

**AIMÉE R. DECHTER**

Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706  
Voice: (608) 262-4896; FAX: (608) 262-8400  
E-Mail: Dechter@ssc.wisc.edu

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Joint in Sociology and Demography, University of Pennsylvania, 1991  
Dissertation: "The Expected Economic Impact of Marital Dissolution  
and its Implications for the Likelihood of Divorce".  
M.A. Demography, University of Pennsylvania, 1987  
Thesis: "Age Overstatement in Three Latin American Countries:  
Mexico, Chile and Venezuela."  
B.S. with Honors. Biostatistics, Cornell University, 1983  
Thesis: "An Empirical Bayes Approach to Estimating the Probability  
of Correct Selection"

**POSITIONS**

Assistant Professor Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1993-  
(Interrupted by extended full and part-time medical leave.)  
Assoc. Director for Training Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin-  
Madison, 1998-2006  
Post Doctoral Fellow Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel  
Hill, 1991-92.  
Mathematical Statistician Undercount Research Staff, Statistical Research Division, U.S. Bureau  
of the Census, 1983-85.

**AFFILIATIONS**

Steering Committee Member Center for Demography and Ecology, 1993-  
Faculty Affiliate: Center for Demography of Health and Aging, 2000-  
The Institute for Research on Poverty, 1993-  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

**AWARDS AND  
FELLOWSHIPS**

Vilas Life Cycle Professorship, UW-Madison, 2006-07.  
E. Digby Baltzell Award for the Best Dissertation in Sociology, 1991.  
National Institute of Aging Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1991-92  
Dean's Fellowship, 1989-90  
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development  
Traineeship in Demography, 1985-89

**RESEARCH  
INTERESTS**

Sociology of the Family and the Life Course; Demography; Inequality;  
Health

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- McCulloch, Charles E. and Aimée R. Dechter, 1985. An Empirical Bayes Approach to Estimating the Probability of Correct Selection, *Communications in Statistics*, Vol. 14, No. 1, pp 173-186.
- Smith, Herbert L. and Aimée R. Dechter. 1991. No Shift in Locus of Control Among Women During the 1970's, *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, Vol. 60, No. 4, pp 638-640.
- Dechter, Aimée R. and Samuel H. Preston. 1991. Age Misreporting and Its Effects on Adult Mortality Estimates in Latin America, *Population Bulletin of the United Nations*, No. 31-32, pp 1-16.
- Smith, Herbert L. and Aimée R. Dechter. 1993. Effects of Nonresponse on the Measurement of Social Life Feelings, in D. Krebs and P. Schmidt (eds.), *New Directions in Attitude Measurement*. Mannheim, Germany: Center for Survey Research (ZUMA), Aldine De Gruyter.
- Dechter, Aimée R. 2001. Potential Applications and Extensions for a Choice-Based Social Interaction Framework (Comment), *Sociological Methodology*, Vol. 31, pp 107-121.
- Dechter, Aimée R. and Glen H. Elder, Jr. 2004. World War II Mobilization in Men's Worklives: Continuity or Disruption for the Middle Class? *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 110, No. 3, pp 761-793.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

- Dechter, Aimée R. 1992. The Effect of Women's Economic Independence on Union Dissolution, *CDE Working Paper*, No. 92-28.
- Dechter, Aimée R. 1992. The Economic Effects of Union Dissolution for Women, *CDE Working Paper*, 1992, No. 92-29.
- Dechter, Aimée R and Pamela J. Smock. 1995. The Fading Breadwinner Role and the Economic Implications for Young Couples, *IRP Discussion Paper*, No. 1051.

## **PAPERS IN PROGRESS**

- Becker, Tara Leigh, and Aimée R. Dechter. Why Do Married Men Earn More? An Evaluation of the Marriage Premium
- Dechter, Aimée R. and Tara Leigh Becker. Who Is Privy To Their Partner's Earnings?
- Dechter, Aimée R, Yan Yu, and Michael E. Sobel. For Better and For Worse: Cautionary Tails of Happiness in Marriage

## **PAPERS PRESENTED**

- Dechter, Aimée R and Tara Leigh Becker Who Is Privy To Their Partner's Earnings? Presented at

the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montréal Canada, August 11-14 2006

- Dechter, Aimée R., Yan Yu and Michael E. Sobel.. For Better and For Worse: Cautionary Tails of Happiness in Marriage. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Los Angeles, CA, March 30-April 1 2006; Center for Demography and Ecology Seminar, Madison, WI, March 22, 2005.
- Becker, Tara Leigh, and Aimée R. Dechter. Why Do Married Men Earn More? An Evaluation of the Marriage Premium. Center for Demography and Ecology Seminar, Madison, WI, August 1, 2005; Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Philadelphia, PA, March 31-April 2 2005; Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA. August 16-20 2004.
- Elder, Glen H., and Aimée R Dechter. World War II Mobilization and Inequalities and the Later Lives of Men: Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL. August 16-20 2002.
- Dechter, Aimée R and Pamela J. Smock. The Fading Breadwinner Role and the Economic Implications for Young Couples. Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Miami, FL. May 4-7 1994.
- Dechter, Aimée R. A Proposal for Measuring the Implications of Women's Economic Vulnerability for Marital Transitions, Survey Research Center, Berkeley, CA. April 4, 1995; Institute for Research on Poverty Seminar Series, Madison, WI. April 8, 1993; Institute for Research on Poverty Working Group on Vulnerability and Dependency, Madison, WI. February 25, 1993.
- Dechter, Aimée R and Glen H. Elder. World War II Mobilization in Men's Worklives: A Case of Continuity or Disruption for the Middle Class?: Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Pittsburgh, PA. August 20-24 1992.
- Dechter, Aimée R. "The Economic Effects of Union Dissolution for Married Women, Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Pittsburgh, PA. August 20-24 1992.
- Dechter, Aimée R. The Effect of Women's Economic Independence on Union Dissolution, Carolina Population Center Seminar Series, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. January 10 1992; Center for Demographic Studies Seminar Series, Duke University, Durham, NC. January 28 1992; Department of Sociology and Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. February 13 1992; Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Denver, CO. April 30 - May 2 1992; Summer Research Workshop on Problems of the Low-Income Population, sponsored by the Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI. June 16-20 1992.
- Andrew Workman, Glen H. Elder and Aimée R. Dechter. White Collar Men and War: Occupational Differences in the Impact of World War II Mobilization: Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association, New Orleans, LA. October 31 - November 3 1991.

- Dechter, Aimée R., Frank F. Furstenberg, and Kathleen Mullan Harris. Adolescent Childbearing and High School Completion Differentials: An Inter-Cohort Comparison: Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington, D.C. March 20-23 1991.
- Dechter, Aimée R., Frank F. Furstenberg, The Changing Consequences of Adolescent Childbearing: A Comparison of Fertility and Marriage Patterns Across Cohorts (A. R. Dechter and F. F. Furstenberg): Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Washington, D.C. August 11-15 1990.
- Smith, Herbert L. and Aimée R. Dechter. Effects of Nonresponse on the Measurement of Social Life Feelings (H. L. Smith and A. R. Dechter): Symposium on The Relevance of Attitude Measurement in Sociology, Bad Homburg, Federal Republic of Germany. July 2-5 1990.
- Bhat, P. N. M., Aimée R. Dechter and Samuel H. Preston. "Age Misreporting and Its Effects on Adult Mortality Estimates in Developing Countries": Seminar on Mortality Transition in East Asia and South Asia. Beijing, China. August 29 - September 2 1988, (Co-sponsored by the IUSSP and the Institute of Population Research, People's University of China).

## **GRANTS**

- Marriage, Cohabitation and Gender: Whose Wages Benefit? The Graduate School, University of Wisconsin Madison; A. R. Dechter, Principal Investigator. 7/2004-6/2005
- Implications of Services and Environment for Socioeconomic and Racial Differentials in Mortality, The UW-Madison Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Research Competition; A. R. Dechter, Principal Investigator. 2003 (\$32,983)
- Economic Independence and Marital Transitions, The Graduate School, University of Wisconsin Madison; A. R. Dechter, Principal Investigator. 7/2001-6/2002
- The Effects of Economic Independence and Forward Thinking on Divorce, The Graduate School, University of Wisconsin Madison; A. R. Dechter, Principal Investigator. 7/2000-6/2001
- Effects of First Birth Timing on Educational Attainment and Welfare Dependency, W. T. Grant Foundation; A. R. Dechter, Principal Investigator. 1/1/1993 - 12/31/1995 (\$66,486)
- The Effect of Women's Economic Independence on Marriage, The Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Madison; A. R. Dechter, Principal Investigator. 7/1/1993 - 6/30/1994
- The Implications of Women's Economic Vulnerability for Marital Transitions, Institute for Research on Poverty /ASPE Biennium Grant; A. R. Dechter, Principal Investigator. 7/1/1993 - 6/30/1995
- Women's Economic Contributions In Marriage Over the Past Two Decades: Implications for Divorce and its Economic Consequences, Institute for Research on Poverty Small Grants Program; P. J.

Smock, Principal Investigator. 7/1/1993-6/30/1994

## **DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

Minority Student Recruitment and Retention Committee (2003-)  
Training Committee, Center for Demography and Ecology (2000-2004)  
Organized Special Colloquiums and Commemorations, and Arrangements for Short-term Visiting  
Scholars, Center for Demography and Ecology (2003-2006).  
Faculty Senate Alternate (1993, 2007)

## **PROFESSIONAL OFFICES AND ACTIVITIES**

Elected Council Member, Methodology Section, the American Sociological Association, 2006-08.

Organizing Committee, Population Association of America, Area of the Family, Los Angeles, CA,  
March 30-April 1, 2006

General Topics Organizer, Population Association of America, Sessions in the Areas of Cohabitation,  
Marriage and Divorce, San Francisco, CA, April 6-8, 1995

Session Chair, Population Association of America, The Process of Marital Dissolution and Its  
Determinants, San Francisco, CA, April 6-8, 1995

Discussant, Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Intergenerational, Inter-  
Household, and Intra-Household Ties Session, Los Angeles CA, August 5-10, 1994

Referee: *American Sociological Review*; *Demography*; *Social Forces*; *Sociological Methodology*;  
*Journal of Marriage and the Family*; *Social Science Quarterly*; *Family Planning Perspectives*.

Reviewer: The Institute for Research on Poverty

Member: American Sociological Association; Population Association of America

## **TEACHING RELATED EXPERIENCE**

Intermediate Sociology of the Family, Sociology 640 (spring 1993)  
Demography and Ecology Training Seminar, Sociology 997 (spring 1998-August 2006)  
Directed Reading - the Family (Spring 1993, Fall 1993)  
Reading and Research - The Family, Sociology 999 (fall 1993)  
Reading and Research - Econometrics, Sociology 999 (summer 2001, fall 2001)  
Reading and Research - Transition Models, Sociology 999 (Fall 2002)  
Introduction to Marriage and the Family, Sociology 120, Honor's and Non-Honor's (fall 2005-spring  
2007)

## **GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING**

### **Doctoral Dissertations**

- Tara Leigh Becker, expected 2007, "When Equality Isn't Enough: The (Lack of) Persistence of Relative Earnings in Marriage", Chair – James Raymo
- Huey-Chi Vicky Chang, 2006, "The Dynamics of Social Changes and Family Attainment Norms: The Effects of Parental Education, Sibship Structure and Gender Differences on School Transitions in Taiwan", Chair - Robert Hauser.
- Michael Ludwig Spittel, 2004, "A Study of Health Inequalities: The Role of Wealth and the Environment", Chair - Alberto Palloni.
- Eldar Nigmatullin, 2003, " Estimation of Markov Decision Processes in the Presence of Model Uncertainty", Chair - Steven Durlauf (Economics)
- Sung Yung Lee, 1995, "The Effect of the Value of Children on Sex Preference in a Rational Actor Model: A Comparative Analysis of Korea and Jamaica", Chair - Halliman Winsborough.
- Leslie McCall, 1995, "Regional Industrial Restructuring and Occupational Segregation by Gender and Race-Ethnicity, 1980-1990", Chair - Jane Collins.
- Brian Martinson, 1994, "Postmarital Union Formation: Trends and Differentials in the Competing Risks of Remarriage and Nonmarital Cohabitation Among Women in the United States", Chair - Lawrence Wu.
- Hanam Samuel Phang, 1994, "A Dynamic Study of Young Women's Labor Force Transitions", Chair - Robert Mare.

### **Master's Theses**

- Jennifer Holland, expected 2007, "Is There an Economic Bar for Marriage? Socioeconomic Status Differentials and Implications for Marriage Promotion Policies", Chair - Elizabeth Thomson
- Lena Etuk, 2006 "The Role of Individuals and Their Social Context: Understanding the Connections of Marriage and Employment to Economic Well-being", Chair - Theodore Gerber
- Tamae Eto, 2005, ""Labor Force Dropout of Married Women in Japan: The Role of Education as Proxies of Human Capital, Career Orientation, and Assortative Mating", Chair - James Raymo
- Yan Yu, 2004, "The Prevalence and Intensity of Relationship Happiness: Differences Between Marriage and Cohabiting Unions", Chair - Aimée Dechter.
- Tara Becker, 2003, "Is There a Premium for Happiness? The Relationship Between Marital Quality and Wages", Chair - Aimée Dechter
- Deborah Carr, 1994, "The Determinants of Women's and Men's Self-Employment", Chair - Robert Hauser.
- Megan Sweeney, 1994, "Men's and Women's Hazard of Remarriage: The Role of Socioeconomic Prospects", Chair - Robert Hauser.

### **First Year Student Mentor**

Hong Yun Han 2005-2006