

SUSAN B. SCHAFFNIT, PHD

SOCIAL SCIENTIST

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SUMMARY

- Quantitative social scientist skilled at designing, implementing, and managing research
- Analytical thinker and confident data analyst working with quantitative and qualitative data in Stata (advanced), NVivo, and R
- Effective communicator with record of peer-reviewed publications, presentations, and successful collaborations with international research teams

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Epidemiology and Population Health	2015
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine London, UK	
M.Sc. Human Evolution and Behavior (Distinction)	2010
University College London London, UK	
B.A. Anthropology (Summa cum laude)	2008
Beloit College Beloit, USA	

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Researcher, Demography	2020-present
Pennsylvania State University USA	
Postdoctoral Scholar, Integrated Anthropological Sciences	2017-2020
University of California, Santa Barbara USA	
Research Fellow, Population Health	2015-2017
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine UK	
Statistical Consultant	2015
University of Tokyo UK	
Research Consultant	2013
Marie Stopes International UK	

PUBLICATIONS

- ... **Schaffnit, S.B.**, Wamoyi, J., Urassa, M., Dardoumpa, M. & Lawson, D.W. When marriage is the best available option: perceptions of opportunity and risk in female adolescence in Tanzania. Under revision at [Global Public Health](#).
- Schaffnit, S.B.**, Wamoyi, J., Urassa, M., Dardoumpa, M. & Lawson, D.W. "I have never seen something like that": Discrepancies between lived experiences and the global health concept of child marriage in northern Tanzania. Under review at [PLOS ONE](#).
- Lawson D.W., **Schaffnit S.B.**, Kilgallen J.A., Kumogola Y., Galura A. & Urassa M. [He for She? Understanding men's support for women's empowerment in northern Tanzania](#). In prep.
- 2020** Lawson, D.W., **Schaffnit, S.B.**, Hassan, A. & Urassa, M. Shared interests or sexual conflict? Spousal age gap, women's wellbeing, and fertility in rural Tanzania. [Evolution and Human Behavior](#).

Lawson, D.W., Lynes, R., Morris, A. & **Schaffnit, S.B.** What does the American public know about 'child marriage'? [PLOS ONE](#).

- 2019 Schaffnit, S.B.**, Hassan, A., Urassa, M. & Lawson, D.W. Parent-offspring conflict unlikely to explain 'child marriage' in northwestern Tanzania. [Nature Human Behavior](#).

Schaffnit, S.B., Urassa, M. & Lawson, D.W. 'Child marriage' in context: Exploring local attitudes towards early marriage in rural Tanzania. [Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters](#).

Birdthistle, I., Tanton, C., Tomita, A., de Graaf, K., **Schaffnit, S.B.**, Tanser, F. & Slaymaker, E. Recent levels and trends in HIV incidence rates among adolescent girls and young women in high-prevalence countries: A systematic review and meta-analysis. [Lancet Global Health](#).

Hassan, A., **Schaffnit, S.B.**, Sear, R., Urassa, M. & Lawson, D.W. Fathers favor sons, mothers don't discriminate: a study of sex-biased parental care in northwest Tanzania. [Evolutionary Human Sciences](#).

- 2018 Birdthistle, I., Schaffnit, S.B.**, Floyd, S., Chimbindi, N., Chiyaka, T., Cowan, F., Glynn, J., Gourlay, A., Hargreaves, J., Hensen, B., Kabiru, C., Kwaro, D., Ondeng'e, K., Phillips-Howard, P., Shahmanesh, M., Zaba, B. & Ziraba, A. Evaluating the impact of the DREAMS Partnership to reduce HIV incidence among adolescent girls and young women in four settings: A study protocol. [BMC Public Health](#).

- 2017 Schaffnit, S.B.** & Sear R. Supportive families versus support from families: the decision to have a child in the Netherlands. [Demographic Research](#).

Schaffnit, S.B. & Sear, R. Support for new mothers and the decision to have a second child in the United Kingdom: not all support is equal. [Population Studies](#).

Sear, R. & **Schaffnit, S.B.** It's not just about the future: The present payoffs to behavior vary in degree and kind between the rich and the poor. [Behavioral and Brain Sciences](#).

Lawson D. W., **Schaffnit, S.B.**, Hassan, A., James, S. & Borgerhoff Mulder, M. Father absence but not fosterage predicts food insecurity, relative poverty and poor child health in northern Tanzania. [American Journal of Human Biology](#).

- 2016 Stulp, G., Sear, R., Schaffnit, S.B.**, Mills, M. & Barrett, L. The reproductive ecology of industrial societies: the association between wealth and fertility. [Human Nature](#).

- 2014 Schaffnit, S.B.** & Sear, R. Wealth modifies relationships between kin and women's fertility in high-income countries. [Behavioral Ecology](#).

Sheppard, P., **Schaffnit, S.B.**, Garcia, J. R. & Sear, R. Fostering relations: first sex and marital timings for children raised by kin and non-kin carers. [Evolution and Human Behavior](#).

PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 (Nov)** Parent-offspring conflict unlikely to drive early marriage in NW Tanzania. Invited talk presented at *University of Washington*. Seattle, United States.

(Apr) Parent-offspring conflict unlikely to drive early marriage in NW Tanzania. *European Human Behavior and Evolution Association*. Toulouse, France.

- 2018 (Nov)** 'Child marriage' in context: understanding the drivers of early marriage in rural Tanzania. Invited talk presented at *UCLA Center for Behavior, Evolution, and Culture*. Los Angeles, United States.

(Jul) Does parent-offspring conflict drive early marriage? A test of predictions in northwest Tanzania. *Human Behavior and Evolution Society*. Amsterdam, Netherlands.

(May) Does parent-offspring conflict drive early marriage? A test of predictions in northwest Tanzania. *California Workshop for the Evolutionary Social Sciences*. Santa Barbara, United States.

(Mar) Understanding early marriage in context: marital timing and women's wellbeing in Kisesa, Tanzania. Invited talk presented at *Understanding Harmful Cultural Practices: Origins, Drivers and Behavior Change Workshop*. Santa Barbara, United States.

2015 (Oct) Supportive Families and Men's and Women's Fertility Choices in the Netherlands: Family Support Norms and Within-Family Fluctuations in Support Can Elicit Different Outcomes. Invited paper presented at *Power of the Family Workshop*. Wageningen, Netherlands.

(Mar) Intergenerational support and women's fertility in high-income Countries: an evolutionary analysis. *Population Studies Group Seminar* at LSHTM. London, United Kingdom.

2014 (Apr) Kin effects on women's second birth timings in the UK: the role of fertility intentions. *European Behavior and Evolution Association*. Bristol, United Kingdom.

(Feb) Modifiers of kin effects on women's fertility in the UK. *Cooperation and Conflict in the Family*. Sydney, Australia.

2013 (Sep) Fostering Relations: timings of first sex and marriage for children raised by kin and non-kin carers. *British Society of Population Studies*. Swansea, United Kingdom.

(Jul) Fostering Relations: timings of first sex and marriage for children raised by kin and non-kin carers. *Human Behavior and Evolution Society*. Miami, United States.

(Mar) Kin proximity and women's fitness in high income countries: testing the predictions of the cooperative breeding and local resource competition models. *European Behavior and Evolution Association*. Amsterdam, Netherlands.

2012 (Sep) Kin and Partner Effects on Women's Fertility in the Developed World: interactions with socioeconomic status. *British Society of Population Studies*. Nottingham, United Kingdom.

(Jan) Kin and Female Fertility in the Developed World: interactions with paternal investment and socioeconomic status. *Centre for Behavior and Evolution*. Newcastle, United Kingdom.

TEACHING

Lecturer

- Boundaries of Childhood - in *Behavioral Ecology of the Family* (2019; UCSB)
- Evolutionary Explanations for the Demographic Transition - in *Human Behavioral Ecology* (2017-2019; UCSB)
- 'Child Marriage' in Context - in *International Development for Anthropologists* (2018, UCSB)
- Analyzing Clustered Data - in *Analyzing Survey and Population Data* (2016-2017, LSHTM)

- The Second Demographic Transition - in *Population Studies* (2015-2016; LSHTM)

Practical Facilitator

- *Advanced Stata* (2016; LSHTM)
- *Analyzing Survey and Population Data* (2015-2017; LSHTM)
- *Personalized Additional Study Skills Program* (2014-2016; LSHTM)
- *Statistics for Epidemiology and Population Health* (2013-2016; LSHTM)
- *Statistical Methods in Epidemiology* (2015-2016; LSHTM)

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND CITIZENSHIP

Conference/Workshop Co-organizer

- *European Human Behavior and Evolution Association Conference* (2016; London)
- *London Evolutionary Research Network Conference* (2013; London)

Module Co-organizer

- *Personalized Additional Study Skills Program* (2014-1016; LSHTM)
- *Population Studies for Distance Learners* (2016-2017; LSHTM)

Affiliate, *Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington* (2020-present)

Reviewer, Behavioral Ecology; Demographic Research; Evolution and Human Behavior; Frontiers in Public Health; Human Nature; Journal of Adolescent Health; Journal of Biosocial Science; Journal of Child and Adolescent Mental Health; PLOS One; Population Studies; Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters, and others...

Committee Member, *London Evolutionary Research Network* (2013)

FUNDING AND AWARDS

Funding

- Studentship. Rebecca Sear (PI). *Family Matters: Intergenerational Influences on Fertility*. European Research Council; 2011-2015
 - Competitive scholarship covering tuition, salary, materials and training for three years (grant number: ERC StG-2010 263760-FAMMAT)
- Mouat and Whiteford Endowed Research Fund, Beloit College Anthropology Department, Beloit, WI, USA; 2007
 - Competitive grant awarded for funding undergraduate honors thesis research
- Presidential Scholar, Beloit College, Beloit, WI, USA; 2004-2008
 - \$50,000 competitive scholarship awarded for undergraduate studies based on academic achievement and community involvement

Minor Funding

- European Human Behavior and Evolution Association travel bursary; 2013 & 2014
- Epidemiology and Population Health, LSHTM travel funding; 2013
- British Society of Population Studies travel bursary; 2012

Academic Awards

- **James E. Lockwood Award for Excellence in Anthropology**, Beloit College Anthropology Department; 2008
- **Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society**, Beta of Wisconsin Chapter, Beloit, WI, USA; elected into PBK in 2008
- **Dean's List**, Beloit College, Beloit, WI, USA; 2004-2008
- **Order of Omega**, Greek Leadership Honor Society; inducted 2007
- **Rho Lambda**, National Sorority Leadership Recognition Society; inducted 2007; President 2007-2008