

Yan Zhang

Center for Demography of Health and Aging
University of Wisconsin–Madison

4408 Sewell Social Science
1180 Observatory Drive
Madison, WI 53706, USA

zhang2656@wisc.edu

Personal Webpage: <https://yanzhang.work>

ACADEMIC POSITION

06/2021-present Postdoc research associate, Center for Demography of Health and Aging,
University of Wisconsin–Madison

EDUCATION

08/2016-05/2021 Ph.D., Sociology, Michigan State University, MI
Qualifying exams: Family demography, Population health, Aging & Life
course
Dissertation title: Parenthood and Parents' Cognitive Health in the United
States.
Committee: Hui Liu (Chair), Zhenmei Zhang, Ning Hsieh, William Chopik

08/2014-05/2016 M.A., Sociology, The State University of New York at Buffalo, NY

09/2010-07/2014 B.A., Sociology, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Family Demography, Population Health, Aging and Life Course, Gender and Sexuality,
Quantitative Methodology

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- [8] Zhang, Z., Liu, H., & **Zhang, Y.** Marital Loss and Cognitive Function: Does Timing Matter?. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbac069>
- [7] **Zhang, Y.**, & Fletcher, J. (2021). Parental Status in Later Life and Parents' Risk of Cognitive Impairment. *SSM–Population Health*, 100968. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2021.100968>
- [6] Liu, H., Zhang, Z., & **Zhang, Y.** (2021). A National Longitudinal Study of Marital Quality and Cognitive Decline Among Older Men and Women. *Social Science & Medicine*, 114151. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2021.114151>
- [5] **Zhang, Y.**, & Liu, H. (2021). Individual's Gender Ideology and Happiness in China. *Chinese Sociological Review*, 1-26. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21620555.2021.1871727>

- [4] Liu, H., Hsieh, N., Zhang, Z., Zhang, Y., & Langa, K. M. (2021). Same-sex couples and cognitive impairment: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*, 76(7), 1388-1399. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbaa202>
- [3] **Zhang, Y.**, & Liu, H. (2020). A National Longitudinal Study of Partnered Sex, Relationship Quality, and Mental Health Among Older Adults. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*, 75(8), 1772-1782. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbz074> (**Editor's Choice**)
- [2] Liu, H., **Zhang, Y.**, Burgard, S. A., & Needham, B. L. (2019). Marital Status and Cognitive Impairment in the United States: Evidence From the National Health and Aging Trends Study. *Annals of Epidemiology*, 38, 28-34. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annepidem.2019.08.007>
- [1] Liu, H., Chen, I. C., Wilkinson, L., Pearson, J., & **Zhang, Y.** (2019). Sexual Orientation and Diabetes During the Transition to Adulthood. *LGBT health*, 6(5), 227-234. <https://doi.org/10.1089/lgbt.2018.0153>

UNDER REVIEW & PAPER IN PROGRESS

- Yan Zhang** & Hui Liu. Parent-Child Relationship Quality and Older Parents' Cognitive Trajectories: A National Longitudinal Study in the United States
- Yan Zhang**. Fertility History and Risk of Cognitive Impairment Among Older Parents in The U.S.
- Jooyoung Kong, Scott D. Easton, & **Yan Zhang**. Sexual and Marital Satisfaction in Old Age: Impact of Lifetime Abuse Exposure
- Yan Zhang** & Jason Fletcher. The Association between Parity and Cognitive Ability: A Gendered Analysis using UK Biobank
- Yan Zhang** & Jason Fletcher. Number of Children and Parent's Risk of Alzheimer's Diseases/Dementia: Evidence from the UK Biobank
- Yan Zhang** & Zhiyong Lin. "Rely on Your Spouse or Your Kid(s)?: Marital Status, Parental Status, and Unmet Care Needs of Older Adults with and without Dementia"

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2022 May	Paper presentation honorarium at the NHATS/NSOC Dementia Care Conference (\$5,000)
2020 Summer	Graduate Office Fellowship Award, Michigan State University (\$1,700)
2019 Summer	Summer Publishing Fellowship, Department of Sociology, MSU (\$6,500)
2018 Fall	Graduate Office Fellowship Award, Michigan State University (\$1,300)
2018 Spring	Graduate Office Fellowship Award, Michigan State University (\$4,300)
2017 Spring	Graduate Office Fellowship Award, Michigan State University (\$4,450)
2011-2013	Excellent Student First-class Scholarship, China Agricultural University

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 06/2021-present Postdoc Research Associate, National Institute on Aging (RF1AG062765) Grant: “The Importance of Place of Birth in Determining Old Age Cognitive Health.” PI: Jason Fletcher
- 01/2020-05/2021 Graduate Research Assistant and Lead Data Analyst, National Institute on Aging (R01AG061118) Grant: “Marriage, Cognitive Trajectories and AD/AD Risk in Late Life.” PI: Hui Liu.
- 05/2020-08/2020 Graduate Research Assistant, National Institute on Aging (R03AG062936) Grant: “Marital Biography and Risk of Dementia in the United States.” PI: Zhenmei Zhang.
- 01/2018-01/2019 & 09/2019-12/2019 Graduate Research Assistant and Lead Data Analyst, National Institute on Aging (K01AG043417) Grant: “How Does Marriage Get Under the Skin? An Integrative Social and Biological Approach.” PI: Hui Liu.
- 08/2015-05/2016 Research assistant for Ashley Barr, University at Buffalo, Sociology Department. Project name: The Family and Community Health Study. Responsibility: Data management for multilevel models.
- 10/2012-05/2013 Research project on Children’s Perspective: Effects of Domestic Violence on Children. CAU Challenge Cup National Undergraduate curricular academic competition.
- 04/2012-04/2013 Research project on Socialization Problems Among Orphans and the Effectiveness of Educational Support, collaborating with Professor Jiang Aiqun. Data collection: quantitative and qualitative methods

PRESENTATIONS

- 05/2022 **Yan Zhang** & Zhiyong Lin. “Rely on Your Spouse or Your Kid(s)?: Marital Status, Parental Status, and Unmet Care Needs of Older Adults with and without Dementia”
Scheduled paper presentation at the NHATS/NSOC Dementia Care Conference, Ann Arbor, MI
- 04/2022 **Yan Zhang**. “Fertility History and Risk of Cognitive Impairment Among Older Parents in the U.S.” (Oral presentation)
Yan Zhang and Jason Fletcher. “Fertility and Cognition: Do Genetic Factors, Family Background, and Presence of Spouse Matter?” (Poster session)
Scheduled presentations at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Atlanta, GA
- 08/2021 **Yan Zhang**. “Relationship Quality Between Older Parents and Children: Impact on Parents’ Cognitive Functioning” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Family Section (virtual)
- 11/2020 **Yan Zhang**. “Social Integration and Risk of Dementia Among Older Adults”. Presented at the annual meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, on-demand presentation and presenter discussion (virtual)

- 08/2020 **Yan Zhang.** “Childlessness, Number of Children, Children's Gender, and Risk of Dementia among Older Adults”. Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association (Roundtable, virtual)
- 08/2019 **Yan Zhang.** “Gender Role Ideology, Self-rated Health and Happiness in China”. Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (Roundtable). New York City, NY
- 08/2019 Yulin Yang and **Yan Zhang.** “Chronic Non-Cancer Pain and Spousal Relationship Quality Among Older Adults in the United States”. Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association (Roundtable). New York City, NY
- 11/2018 **Yan Zhang** and Hui Liu. “A National Longitudinal Study of Partnered Sex, Relationship Quality, and Psychological Well-being among Older Adults”. Presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America symposium oral presentation. Boston, MA.
- 04/2018 **Yan Zhang** and Hui Liu. “Partnered Sexuality and Mental Health among Older Adults: A Gendered Life Course Perspective”. Presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America (oral presentation). Denver, CO.
- 08/2017 **Yan Zhang.** “Gender Role Ideology, Self-rated Health and Happiness in China Based on CGSS”. Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association (Roundtable). Montreal, Canada.
- 01/2013 Aiqun Jiang, **Yan Zhang,** and Yingling Chen, “Domestic Violence and the Construction of Family Culture: A Gendered Analysis”. Presented at the Gender Equity and Family Culture Construction Forum of the Beijing Women’s Federation.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2021-present Research Mentor, Undergraduate Research Scholars Program (URS), UW–Madison
- Spring 2019 Teaching Assistant, SOC882 Analysis of Social Data II (Professor: Zhenmei Zhang), MSU
- Fall 2017 Teaching Assistant (recitation instructor), SOC281 Social Research Methods (Professor: Brendan Mullan), MSU
- Summer 2017 Instructor, SOC216 Sex and Gender, online course, MSU
- Spring 2017 Summer Teaching Tutorial Workshop in Sociology Department, MSU
- Spring 2017 Teaching Assistant, ISS315 National Diversity and Change: United States (Professor: Ralph Pyle), MSU
- Fall 2016 Teaching Assistant, ISS210 Individual and Society (Professor: Kody Steffy), MSU

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND STATISTICAL SKILLS

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods, University of Michigan

- 2017 (4 weeks) Longitudinal data analysis, Structural Equation Model with Latent Variables
2018 (4 weeks) Maximum Likelihood Estimation II: Advanced Topics (survival analysis), Simultaneous Equation Models

Statistical Skills:

Structural Equation Model, Multilevel Model, Mixed-effects Model, Event-History Hazard Model/Survival Analysis, Growth Curve Model, Dyadic Analysis (Actor Partner Interdependence Model), Social Network Analysis

Software Proficiencies: STATA, MPLUS, SPSS, R, Python, LISREL, HLM

MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association (ASA)

Sections: Aging and Life Course (SALC), Medical Sociology, Family, Sex and Gender

Population Association of America (PAA)

The Gerontological Society of America (GSA)

The Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science (IAPHS)

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)

Divisions: Family, Health, Health Policy, and Health Services

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Ad hoc reviewer *Sexuality Research and Social Policy, Sociological Perspectives, Research on Aging, Aging & Mental Health, Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, Journal of Aging and Health, Social Science & Medicine, Chinese Sociological Review, Population Studies, PloS one*
- Conference discussant PAA (2021 and 2022)
- 2020-2021 Graduate Student Mentor, MSU
2019-2021 Coordinator at the Family, Population, and Health Laboratory (FPH), MSU
2018 Student Representative, the Faculty Advisory Committee, MSU

REFERENCES

Jason Fletcher (postdoc mentor)
Professor
Public Affairs and Sociology
CDHA Director
University at Wisconsin-Madison
jason.fletcher@wisc.edu

Hui Liu (dissertation committee chair)
Professor
Graduate Program Director
Department of Sociology
Michigan State University
liuhu@msu.edu