

# BETSY THORN

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## Education

- 2010  
(expected) Ph.D., Sociology, University of Maryland.  
*Specialty Areas:* Gender, Work, and Family; Social Theory  
*Dissertation:* Work and Family Time During Mothers' Transition to the Empty Nest  
*Committee:* Suzanne Bianchi (chair), Katharine Abraham, Joan Kahn, Kris Marsh,  
and Melissa Milkie
- 2006 M.A., Sociology, University of Maryland
- 1995 A.B., Sociology, University of Chicago

## Awards and Honors

- 2003-2005 C.W. Mills Fellowship  
University of Maryland
- 1995 Honors in the College and the Department of Sociology  
University of Chicago

## Research Experience

- 2007-present Research Assistant to Dr. Katharine Abraham, Professor, Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland
- Core member of team working to develop the ATUS-X, a web-based user interface for data from the American Time Use Survey ([atusdata.org](http://atusdata.org)).
- 2004-2006 Managing Editor, Blackwell *Encyclopedia of Sociology*
- Worked with Editor (Dr. George Ritzer), Advisory Editors, and contributing authors to ensure timely completion of 450 essays.
  - Edited essays.
  - Compiled lexicon of essays by subject matter.
- 2003–2005 Research Assistant to Dr. Suzanne Bianchi, Professor of Sociology, University of Maryland
- Assisted with literature review for several projects.
  - Provided editorial assistance to Dr. Bianchi in her roles as Co-Editor of *Demography* and as Advisory Editor for the Blackwell *Encyclopedia of Sociology*.

## Teaching Experience

- 2007            Instructor, Sociology of Gender,  
                  Department of Sociology, University of Maryland
- 2005-2006      Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Research Methods in Sociology,  
                  Department of Sociology, University of Maryland.
- 2003            Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Sociology,  
                  Department of Sociology, University of Maryland.

## Publications

- Thorn, Elizabeth. Forthcoming. "Gender, Work, and Family." In *Concise Encyclopedia of Sociology*, George Ritzer, ed. Oxford, England: Blackwell.
- Thorn, Elizabeth. 2006. "Gender, Work, and Family." In *Encyclopedia of Sociology*, George Ritzer, ed. Oxford, England: Blackwell.

## Conference Presentations

- Thorn, Betsy and Sara Raley. "As Children Grow: Variation in Parenthood and Childhood by SES Through the Ages". To be presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association.
- Raley, Sara and Betsy Thorn. "Building Cultural Capital: How Parenting Behaviors Among Highly Educated Parents Diverge from Less Educated Parents". Presented at the 2009 American Time Use Conference.
- Thorn, Betsy and Suzanne M. Bianchi. "Employment and Time Use Among Mothers Beginning the Transition Out of the Childrearing Years and Into the 'Empty Nest' Years". Presented at the 2009 American Time Use Research Conference.
- Thorn, Betsy. "Parenthood Transitions: How the Changing Demands of Parenthood Alter Daily Time Use". Presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society.
- Thorn, Betsy. "Family Time: An Analysis of the Ways Parents Spent Time with their Children". Presented at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America.
- Thorn, Elizabeth. "A Theory of Spatial Hysteresis." Presented at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association.

## Work in Progress

Dissertation: *Work and Family Time During Mothers' Transition to the Empty Nest*

Raley, Sara and Betsy Thorn. "Building Cultural Capital: How Parenting Behaviors Among Highly Educated Parents Diverge from Less Educated Parents" (*paper in progress*)

Thorn, Betsy. "Time Use and Employment Among Mothers Transitioning out of Active Parenting and into the Empty Nest" (*paper in progress*)

Thorn, Betsy and Brittany McGill. "Non-Resident Father Involvement: Evidence from the American Time Use Survey and the National Survey of Family Growth" (*paper in progress*)

## Professional Activities

Participant, National Longitudinal Study Summer Workshop, 2009

Referee, *Journal of Consumer Culture*, 2008

Graduate Student Representative, Maryland Population Research Center, 2008-2009

Co-Editor, University of Maryland Sociology Department newsletter, 2007-2009

Member, University of Maryland Sociology Department Graduate Student Forum, 2005-2006, 2007-2009

## References

Dr. Suzanne Bianchi, Professor  
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Dr. Katharine Abraham, Professor  
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