Place 2022 NCSA Seidler Graduate Student Paper Award*

Pullen, Erin, **Emily A. Ekl**, Elizabeth Felix, Christopher O. Turner, Brea L. Perry, and Bernice A. Pescosolido. 2022. "Social Networks, Mental Illness Stigma, and the Contact Hypothesis: The Role of Ties with Mental Illness on Labeling and Causal Attributions." *Social Science & Medicine* 293:114646. [DOI: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2021.114646]

Stainback, Kevin, and **Emily Ekl**. 2017. "The Spread of 'Big Box' Retail Firms and Spatial Stratification." *Sociology Compass* 4(11):e12462. [DOI: 10.1111/soc4.12462]

## UNDER REVIEW

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Brooks, Caroline V., and **Emily A. Ekl**. "Gendered Legitimacy in the Sick Role: A Survey Experiment of Gender-Typed Head Pain."

## IN-PROGRESS

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**Ekl, Emily A.** "Cultivating, Managing, and Leveraging Authority: How Allied Health Professionals Negotiate Authority to Provide Patient Care." *Draft Available*

**Ekl, Emily A.** "Navigating Social Support for Chronic Illness: Examining the Dual Roles of Similar Others Across Illness Trajectories." *Draft Available*

**Ekl, Emily A.,** Melissa J. García, Caroline V. Brooks, Nicholas C. Smith, Denise Ambriz, Brea L. Perry, and Gerardo Maupomé. "Trusted Sources of COVID-19 Information and Preventive Health Behaviors among Hispanic Immigrants: The Role of Gender." *Draft Available*

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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Pescosolido, Bernice A., and **Emily A. Ekl.** Forthcoming. "Mental Illness and Stigma." in *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Health, Illness, Behavior, and Society*, edited by William C. Cockerham, Robert Dingwall, and Stella R. Quah. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

**Ekl, Emily A.,** and Bernice A. Pescosolido. Forthcoming. "Stigma in Global Context: Cultural Myths and Realities that Shape Research and Change." in *Mental Health and Society: Theories, Contexts, and Systems*, edited by Teresa L. Scheid and Eric R. Wright. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

## PROFESIONAL PRESENTATIONS

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- 2024
- Ekl, Emily A.** "Cultivating, Managing, and Leveraging Authority: How Allied Health Professionals Negotiate Authority to Provide Patient Care." American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting: Montreal, Canada.
  - Brooks, Caroline V., and **Emily A. Ekl.** "Gendered Legitimacy in the Sick Role: A Survey Experiment of Gender-typed Head Pain." Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) Annual Meeting: Montreal, Canada.
  - Ekl, Emily A.** "Gendered Interactions: The Impact of Gender on Desire for Social Distance." WPA's Together Against Stigma: Reykjavik, Iceland.
  - Ekl, Emily A.** "The Benefits and Costs of Experientially Similar Others: Findings from Support Groups." Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meeting: Columbus, OH.
  - Ekl, Emily A.** "Deploying Deference: Strategies for Navigating Professional Interactions and Formal Regulations." Chicago Ethnography Conference (CEC): Chicago, IL.

**Ekl, Emily A.** "Learning Deference: Speech Pathology Students' Experiences Navigating Professional Interactions and Formal Regulations." Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) Annual Meeting: Washington, D.C.

Brooks, Caroline V., and **Emily A. Ekl.** "At the Intersection of Gender and Gendered: Public Perceptions of Pain Legitimacy." Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) Annual Meeting: Washington, D.C.

2023 **Ekl, Emily A.** "New Researchers Joining the Field" Panel. The Social Transformation of the Sociology of Health Professions Education Pre-Conference. American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting: Philadelphia, PA.

**Ekl, Emily A.,** and Benjamin Gallati. "The Moderating Effect of Values on the Relationship between Subjective Social Status and Depression: Evidence from MIDUS." American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting: Philadelphia, PA.

**Ekl, Emily A.** "Individual, Organizational, and Professional Drivers of the Evidence-Based Practice Movement among Allied Health Professionals." Chicago Ethnography Conference (CEC): Chicago, IL.

**Ekl, Emily A.** "'You're Not a Doctor': Learning Scope of Practice in Allied Health Education." Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) Annual Meeting: Baltimore, MD.

2022 **Ekl, Emily A.** "Examining Drivers of the Evidence-Based Practice Movement among Allied Health Professionals." Workshop in Sociology at IU (WiSIU): Bloomington, IN.

**Ekl, Emily A.** "Examining Drivers of the Evidence-Based Practice Movement among Allied Health Professionals." American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting: Los Angeles, CA.

**Ekl, Emily A.,** and Gerardo Maupomé. "Trusted Sources of COVID-19 Information and Preventive Health Behaviors among Hispanic Immigrants: The Role of Gender." American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting: Los Angeles, CA.

**Ekl, Emily A.,** and Caroline V. Brooks. "Take the Day Off: Examining the Sick Role for Chronic Back Pain by Race and Gender." North Central Sociological Association (NCSA) Annual Meeting: Indianapolis, IN.

**Ekl, Emily A.,** and Benjamin Gallati. "The Moderating Effect of Values on the Relationship between Subjective Social Status and Depression: Evidence from MIDUS." Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) Annual Meeting: Boston, MA.

- 2021 **Ekl, Emily A.**, Dani Carrillo, Tessa M. Nápoles, Jeff Nicklas, Irene H. Yen, Nancy J. Burke, Laura Gómez-Pathak, Janet K. Shim, and Brea L. Perry. “Social Support in the Urban Safety Net: Assessing Tie Activation for Individuals with Complex Care Needs.” American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting: Online.
- 2020 **Ekl, Emily A.** “America’s Help-Seeking Toolkit for Depression.” American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting: Online. *Declined*
- Ekl, Emily A.**, and Caroline V. Brooks. “Perceptions of Chronic Back Pain: Variations by Race and Gender.” Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) Annual Meeting: Philadelphia, PA.
- 2019 **Ekl, Emily A.** “Changes in College Students’ Perceptions of Mental Health and Campus Resources.” The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) Annual Meeting: New York, NY.

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

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### *External*

- 2023 U.S. Policy Communications Training Program Fellowship  
Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health  
Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (DDRIG) (\$15,785)  
American Sociological Association and National Science Foundation
- 2022 Louise Johnson Award (\$500)  
American Sociological Association, Medical Sociology Section

### *Internal*

- 2024 Lindesmith-Mullins Fellowship (\$22,000)  
Indiana University, Department of Sociology  
Irsay Graduate Fellow  
Indiana University, The Irsay Institute  
Gerald D. Suttles Ethnography Fellowship (\$500)  
Indiana University, Department of Sociology
- 2023 Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$25,000)  
Indiana University, College of Arts and Sciences
- 2022 Research Award (\$1,000)  
Indiana University, Graduate and Professional Student Government  
Gerald D. Suttles Ethnography Fellowship (\$500)  
Indiana University, Department of Sociology

- Travel Award (\$200)  
Indiana University, College of Arts and Sciences
- 2021 Travel Award (\$110)  
Indiana University, College of Arts and Sciences
- Sheldon Stryker Research Grant with Caroline Brooks (\$1,000)  
Indiana University, Department of Sociology
- 2020 Big Idea Challenge Finalist (\$250)  
Indiana University, Prevention Insights
- 2019 Travel Award (\$250)  
Indiana University, College of Arts and Sciences

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- 2024 **Research Assistant:** Wellbeing Informed by Science and Evidence (WISE)  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Bernice Pescosolido
- Developed trainings and protocols for a team-based ethnography
  - Embed in organizations across the state of Indiana and engaged in participant observation and interviews of mobile crisis response teams
- 2023 - 2024 **Coding Supervisor:** Person-to-Person (P2P) Health Interview Survey, HEAL-R  
Principal Investigators: Dr. Bernice Pescosolido and Dr. Hank Green
- Developed qualitative codebook for open-ended survey responses
  - Trained and led a team of graduate and undergraduate research assistants in qualitative coding
- 2023 **Research Assistant:** play2PREVENT  
Principal Investigators: Dr. Lynn E. Fiellin (Yale) and Dr. Bernice Pescosolido
- Led qualitative data analysis of focus groups using NVivo
  - Applied abductive analysis to identify key themes among high school students discussing mental health stigma
- 2021 - 2024 **Coding Supervisor:** College Life and Beyond for Young Adults on the Spectrum (NIH 5R01HD095971)  
Principal Investigators: Dr. Jane McLeod and Dr. Andrew Halpern-Manners
- Trained and led a team of graduate and undergraduate research assistants in qualitative coding for four years of data collection
  - Developed qualitative codebook for open-ended survey responses and implemented NSSE codebook for college majors

- 2021 - 2022 **Research Assistant:** VidaSana Study (NIH CTSI UL1TR002529 and NIDCR R01DE025836)  
Principal Investigators: Dr. Gerardo Maupome (IUPUI) and Dr. Brea Perry
- Programed social networks survey instrument in REDCap
  - Cleaned and merged four waves of panel survey data
- 2018 - 2021 **Research Assistant:** Supporting the Safety Net: Social Network Dynamics, Poverty, and Health (HEALSS - SocNET) (NIH R01NR015233)  
Principal Investigators: Dr. Janet Shim (UCSF) and Dr. Brea Perry
- Collaborated in a team to develop a mixed-methods protocol for collecting network data using survey instruments and in-depth interviews
  - Programed networks and health survey instrument in REDCap
- 2019 **Research Assistant:** Social Networks And Parenting (SNAP)  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica Calarco
- Coded open-ended survey responses
  - Collaborated on a team of research assistants to develop codebooks
- 2016 - 2017 **Research Assistant** for Dr. Smitha Rhadakrishnan (Wellesley College)
- Gathered, sorted, and coded web-based data on micro-finance organizations
- 2016 - 2017 **Research Assistant** for Dr. Candace Hetzner
- Collected and cleaned data on graduate student metrics
  - Prepared annual reports for the College of Arts and Sciences at Boston College

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- Spring 2021 Grader: Medicine in America (SOC101) with Dr. Elaine Hernandez
- Fall 2020 Grader: Health and Society (SOC365) with Dr. Elaine Hernandez
- Spring 2019 Teaching Assistant: Social Inequalities in Health (SOC358) with Dr. Pam Jackson
- Spring 2019 Teaching Assistant: Intro. to Sociology (SOC100) with Dr. Chris Van Der Haar
- Fall 2018 Teaching Assistant: Medicine in America (SOC101) with Dr. Bernice Pescosolido

## SERVICE

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### *Discipline*

- 2024 - ASA Sociology of Mental Health Section's Student Representative
- 2024 - ESS Health Professions Education Mini-Conference Planning Committee
- 2024 - ASA Medical Sociology Section's Mentor of the Month Steering Committee

2023 Coordinating Editor, *American Sociological Review*  
Lead Editors: Dr. Arthur Alderson and Dr. Dina Okamoto

### ***University***

2018 - Preparing Future Faculty Conference Planning Committee  
2020 - 2021 Graduate and Professional Student Government Representative

### ***Department***

2024 - Social Media Manager  
2021 - 2024 Graduate Student Peer Mentor  
2022 - 2023 Undergraduate Student Honors Thesis Mentor  
2022 - 2023 Public Sociology Committee  
2021 - 2022 Graduate Student Association's Secretary  
2019 - 2020 Graduate Student Association's Social Committee

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

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American Sociological Association

- Medical Sociology
- Sociology of Mental Health
- Organizations, Occupations, and Work
- Social Psychology

Eastern Sociological Society  
Society for the Study of Social Problems  
Population Association of America

## **REFERENCES**

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Bernice A. Pescosolido  
Distinguished Professor  
Department of Sociology  
Indiana University  
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