

JENNIFER L. ROMICH

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EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

Ph.D. Human Development and Social Policy 2002

Degree committee: Greg Duncan (chair), Lindsay Chase-Lansdale,
Bruce D. Meyer, and James Spillane

M.A. Economics, earned while completing coursework in major program 2000

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA

B.A. Economics, with distinction 1994

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Washington, School of Social Work

Assistant Professor 2003 – present

Member, Social Welfare faculty

Founding member, Policy Practice concentration

Founding affiliate, West Coast Poverty Center

Faculty affiliate, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, Center for
Research on Families, Center for Statistics in the Social Sciences

Acting Assistant Professor Fall 2002

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Romich, Jennifer L., Shelly Lundberg, and Kwok Ping Tsang. (in press). *Journal of Research on Adolescence*. Independence giving or autonomy taking? Young adolescents' influences on family decision-making.

Lundberg, Shelly, Jennifer L. Romich and Kwok Ping Tsang. (2009). Decision making by children. *Review of Economics of the Household* 7(1): 1-30.

Romich, Jennifer L. (2009). Trying to keep children out of trouble: Child characteristics, neighborhood quality, and within-household resource allocation. *Children and Youth Services Review* 31(3): 338-345.

Romich, Jennifer L., Jennifer Simmelink & Stephen D. Holt. (2007). When working harder does not pay: Low-income working families, tax liabilities, and benefit reductions. *Families in Society* 88(3): 418-426.

Holt, Stephen D. & Jennifer L. Romich. (2007). Marginal tax rates facing low and moderate income workers who participate in means-tested social programs. *National Tax Journal* 60(2): 253-276.

Romich, Jennifer L. (2007). Sharing the work: Mother-child relationships and household management. *Journal of Early Adolescence* 27(2): 1-31.

Romich, Jennifer L. (2006). Randomized social policy experiments and research on child development. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology* 27: 136-150.

*Romich, Jennifer L. (2006). Difficult calculations: Low-income workers and marginal tax rates. *Social Service Review* 80(1): 27-66.

*Awarded the Society for Social Work Research Excellence in Research Award

Beverly, Sondra G., Jennifer Tescher & Jennifer L. Romich. (2004). Linking tax refunds and low-cost bank accounts: Early lessons for program design and evaluation. *Journal of Consumer Affairs* 38(2): 332-341.

Beverly, Sondra G., Jennifer L. Romich & Jennifer Tescher. (2003). Linking tax refunds and low-cost bank accounts: A social development strategy for low-income families? *Social Development Issues* 25(1/2): 235-246.

Huston, Aletha C., Greg J. Duncan, Robert Granger, Johannes Bos, Vonnie McLoyd, Rashmita Mistry, Danielle Crosby, Christina Gibson, Katherine Magnuson, Jennifer Romich & Ana Ventura. (2001). Work-based anti-poverty programs for parents can enhance the school performance and social behavior of children. *Child Development* 72(1): 318-336.

Romich, Jennifer L. & Thomas Weisner. (2000). How families view and use the EITC: Advance payment versus lump sum delivery. *The National Tax Journal* 53(4 part 2): 1245-1265.

Reprinted pp. 366-391 in Meyer, Bruce D. and Holtz-Eakin, Douglas (Eds.), (2001). *Making Work Pay: The History, Effects, and Future of the EITC*. New York: Russell Sage Publications.

CHAPTERS

Romich, Jennifer L. & Jennifer Simmelink. (2005). Piecing it all together (teaching case). In H. B. Weiss, H. Kreider, M. E. Lopez and C. Chatman (Eds.), *Preparing Educators for Family Involvement: From theory to practice*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Beverly, Sondra G., Jennifer Tescher, Jennifer L. Romich, & David Marzahl. (2005). Linking tax refunds and low-cost bank accounts to bank the unbanked. In M. Sherraden (Ed.), *Inclusion in the American Dream: Assets, Poverty, and Public Policy*. Oxford University Press.

Romich, Jennifer L. & Thomas S. Weisner. (2001). American families and the Earned Income Tax Credit. In G. J. Duncan and L. Chase-Lansdale (Eds.), *For Better and For Worse: Welfare Reform and the Well-Being of Children and Families*. New York: Russell Sage Publications.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Plotnick, Robert, Jennifer L. Romich and Jennifer Thacker. (2009). "The impacts of tolling on low-income persons in the Puget Sound region." Research report, Washington State Transportation Center, Seattle, WA.

Romich, Jennifer L. (2007). Review of *Taxes are a Woman's Issue* by Mimi Abramovitz & Sandra Morgen. *Affilia, a Journal of Women and Social Work* 22(2): 230-231.

Weisner, Thomas S., Christina Gibson, Edward D. Lowe and Jennifer Romich. 2002. Understanding working poor families in the New Hope Program. *Poverty Research News*. Chicago: Northwestern University / University of Chicago Joint Center for Poverty Research. 6(4): p. 3-5.

Huston, Aletha C., Greg J. Duncan, Robert Granger, Johannes Bos, Vonnie McLoyd, Christina Gibson, Katherine Magnuson & Jennifer Romich. (1999). New Hope's effects on family dynamics and child activities for the Child and Family Study Sample. In *New Hope for People With Low Incomes*. New York: Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Berridge, Clara W. and Jennifer L. Romich. "Raising him ... to pull his own weight? Boys' household work in single mother households." Manuscript under revision for resubmission, *Journal of Family Issues*.

Romich, Jennifer L. and Xiang Gao. "Does children's housework matter? Adult outcomes of adolescent boys and girls who spent time doing household chores and sibling care." Manuscript under review, *Youth & Society*.

Plotnick, Robert., Jennifer L. Romich, Jennifer Thacker, and Matthew Dunbar. "Analyzing the Impact of Highway Tolls on Low-Income Persons." In preparation.

Romich, Jennifer L., Eric Waithaka and Sarah Gordon. "A tool for getting by or getting ahead? Consumer views of prepaid cards." In preparation.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Principal Investigator, "Moving up? Low-income working families and policy supports." Silberman Fund Faculty Grant Program (\$40,000 total costs, awarded May 2008).

Principal Investigator, "(Dis)incentives for getting ahead? Combined marginal tax rates facing low-income working families." Smith-Richardson Foundation Domestic Public Policy Fellowship (\$60,000 total costs; awarded November 2007).

Principal Investigator, "How much does work pay? New data on combined marginal tax rates." W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research Mini-Grant Program (\$5,000 total costs; awarded May 2007).

Principal Investigator, "Financial asset-building strategies and the well-being of children and youth in poverty." West Coast Poverty Research Emerging Scholars Grant funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (\$9,743 direct costs; awarded September 2006).

Principal Investigator, "Give and take: Child agency in resource allocation." R01-HD045635 National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Demographic and Behavioral Sciences, National Institutes of Health. (\$375,000 direct costs; awarded September, 2003).

Principal Investigator, "Punished by progressivity: Do high effective marginal tax rates trap low-income workers?" The Annie E. Casey/National Survey of American Families/Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Small Research Grants Program. (\$19,048 direct costs; awarded June 2003).

RESEARCH CONTRACTS

Principal Investigator, "Client impact interviews," Research contract with the Center for Financial Services Innovation, a ShoreBank affiliate, Chicago, IL.

Co-Investigator, "The impacts of tolling on low-income and minority populations in Washington State." Research contract with the Washington State Department of Transportation (Robert Plotnick, Principal Investigator; \$40,000 total costs; awarded February 2008).

AWARDS, EXTERNAL AFFILIATIONS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Society for Social Work and Research Excellence in Research Award	2008
Sloan Foundation Early Career Work and Family Scholar	2007-2008
Visiting Scholar, University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research	April 2006
Research Affiliate, National Poverty Center	2005 – current
Graduate Student Leadership Award School of Education and Social Policy (SESP), Northwestern University	June 2002
Spencer Foundation Dissertation Year Fellowship	2001 – 2002
Joint Center for Poverty Research Graduate Fellowship	2000 – 2002
Spencer Research Training Grant Fellowship, SESP	1999 – 2000
MacArthur Research Network on the Family and the Economy Pre-doctoral Fellowship	1998 – 1999
University Fellowship, Northwestern University	1997 – 1998

JURIED AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Federal Reserve System Community Affairs Research Conference, “Innovative Financial Services for the Underserved,” Washington, DC, April 16, 2009.
- University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration, March 7, 2009.
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Los Angeles, CA, November 6, 2008.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation Welfare Research and Evaluation Conference, Washington, DC, May 29, 2008
- Society for Social Work and Research, Washington, DC, January 19, 2008
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Washington, DC, November 9, 2007
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Madison, WI, November 4, 2006
- Corporation for Enterprise Development Asset Learning Conference and Federal Reserve Research Forum, Phoenix, AZ, September 20, 2006
- University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research, Lexington, KY, April 5, 2006
- Society for Social Work and Research, San Antonio, TX, January 15, 2006
- Demography Workshop, University of Chicago, June 2, 2005
- Population Association of America, Philadelphia, PA, March 31, 2005
- American Economic Association, Philadelphia, PA, January 8, 2005
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Atlanta, GA, October, 2004
- Western Economic Association, Vancouver, BC, July 2, 2004
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Washington, DC, November, 2003
- Sociology Department Colloquium Series, Johns Hopkins University, April 15, 2003
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Dallas, TX, November 9, 2002
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Washington, DC, November 2, 2001
- Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, April 22, 2001

Population Association of American Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, March 31, 2001
 Sociology of Education Colloquium Series, University of Chicago, April 19, 2000
 Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, March 25, 2000
 “Cooperation and Conflict” Conference organized by the MacArthur Research Network on Family and the Economy, Bethesda, MD, March 3, 2000
 MacArthur Research Group on Successful Pathways through Middle Childhood Network Meeting, Northwestern University, December, 1999
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Washington, DC, November 6, 1999
 “EITC: Early Evidence” Joint Center for Poverty Research Conference, Northwestern University, October 8, 1999
 National Association for Welfare Research & Statistics Conference, Cleveland, OH, August 1999
 Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN, March 27, 1999
 Population Association of America Annual Meeting, New York, NY, March 26, 1999

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Consultant, Client impact research, Center for Financial Services Innovation 2008 –
 Consultant, Performance-based scholarship research, MDRC 2007 –
 Fieldworker, New Hope Ethnographic Study 1998 – 2001
 Directed by Thomas Weisner, UCLA.
 Research Assistant to Greg J. Duncan, Northwestern University. 1998 – 2001
 Research Associate 1997
 Council for Adult and Experiential Learning, Chicago, IL.
 Classroom Teacher, fifth grade 1994 – 1997
 Children of Peace Elementary School, Chicago, IL.
 Intern, Health, Education, and Human Services Division Summer 1992
 U.S. General Accounting Office, Washington, DC.

MEDIA

Romich, Jennifer. Comment on ‘In praise of usury.’ Letter to the editor. (2007, August 20)
Economist.com. http://www.economist.com/blogs/theinbox/2007/08/in_praise_of_usury_august_4th_1.cfm.
 Romich, Jennifer. Low-income families ignored again. Op-ed. (2003, June 6). *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*.
 Romich, Jennifer. Easy shmeasy. Letter to the editor. (2001, March). *Working Woman*.
 Romich, Jennifer and Duncan, Greg. Budget tricks hurt low-income families. Op-ed. (1999, October 5).
Chicago Tribune.
 Romich, Jennifer. Loop dreams. Letter to the editor. (1998, April 12). *Chicago Tribune Sunday Magazine*.

Research quoted or cited in:

Everett Herald (Everett, WA) (January 21, 2008, Krista J. Kapralos ‘Poverty rate low, but does it tell the whole story?’)
Northwest News Network (February 28, 2006, quoted in story on the Earned Income Tax Credit reported by Carol Cizauskas, carried on Seattle National Public Radio affiliate *KUOW* and other regional stations)

Seattle Post-Intelligencer (February 16, 2006, Carol Smith & Paul Nyhan, 'Surprising face of working poor;' February 21, 2005, Candace Heckman, 'Poor often fall victim to fee on tax refund loans.')

Real Change News (October 14-27, 2004, Diane Wurn, 'Ending tax time tricks.')

Seattle Times (August 16, 2004, Peter Lewis, 'City considers regulating tax-refund loans.')

The Wall Street Journal (October 28, 1999, Al Hunt 'One government program that really works.')

POST-SECONDARY TEACHING

University of Washington, School of Social Work (*co-taught)

Poverty and Inequality (Masters in Social Work, MSW) 2002 – present

Concepts and Methods of Policy Analysis (MSW) 2004 – present

Contemporary Social Policy (doctoral) 2003 – 2006

Readings in Economics of Social Work (MSW supervised readings) 2004 – 2005, 2008

**Policy Processes, Institutions and Influences* Fall 2003

**Integrative Seminar* (for BSW students entering MSW advanced year) Summer 2003

Northwestern University, School of Education and Social Policy

Topics in Research Methods: Longitudinal Data Analysis (doctoral) 2000, 2002

SAS lab instructor and assistant to Greg Duncan.

Social Policy and Human Services (undergraduate) Spring 2001

Teaching assistant to Dan Lewis

Swarthmore College, Department of Economics

Introduction to Microeconomics Fall 1993

Tutor and teaching assistant to Larry Westphal

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University of Washington

West Coast Poverty Center

Collaborator on application grant, Summer 2005

Faculty Advisory Committee Member, 2005 – 2006

Assorted ongoing service including small grant review, speaker hosting, outreach, and project development

Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology

Computing Advisory Board, 2005 – 2006

Statistics Core Advisory Board, 2007 – 2008

Executive Committee, 2008 –

Marshall for University Commencement, 2003, 2005

School of Social Work (*elected positions)

*Faculty Council (Policy-making body for school), 2007 – 2009

MSW Admissions Committee, 2005 – 2007

Faculty Recruitment Committee, 2003 – 2004 (culminated in junior policy hire)

MSW Program Steering Committee, 2003, 2005 – 2007

*PhD Program Steering Committee, 2003 – 2005

Ad hoc advisory committee on research cost recovery, 2003 – 2004

Health and Safety Committee, 2007 – 2008

Policy Practice concentration for MSW students:

Co-founder (with Marcia Meyers), 2003 – 2004

Co-lead instructor (with Marcia Meyers), 2003 – present

Advisor to Policy Practice students, 2003 – present
 Developed plan for concurrent MSW-Masters in Public Affairs degree program, 2004 – present
 Advisor to prospective and current MSW/MPA students, 2005 – present

Poverty and Inequality lead instructor, 2007 – present

Self-initiated service (organizer)

Junior faculty lunches, 2007 – 2008
 School of Social Work triathletes, Summer 2007
 Junior scholars writing group, 2004 – 2005
 Policy and inequality brownbag series, 2002 – 2004

Community service

Member, Washington State Budget and Policy Center (Center for Budget and Policy Priorities state fiscal analysis initiative affiliate) Community Advisory Board, appointed Fall 2007

Member, State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services, Economic Services Advisory Committee, 2008-2009

Tax preparer (Volunteer)

King County Earned Income Tax Credit Campaign, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009
 White Center (unincorporated King County) Asset Building Campaign, 2003
 Center for Law and Human Services (now Center for Economic Progress, Chicago, IL)
 Tax Assistance Program, 2000, 2001, 2002

Member, United Way of King County (WA) Out of the Rain Initiative (anti-homelessness) Community Council. 2003-2006.

Member, OOTR Advancement (strategic planning) team, 2005 – 2006
 Chair, OOTR Asset-Building Subcommittee. 2003 – 2005

Public testimony

Public hearing, Washington State Senate, Financial Institutions, Housing & Consumer Protection Committee. Testimony on “Low-income Washington families, federal income tax preparation, and refund anticipation loans (RALs).” February 15, 2005.

Panel Member, Seattle City Council, Housing, Human Services and Health Committee briefing. Testimony on “Low-income Seattle families, federal income tax preparation, and refund anticipation loans (RALs).” April 20, 2004.

Academic conference service

Reviewer, Society for Social Work and Research, conference proposals for social policy and poverty. 2009.

Organizer, session on "Policy and well-being in the Americas," Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA, April 19, 2008.

Organizer, session on “Intergenerational research using the NLSY79-C,” Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) research conference. Washington, DC, January 15-17, 2008.

Organizer, session on “Can asset-building policy improve the well-being of low-income children?;” and discussant, session on “Consequences of welfare reform” scheduled for Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) annual research conference. Washington, DC, November 9, 2007.

Chair and discussant, session on “Economic factors and child development,” PAA Annual Meeting. New York, NY, March 30, 2007.

Organizer, session on “When solutions cause problems: Disincentive effects of means testing,” and discussant, session on “Parental job conditions and low-income adolescent development,” APPAM Annual research conference. Madison, WI, November 4, 2006.

Organizer, session on “Public and private supports for children,” SSWR research conference. San Antonio, TX, January 15, 2006.

Discussant, session on “Turning tax credits into assets” and chair, session on “Informing the policy design of asset building proposals,” APPAM annual research conference. Washington, DC, November 3-4, 2005

Facilitator and discussant, session on “How caregivers make sense of their work.” University of Washington Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies Caring Labor Conference, Seattle, WA. May 21, 2005.

Reviewer, Public Policy (Panel 24) submissions, Society for Research in Child Development biennial meeting. Atlanta, GA. April 7– 10, 2004.

Reviewer and organizer, sessions on “Family influences on child well being,” “Early health influences and impacts,” and “Parents’ work and children’s lives” (also chair), PAA annual meeting. Philadelphia, PA. March 31– April 2, 2004.

Conference co-organizer (with Marcia Meyers), Conference on “Participation in public programs,” sponsored by the Center for Research on Families and the Institute for Inequality and Social Structure. University of Washington, January 13, 2004.

Organizer, session on “Financial (dis)incentives for self-sufficiency via work and savings.” APPAM annual research conference. Washington DC, November 2003.

Chair, session on “Demographic effects of poverty.” PAA annual meeting. Minneapolis MN, May, 2003.

Organizer, session on “Banking on banking: Low-income workers and financial services.” APPAM annual research conference. Washington DC, November 2, 2001.

Discussant, “Revisiting the Iron Law of Welfare” conference session, APPAM annual research conference. Dallas TX, November, 2002

Co-facilitator (with Penelope Peterson and James Spillane), Session on Educational Research Training. Spencer Research Training Grant working conference on Methodology and Quality in Research Training, Stanford University, March 12, 1999.

Referee/Reviewer

Child & Family Social Work, 2008, 2009; *Childhood*, 2003; *Children and Youth Services Review*, 2006. *Demography*, 2004, 2005; *Developmental Psychology*, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009; *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 2001; *Journal of Business Research*, 2003; *Journal of Children and Poverty*, 2008; *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007; *National Tax Journal*, 2005, 2007, 2008; *Social Problems*, 2003; *Social Service Review*, 2006, 2008, 2009; *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis* (editorial board student member) 2000, 2001, 2002. Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program EITC research, 2003, 2007; Center for Economic Progress, 2006; Spencer Foundation, 2000; Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management / National Survey of American Families Small Grant Program 2000, 2001, 2002; University of Washington Royalty Research Fund, 2002, 2004, 2005; West Coast Poverty Center Emerging Scholars and Dissertation Grant

Program, 2006; Oxford University Press, 2007; University of Washington School of Business
Global Social Entrepreneurship Competition, 2007, 2008.

08/09