
Northwestern University

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Psycho-Legal Studies
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Linda A. Teplin, PhD
Owen L. Coon Professor of Psychiatry
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NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

December 16, 2008

Augusta Webster, MD
Office of Medical Education
Ward 1-003
Chicago Campus

Dear Dr. Webster:

I am pleased to apply for the position of mentor to students in the University's Medical Student Summer Research Program (MSSRP). The Psycho-Legal Studies Program in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences has a number of opportunities to offer these students. Our nationally-recognized longitudinal study, the Northwestern Juvenile Project, has developed proven field procedures and obtained a wealth of high quality data. We are now moving into the examination of physical health outcomes within our high-risk sample.

We strongly feel we can have a mutually beneficial summer training experience for a medical student. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen M. Abram".

Karen M. Abram, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and
Associate Director, Psycho-Legal Studies

KMA:jw

**Medical Student Summer Research Program (MSSRP)
and Research Thesis Program (RTP)
Mentor Information**

1) Research description (maximum 1 page):

a. General research description

Psycho-legal Studies Program (see attached)

b. Description of potential MSSRP or RTP student projects

- i. Literature Review: learn to create a table of empirical literature to help identify gaps in research which new projects can address; topics to be determined. Would also learn Endnote reference system and improve Excel skills.
- ii. Basic Data Analyses and Write up of Internal Report: Conduct preliminary, basic analyses of data from a single wave from longitudinal study of detained youth (cross-sectional). Data might include, for example, prevalence rates of urine tests for STIs or drugs of abuse. Would also learn basic “STATA” statistical programming language. Creates tables of findings. Conduct literature review to put findings into perspective with existing knowledge; write up internal report.
- iii. Fundamentals of longitudinal field research:
 1. Learn to perform in-office tracking of hard-to find participants: Learn array of skills needed to maintain large sample of at-risk young adults. Experience tracking participants by phone, mail and internet resources. Opportunity to accompany field locators on field visits.
 2. Serve as mock subject for new interviewers learning 3-4 hour interview protocol (assesses psychiatric diagnosis, high risk behaviors, risk and protective factors for crime, HIV/AIDS, adult role performance).
 3. Assist with research for new measures for next wave of longitudinal study (for example, history of familial neglect; history of crime victimization)

2) Cover letter explaining the reasons for your interest in becoming a mentor

See Attached

- 3) Current biosketch for Karen M Abram, PhD (attached)
- 4) Trainees over the past 5 years (undergraduate, medical or graduate students; post-doctoral fellows)
- a. We have accepted 1-2 graduate students every year for two decades.
 - b. We have assisted half a dozen staff members enrolled in outside Master's Programs to complete their Masters' Theses using our data in the past five years.
 - c. We sponsored two post-doctoral fellow in the past five years
 - d. We sponsored one SROP student

Research area (check all that apply):

- Basic Science
- Translational Science
- Clinical Science
- Other: Social Science

Psycho-Legal Studies

Psycho-Legal Studies, begun in 1978, is a research program based in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences which studies the interface between the health and criminal justice systems. Its primary focus is on health disparities. The faculty design and implement studies of special populations, such as delinquent youth, adult jail detainees, and persons with severe mental illnesses. Prior and current studies include investigations of health needs and outcomes, patterns of health service utilization, correlates of violent perpetration and victimization, and HIV/AIDS risk behaviors and infection.

The program is now conducting the *Northwestern Juvenile Project*: the first large-scale longitudinal study of the health needs and outcomes of detained youth. Most detained youth are extremely poor and are also disproportionately racial/ethnic minorities. Although African Americans comprise 12% of general population youth, they comprise more than 40% of detained youth and adults. Despite their high risk for poor outcomes – psychiatric disorders, HIV infection, life-threatening problem behaviors, and early violent death -- few studies have investigated this population. The Northwestern Juvenile Project addresses critical issues facing the nation's healthcare system and will identify potential points of intervention and prevention. Because of the importance of the study, it has been funded by a consortium of federal agencies and private foundations, including the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), NIH Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD), National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), and the Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

Current funding is provided by NIDA, NIAAA, CDC, and OJJDP. With this funding, program staff are studying how patterns of drug abuse affect HIV/AIDS risk and infection -- as well as other sexually-transmitted infections -- as their participants become young adults. Extending the Northwestern Juvenile Project in this way makes possible the use of data already collected to examine health disparities in the development of drug use and HIV/AIDS risk; to identify a variety of risk and protective factors; to identify points of intervention at key developmental periods; and to extend models developed in general population adolescents to correctional populations.

The Psycho-Legal Studies Program has now begun to compile a database on their participants' children. The breadth and quality of its longitudinal data and its high participation rates at follow up (83%-97%) provide a unique opportunity to advance knowledge in the tradition of other large-scale, community-based intergenerational studies, such as the classic Framingham Study of coronary heart disease. Continued study of subjects as they make the transition into adulthood will allow Northwestern to examine racial/ethnic differences in health needs, health outcomes and health disparities in service provision. This study has already been cited in reports issued by the Surgeon General and in reports to Congress. The investigators publish in journals that are widely read and broadly disseminated, including: the *Archives of General Psychiatry*; *American Journal of Public Health*, *Pediatrics*, *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, and *Psychiatric Services*.

Professors Linda Teplin, Karen Abram and others collaborate with organizations such as the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the American Bar Association, the National Institute of Corrections and the National Juvenile Detention Association to make sure that their data are disseminated to the people who work in the field and to people who make policy decisions. Prior studies have been cited in Supreme Court amicus briefs, in congressional hearings and by many federal agencies, private agencies and advocacy groups.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the key personnel in the order listed for Form Page 2.
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES.**

NAME KAREN M. ABRAM		POSITION TITLE ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	
EDUCATION/TRAINING <i>(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)</i>			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY
Antioch University, Yellow Springs, OH	BA	1979	Psychology
Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, IL	PhD	1988	Clinical Psychology

A. Positions and HonorsPosition

- 1988-1990 Research Investigator, Psycho-legal Studies Program, Department of Psychiatry, Northwestern University Medical School.
- 1990-2007 Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University and Associate Director, Psycho-legal Studies Program.
- Current: Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University and Associate Director, Psycho-legal Studies Program.

Honors

George Yacorzynski Dissertation Honors Award, Northwestern University Medical School, 1988

B. Selected peer-reviewed publications

- Teplin, LA, **Abram**, KM, and Michaels, SK. (1989). "Blood Alcohol Level Among Emergency Room Patients: A Multivariate Analysis." Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 50, 441-447.
- Abram**, KM. (1989). "The effect of co-occurring disorders on criminal careers: Interaction of antisocial personality, alcoholism, and drug disorders." International Journal of Law and Psychiatry 12, 133-148.
- Abram**, KM. (1990). "The problem of co-occurring disorders among jail detainees: Antisocial disorder, alcoholism, drug abuse, and depression." Law and Human Behavior 14, 333-345.
- Abram**, KM and Teplin, LA. (1990). "Drug Disorder, Mental Illness, and Violence." In M. DeLa Rosa, E. Lambert & B. Gropper (eds.), Drugs and Violence: Causes, Correlates and Consequences. NIDA Research Monograph 103. DHHS Pub. No. (ADM) 90-1721. Rockville, MD: National Institute of Drug Abuse.
- Abram**, KM and Teplin, LA. (1991). "Co-Occurring Disorders Among Mentally Ill Jail Detainees: Implications for Public Policy." American Psychologist 46, 1036-1045.
- Teplin, LA, McClelland, GM and **Abram**, KM. (1993). "The Role of Mental Disorder and Substance Abuse in Predicting Violent Crime Among Released Offenders." In S. Hodgins (ed.) Mental Disorder and Crime. Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications.
- Teplin, LA, **Abram**, KM, and McClelland, GM. (1994). "Does Psychiatric Disorder Predict Violent Crime Among Released Jail Detainees? A Six-Year Longitudinal Study." American Psychologist 49, 335-342.
- Teplin, LA, **Abram**, KA and McClelland, GM. (1996). "The Prevalence of Psychiatric Disorder Among Incarcerated Women: I. Pretrial Jail Detainees." Archives of General Psychiatry 53, 505-512.
- Teplin, LA, **Abram**, KA and McClelland, GM. (1997). "Detecting Mentally Disordered Women in Jail: Who Receives Services?" American Journal of Public Health 87, 604-609.
- McClanahan, S.F., McClelland, G.M., **Abram**, K.M. & Teplin, L.A. (1999). "Pathways to Prostitution Among Female Detainees and Their Implications for Mental Health Services." Psychiatric Services 50, 1606-1613.
- McClelland, GM, Teplin, LA, **Abram**, KM & Jacobs, N. (2002). "HIV/AIDS Risk Behaviors among Female Jail Detainees: Implications for Public Health Policy." American Journal of Public Health 92, 818-825.
- Teplin, LA, **Abram**, KM, McClelland, GM, Dulcan, MK, & Mericle, AA. (2002). "Psychiatric Disorders in Youth in Juvenile Detention." Archives of General Psychiatry 59, 1133-1143.
- Abram**, KM, Teplin, LA, & McClelland, GM. (2003). "Comorbidity of Severe Psychiatric Disorders and Substance Use Disorders Among Women in Jail." American Journal of Psychiatry.
- Teplin, LA, Mericle, AA, McClelland, GM & **Abram**, KM. (2003). "HIV/AIDS Risk Behaviors in Juvenile Detainees:

- Implications for Public Health Policy," American Journal of Public Health.
- Abram, KM, Teplin, LA, McClelland, GM & Dulcan, MK.** (2003). "Comorbid Psychiatric Disorders in Youth in Juvenile Detention," Archives of General Psychiatry 60:1097-1108.
- Abram, KM, Teplin, LA, Charles, DR, Longworth, SL, McClelland, GM & Dulcan, MK.** (2004). "Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Trauma in Youth in Juvenile Detention." Archives of General Psychiatry 61:403-410.
- McClelland, GM, Elkington, KS, Teplin, LA, **Abram, KM.** (2004). "Multiple Substance Use Disorders in Juvenile Detainees," Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 43:1215-1224.
- Teplin, LA, McClelland, GM, **Abram, KM & Mileusnic, D.** (2005). "Early Violent Death Among Delinquent Youth: A Prospective Longitudinal Study," Pediatrics 115:1586-1593
- Teplin, LA, Elkington, KS, McClelland, GM, **Abram, KM, Mericle, AA, Washburn, J.** (2005). "Major Mental Disorders, Substance Use Disorders, Comorbidity and HIV/AIDS Risk Behaviors in Juvenile Detainees," Psychiatric Services 56:823-828.
- Teplin, LA, McClelland, GM, **Abram, KM & Weiner, DA.** (2005). "Crime Victimization in Adults with Severe Mental Illness: Comparison with the National Crime Victimization Survey." Archives of General Psychiatry 62:911-921.
- Teplin, LA, **Abram, KM, McClelland, GM, Washburn, JJ, Pikus, AK** (2005). "Detecting Mental Disorder in Juvenile Detainees Who Receives Services." American Journal of Public Health 95:1773-1780.
- Swahn, MH, Whitaker, DJ, Pippen, CB, Leeb, RT, Teplin, LA, **Abram, KM, McClelland, GM** (2006). "Concordance Between Self-Reported Maltreatment and Court Records of Abuse or Neglect Among High-Risk Youths," American Journal of Public Health 96:1849-1853.
- Romero, EG, Teplin, LA, McClelland, GM, **Abram, KM, Welty, LJ, Washburn, JJ.** (2007). "A Longitudinal Study of the Prevalence, Development and Persistence of HIV/STI Risk Behaviors in Delinquent Youth: Implications for Health Care in the Community." Pediatrics 119:e1126-e1141.
- Washburn, JJ, Romero, EG, Welty, L, **Abram, K.M., Teplin, LA, McClelland, GM, & Paskar, LD.** (2007). "Development of Antisocial Personality Disorder in Detained Youth: The Predictive Value of Mental Disorders." Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology 75:221-231.
- Abram, KM, Washburn, JJ, Teplin, LA, Emanuel, KM, Romero, EG, & McClelland, GM** (2007). "Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Psychiatric Comorbidity Among Detained Youth." Psychiatric Services 58:1311-1316.
- Choe, JY, Teplin, LA, & **Abram, KM** (2008). "Violence Perpetration, Violent Victimization and Severe Mental Illness: Balancing Public Health Concerns." Psychiatric Services 59:153-164.
- Abram, KM, Choe, JY, Washburn, JJ, Teplin, LA, King, DC & Dulcan, MK** (2008). "Suicidal Ideation and Behaviors Among Youths in Juvenile Detention." Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 47:291-300.
- Abram, KM, Paskar, LJ, Washburn, JJ, & Teplin, LA** (2008). "Perceived Barriers to Mental Health Services Among Youths in Detention." Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 47:301-308.
- Elkington, KS, Teplin, LA, Mericle, AA, Welty, LJ, Romero, EG, **Abram, KM** (2008). "HIV/Sexually Transmitted Infection Risk Behaviors in Delinquent Youth with Psychiatric Disorders: A Longitudinal Study." Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 47:901-911.
- Washburn, JJ, Teplin, LA, Voss, LS, Simon, CD, **Abram, KM & McClelland, GM** (2008). "Psychiatric Disorders Among Detained Youths: A Comparison of Youths Processed in Juvenile Court and Adult Criminal Court." Psychiatric Services 59:965-973.
- Abram, KM, Choe, JY, Washburn, JJ, Romero, EG, Teplin, LA** (in press). "Functional Impairment in Youth Three Years after Detention." Journal of Adolescent Health.

C. Research Support

FEDERAL GRANTS (Ongoing)

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| R01DA019380A, Teplin (PI) | 2007-2012 |
| National Institute of Drug Abuse, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism | |
| "Trajectories of Drug Abuse in High Risk Youth" | |
| This project is an extension of the longitudinal study (described below) to examine the dynamic relationships among patterns of drug use and disorder, risk and protective factors for drug use and disorder, and adult social role performance as juvenile justice youth age from adolescence to emerging adulthood and young adulthood. | |
| Role: Co-investigator | |
|
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| R01DA022953-01, Teplin (PI) | 2006-2011 |
| National Institute of Drug Abuse | |
| "Drug Use, Disorder & HIV/AIDS Risk in Juvenile Justice Youth: A Longitudinal Study" | |
| This project is an extension of the longitudinal study (described below) to examine the developmental patterns of drug use and disorder and HIV/AIDS risk and infection as juvenile justice youth age from adolescence to emerging adulthood and young adulthood. | |

Role: Co-investigator

99-JE-FX-1001 and 2005-JL-FX-0288, Teplin (PI) **1999-2009**
 Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), Department of Justice
"Assessing ADM Disorders Among Juvenile Detainees: A Longitudinal Study"
 This study is examining alcohol, drug and mental (ADM) disorders among juvenile detainees, their use of services, and patterns of risky behaviors.

Role: Project Coordinator

Centers for Disease Control, interagency agreement with OJJDP **2005-2008**
"Assessing ADM Disorders Among Juvenile Detainees: A Longitudinal Study"
 Provides cofunding for 2005-JL-FX-0288
 See above entry

Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, interagency agreement with OJJDP **2007-2008**
"Assessing ADM Disorders Among Juvenile Detainees: A Longitudinal Study"
 Provides cofunding for 2005-JL-FX-0288
 See above entry

Department of Housing and Urban Development, interagency agreement with OJJDP **2007-2008**
"Assessing ADM Disorders Among Juvenile Detainees: A Longitudinal Study"
 Provides cofunding for 2005-JL-FX-0288
 See above entry

National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities, interagency agreement with OJJDP, **2005-2007**
"Assessing ADM Disorders Among Juvenile Detainees: A Longitudinal Study"
 See above entry

Department of Labor, interagency agreement with OJJDP, **2005-2006**
"Assessing ADM Disorders Among Juvenile Detainees: A Longitudinal Study"
 See above entry

Center for Mental Health Services, interagency agreement with OJJDP, **2005-2006**
"Assessing ADM Disorders Among Juvenile Detainees: A Longitudinal Study"
 See above entry

FEDERAL GRANTS (Completed)

R01MH59463, Teplin (PI) **1998-2005**
 National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), NIH Office of Research on Women's Health, NIH Office of Rare Diseases, NIH Center on Minority Health & Health Disparities, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),
"Assessing ADM Service Needs Among Juvenile Detainees: A Longitudinal Study"
 We examined alcohol, drug and mental (ADM) disorders among juvenile detainees, their use of services, and patterns of risky behavior in the areas of violence, substance use, and HIV/AIDS.

Role: Project Coordinator

R01MH54197, Teplin (PI), NIMH **1995-2001**
"Assessing ADM Service Needs Among Juvenile Jail Detainees"
 This grant funded the baseline interview for R01MH59463 (above). We: (1) assessed the extent of alcohol, drug and mental disorders and service needs within a random sample of 1800 male and female jail detainees; and (2) determined whether juvenile detainees who need services receive them while in custody or if they are referred at their case disposition.

Role: Project Coordinator

FOUNDATION GRANTS (Completed)

William T. Grant Foundation, Teplin (PI) **2003-2005**
"Assessing ADM Health Service Needs Among Juvenile Detainees"

This project provided funding to continue the Northwestern Juvenile Project. We are assessing the developmental course of substance abuse and mental disorders among juvenile detainees; examining service availability, service use, and barriers to service access; and identifying patterns of risky behavior in the areas of violence, substance use, and HIV/AIDS.

Role: Project Coordinator

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Teplin (PI)

2001-2003

"Assessing ADM Health Service Needs Among Juvenile Detainees"

This grant provided cofunding for the Northwestern Juvenile Project (R01MH59463).

Role: Project Coordinator

William T. Grant Foundation, Teplin, (PI)

2000-2002

"Assessing ADM Health Service Needs Among Juvenile Detainees"

This grant provided cofunding for the Northwestern Juvenile Project (R01MH59463).

Role: Project Coordinator