

Maria A. Shields Levi-Minzi, PhD

CURRICULUM VITAE

2019

Center for Applied Research on Substance Use and Health
Disparities Nova Southeastern University
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EDUCATION

- 2018 Doctor of Philosophy, Marriage and Family
Therapy Nova Southeastern University, Fort
Lauderdale, FL
Dissertation: *How Did I Get Here? Critical Relationships in the
Trajectory of Prescription Opioid Abuse*
- 2007 Master of Arts, Mental Health
Counseling Boston College, Chestnut
Hill, MA
- 2002 Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Social Science
State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY

APPOINTMENTS

- 2018- Assistant Research Scientist
Center for Applied Research on Substance Use and Health
Disparities Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- 2018- Adjunct Faculty
Department of Family Therapy
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- 2018- Adjunct Faculty
School of Criminal Justice
Department of Family Therapy
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL

RESEARCH

Active

- 2018- Assistant Research Scientist, "Cross-National Survey of
Pharmaceutical Diversion," Denver Health and Hospital Authority
(Steven P. Kurtz, PI).
- 2018- Co-Investigator, "Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy (EFP) on
Adolescent Males Committed to the Florida Department of Juvenile
Justice," Quell Foundation Grant (Shelley Green, PI).

2016- Statistician/Project Evaluator, "Predoctoral Training in General, Pediatric, and Public Health Dentistry and Dental Hygiene," Health Resources and Service Administration (D85HP30826, Romer Ocanto, PI).

2015- Statistician/Project Evaluator, "Pediatric Dentistry and AEGD Residency Collaborative on Autism Spectrum Disorder," Health Resources and Service Administration (D88HP20126, Romer Ocanto, PI).

Completed

2014-2018 Senior Research Associate, "Cross-National Survey of Pharmaceutical Diversion," Denver Health and Hospital Authority (Steven P. Kurtz, PI).

2015-2017 Co-Investigator, "Evaluation of SAMHSA Targeted Capacity Expansion Program: Substance Abuse Tx for Minorities at High-risk for HIV," Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (5H79TI024444-03, Stacey Hyde, PI).

2015-2016 Research Associate, "Informal Markets for Antiretroviral Medications Used for HIV Prevention," President's Faculty Research Development Grant, Nova Southeastern University (Mance E. Buttram, PI).

2013-2014 Senior Research Associate, "The Diversion of Antiretroviral Medications to Street Markets," National Institute on Drug Abuse (R01DA023157, Hilary L. Surratt, PI).

2012-2013 Senior Research Associate, "Case Management Alternatives for African American Women at High Risk for HIV," National Institute on Drug Abuse (R01DA013131; Hilary L. Surratt, PI).

2011-2012 Project Director, "The Diversion of Antiretroviral Medications to Street Markets," National Institute on Drug Abuse (R01DA023157, Hilary L. Surratt, PI).

Professional Experience

2018- Assistant Research Scientist
Center for Applied Research on Substance Use and Health Disparities Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL

2011- 2018 Senior Research Associate
Center for Applied Research on Substance Use and Health Disparities Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL

2009-2011 Research Associate II
Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware, Coral Gables, FL

2009-2010 Research Associate I
Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware Coral Gables, FL

2008-2009 Research Specialist
Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of
Delaware Coral Gables, FL

2007-2008 Research Assistant
Department of Psychology, University of Miami, Miami, FL

2006- 2007 Independent Qualitative Research Study
The Development of Self Esteem Among Chronic Patients:
A Psychoeducational Group Approach
Lynch School of Education, Counseling, Developmental and
Educational Psychology, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

2005-2007 Research Assistant
Lynch School of Education, Counseling, Developmental and
Educational Psychology, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

2005-2006 ROAD (Reaching Out About Depression) Volunteer
Advocate ROAD Research Project
Lynch School of Education, Counseling, Developmental and
Educational Psychology, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

2000-2001 Research Assistant
Family Violence Lab, Department of Psychology,
State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY

2009-2011 Project Director, "Understanding the Scope and Magnitude of
Prescription Drug Diversion," National Institute on Drug Abuse,
(R01DA021330, Steven P. Kurtz, PI).

TEACHING

Graduate Courses

Summer 2019 Substance Abuse/Addictions and Critical Issues in Systems
Theories (SFTM 5311), Department of Family Therapy, Nova
Southeastern University

Summer 2019 Advanced Addictions Treatment (SFTM 5365), Department of
Family Therapy, Nova Southeastern University

Winter 2019 Survey Issues in Criminal Justice (CJI 0510), School of Criminal
Justice, Nova Southeastern University

Winter 2019 Grant Writing and Funding Opportunities (DMFT 5340),
Department of Family Therapy, Nova Southeastern University

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Sociology of Crime, Department of Sociology,
State University of New York at Stony Brook

EDITORIAL

Reviewer *AIDS and Behavior; Drug and Alcohol Dependence; The Qualitative Report; Journal of Adolescent Health; AIDS Care*

2009 Independent Contractor
McGraw Hill Publishing Company, Education Division, New York, NY

2008 Independent Contractor
McGraw Hill Publishing Company, Education Division, New York, NY

2004 Assistant to the Editor
Journal of Infant, Child, and Adolescent Psychotherapy

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2018- Staff Therapist
Serenity Counseling Center
Stuart, Florida

2014-2017 Staff Therapist
Fresh Start Life
Solutions Davie,
Florida

2014-2015 Behavioral Specialist, Flipany (Florida Introduces Physical Activity and Nutrition to Youth), Health Kids Broward / Kids THRIVE program Wilton Manors, FL

2014-2015 Doctoral Student Intern
Therapist Sunrise Middle
School
Fort Lauderdale, FL

2013-2016 Graduate Student Family Therapist
Brief Therapy Institute, Nova Southeastern
University Fort Lauderdale, FL

2007-2008 Youth Therapist, Family Intervention Team
Henderson Mental Health
Center Fort Lauderdale, FL

2006-2007 Master Student Intern
Therapist Schiff Day
Treatment Center
Cambridge, MA

2002-2005 Educator
Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic
Violence Hempstead, NY

2002-2005 New York State Certified SAFER (Survivor Advocate for
Emergency Rooms) Volunteer Advocate
Nassau County, NY

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Surratt, H.L., O'Grady, C.L, Kurtz, S.P. (2017). "Examining the relationship between social context and prescription opioid initiation routes among young adults entering medical detoxification," *Journal of Alcoholism and Drug Dependence*, 5(6), 288.

Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., Buttram, M.B., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Pagano, M.E., Cicero, T. J. (2017). "Heroin use onset among nonmedical prescription opioid users in the club scene." *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 179, 131-138.

Tsuyuki, K., Pitpitan, E.V., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Urada, L.A., Kurtz, S.P., Stockman, J.K., Surratt, H.L. (2017). "Substance use disorders, violence, mental health, and HIV: Differentiating a syndemic factor by gender and sexuality." *AIDS and Behavior*, 21(8), 2270-2282.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Surratt, H.L., O'Grady, C.L., Kurtz, S.P. (2016). "Finding what works: Predicting health or social service linkage in drug using, African American female sex workers in Miami, FL." *Health Care for Women International*, 37(7), 744-759.

Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Chen, M. (2015). "Environmental influences on HIV medication adherence: The role of neighborhood disorder." *American Journal of Public Health*, 105(8), 1660-1666. doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2015.302612

Surratt, H.L., O'Grady, C.L., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Kurtz, S.P. (2015). "Medication adherence challenges among HIV positive substance abusers: The role of food and housing insecurity," *AIDS Care*, 27(3), 307-314. doi: 10.1080/09540121.2014.967656

Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Cicero, T.J., Tsuyuki, K., O'Grady, C.L. (2015). "Pain treatment and antiretroviral medication adherence among vulnerable HIV-positive patients," *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*, 29(4), 186-192. doi: 10.1089/apc.2014.0104

Tsuyuki, K., Surratt, H.L., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, O'Grady, C. L., Kurtz, S.K. (2015). "The demand for antiretroviral drugs in the illicit marketplace: Implications for HIV disease management among vulnerable populations." *AIDS and Behavior*, 19(5), 857-868. doi: 10.1007/s10461-014-0856-2

O'Grady, C.L., Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2014). "Nonmedical prescription drug users in private vs. public substance abuse treatment: A cross sectional comparison of demographic and HIV risk behavior profiles". *Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy*, 9(9). DOI: 10.1186/1747-597X-9-9

Surratt, H.L., O'Grady, C.L., Kurtz, S.P., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Chen, M. (2014). Outcomes of a behavioral intervention to reduce HIV risk among drug-involved female sex workers. *AIDS and Behavior*, 18(4), 726-739. doi: 10.1007/s10461-014-0723-1

Levi-Minzi, M.A., & Surratt, H.L. (2014). "HIV stigma among substance abusing people living with HIV/AIDS: Implications for HIV treatment," *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*, 28(8), 1-10.

Buttram, M.E., Kurtz, S.P., Surratt, H.L., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2014). "Health and social problems associated with prescription opioid misuse among a sample of substance-using MSM." *Substance Use & Misuse*, 49(3), 277-284.

Surratt, H. L., O'Grady, C.L., Kurtz, S.P., Buttram, M.E., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2014). "HIV testing and engagement in care among highly vulnerable female sex workers: Implications for Treatment as Prevention Models," *Journal of Health Care for the Poor & Underserved*, 25.3(3), 1360-1378. DOI: 10.1353/hpu.2014.0113

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., Buttram, M.E. (2013). "The under treatment of pain: A prescription for opioid misuse among the elderly?" *Pain Medicine*. 14(11), 1719-1729.

Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., Cicero, T.J., O'Grady, C., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2013). "Antiretroviral Medication Diversion among HIV-positive Substance Abusers in South Florida." *American Journal of Public Health*, 103(6), 1026-1028.

Kurtz, S.P., Surratt, H.L., Buttram, M.E., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Chen, M. (2013). "Interview as intervention: The case of young adult multidrug users in the club scene." *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 44(3), 301-308.

Ibanez, G.I., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Rigg, K.K., Mooss, A.D. (2013). "Diversion of benzodiazepines through healthcare sources." *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 48(1), 48-56.

Cicero, T. J., Kurtz, S.P., Surratt, H.L., Ibanez, G.E., Ellis, M., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Inciardi, J.A. (2011). "Multiple determinants of specific modes of prescription opioid diversion." *Journal of Drug Issues* 41(2), 283-304.

Kurtz, S.P., Surratt, H.L., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** & Mooss, A. (2011). "Benzodiazepine dependence among multidrug users in the club scene." *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 119(1-2), 99-105. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2011.05.036>. PMID3205230.

Levi-Minzi, M., & **Shields, M.** (2007). "Serial sexual murderers and prostitutes as their victims: Difficulty profiling perpetrators and victim vulnerability as illustrated by the Green River Case." *Brief Treatment and Crisis Intervention*, 7(1), 77-89.

PRESENTATIONS

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Chung, J., Padilla, O., Ocanto, R. (2018). *Evaluating a special needs dental curriculum: Pilot assessment of program impact*. Poster presented at the American Dental Education Association Conference, Orlando, FL, March 17-20.

Miller, M., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Chin, J., Ocanto, R. (2018). *Parents of non-special needs children and their attitude towards silver diamine fluoride as an alternative treatment approach for carious lesions*. Paper presented at HPD Research Day, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 2018.

Cundy, K., L., Chin, J., Ocanto, R., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, & Chung, J. (2018). *Parents of children with autism spectrum disorder and their attitudes toward silver diamine fluoride as a different treatment modality for carious lesions*. Poster presented at the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Honolulu, Hawaii / HPD Research Day, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 2018.

Godoy, D.C., Ocanto, R., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Chung, J. (2018). *Identifying helpful tools used by pediatric dental residents performing restorative procedures on children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in a dental clinic setting*. Poster presented at the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Honolulu, Hawaii, May 24-27.

Sanchez, N., Larumbe, J., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Kilinc, E. (2018). *Oral health care awareness, knowledge and attitudes among caregivers of pediatric cancer patients*. Poster presented at the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Honolulu, HI, May 24-27.

Ocanto, R., Chung, J., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Padilla, O., Perez, S., Turk, N. (2018). *Characteristics associated with successful dental treatment in children with autism spectrum disorder*. Poster presented at the National Oral Health Conference, Louisville, Kentucky, April 16-18.

Chung, J., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Ocanto, R. (2018). *Characteristics associated with prior dental visit among special needs children*. Poster presented at the American Association for Dental Research, Fort Lauderdale, FL, March 21-24.

Jones-Chung, J., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Padilla, O., & Ocanto, R. (2018). *Assessing knowledge of behavior guidance techniques among pediatric dental residents*. Poster presented at the American Dental Education Association Conference, Orlando, FL, 2018.

Jones-Chung, J., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Ocanto, R. & Rambo., A. (2018). *Connecting the pieces: An appreciative inquiry of a didactic training module for pediatric dentistry residents treating children with ASD and their families*. Paper presented at HPD Research Day, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 2018.

Kim, K., Ocanto, R., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Chung, J. (2018). *The potential effects of parental acculturation on the oral health status of children with autism spectrum disorder*. Poster presented at the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Martin, G., Kurtz, S.P., Dziadkowiec, O., Le Lait, M.C., Margolin, Z., Rosen, T., Green, J.L., Dart, R.C. (2017). *The opioid epidemic in Canada: Trends in diversion of commonly abused prescription drugs in Ontario*. Poster presented at the Issues of Substance 2017: Addiction Matters conference in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, November 13-15.

Turk, N., Ocanto, R., Padilla, O., & **Levi-Minzi, M. A.** (2017). *Characteristics associated with successful dental treatment in children with autism spectrum disorder*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Dentistry and Oral Health, Valencia, Spain, September 14-16.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Jones-Chung, J., Padilla, O., Ocanto, R. (2017). *Evaluating a special needs clinic: Preliminary assessment of parent satisfaction*. Poster presented at the International & American Associations for Dental Research (IADR) Conference, San Francisco, California, March 22-25.

Jones-Chung, J., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Ocanto, R. (2017). *Evaluation of a special needs curriculum: Using outcomes for ongoing program modification and development*. Poster presented at the Health Professions Educational Research Symposium (HPERS), Fort Lauderdale, FL, January 21.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Jones-Chung, J., Padilla, O., Ocanto, R. (2017). *Evaluating a special needs dental clinic at Nova Southeastern University: The importance of incorporating qualitative data*. Paper presented at the TQR Eighth Annual Conference, Fort Lauderdale, FL, January 12-14.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Buttram, M.E., Kurtz, S.P. (2016). *Health characteristics and sexual risk behaviors among young adult prescription opioid misusers in the club scene: Examining the role of gender*. Poster presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-

eighth Annual Meeting, Palm Springs, California, June 11-16.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Buttram, M.E., Kurtz, S.P. (2016). *Health characteristics and sexual risk behaviors among young adult prescription opioid misusers in the club scene: Examining the role of gender*. Poster presented at the International Women's and Children's Health and Gender Working Group (InWomen), Palm Springs, California, June 10th.

Buttram, M. E., Kurtz, S.P., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2016). *The Diversion of ARVs from HIV-positive to HIV-negative MSM for HIV prevention*. Poster presented at the International Symposium on HIV and Emerging Infectious Diseases, Marseilles, France, May 25-27.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., O'Grady, C.L., Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P. (2015). *Examining the relationship between social context and prescription opioid initiation routes among young adults entering detoxification*. Poster presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-seventh Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona, June 13-18.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Tsuyuki, K., Surratt, H.L. (2015). *Risk and protective factors associated with ARV adherence among aging, indigent, substance abusing people living with HIV*. Paper presented at the HIV/AIDS Workgroup at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-seventh Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona, June 13-18.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Tsuyuki, K., Surratt, H.L. (2015). *Risk and protective factors associated with ARV adherence among aging, indigent, substance abusing people living with HIV*. Poster presented at the Nova Southeastern University GREAT GEC's 2015 Interprofessional Geriatrics Training Institute, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, April 30-May 1.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P. (2015). *The use of qualitative research in large quantitative studies: Capturing the subtleties*. Paper presented at the TQR Sixth Annual Conference, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, January 8-10.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Surratt, H.L. (2014). *HIV stigma among substance abusing Indigent PLWHA: Implications for HIV treatment and ARV adherence*. Paper presented at the Ryan White Service Provider Forum, Miami, Florida, October 28, 2014.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Surratt, H.L. (2014). *HIV stigma among substance abusing PLWH: Implications for HIV treatment, ARV adherence and diversion*. Poster presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-sixth Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 14-19.

Tsuyuki, K., Surratt, H.L., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, O'Grady, C. L. (2014). *Who in the world buys ARVs on the black market? The impact of drug use and ARV diversion on adherence*. Poster presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-sixth Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 14-19.

Chenail, R.J., Ilic, D., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2014). *Focusing on focus in solution-focused brief therapy*. Presentation at the 2014 Solution-Focused Expo, Orlando, Florida, February 14-16.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Surratt, H.L. & Kurtz, S.P. (2013). *Sex trading, substance abuse, and mental health problems among indigent HIV positive women: Implications for HIV treatment, adherence, and diversion*. Poster presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting, San Diego, California, June 16-20.

Levi-Minzi, M.A., Surratt, H.L. & Kurtz, S.P. (2013). *Sex trading, substance abuse, and mental health problems among indigent HIV positive women: Implications for HIV treatment, adherence, and diversion.* Poster presented at the International Women's and Children's Health and Gender Working Group (InWomen), San Diego, California, June 14th.

Levi-Minzi, M.A. (2013). *A Case for systemic interventions for schizophrenia.* Paper presented at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences Winter Interdepartmental Symposium, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL, February 10.

Levi-Minzi, M.A. (2013). *Under treatment of pain: A prescription for opioid misuse among the elderly?* Paper presented at the Faculty Symposium, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, February 7.

O'Grady, C.L., Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P. & **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2012). *HIV risk behaviors among nonmedical prescription drug users in public and private substance abuse treatment facilities.* Poster presented at the XIX International AIDS Conference AIDS 2012, Washington, DC, July 21-26.

Kurtz, S.P., Surratt, H.L., Cicero, T.J., Ibañez, G.E., & **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2011). *Sources of diverted prescription opioids among a diverse sample of abusers in South Florida.* Paper presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-third Annual Meeting, Hollywood, Florida, June 19-23.

Shields, M. A., Inciardi, J. A., Surratt, H. A., Kurtz, S. P., & Ibanez, G. E. (2008). *Understanding the scope and magnitude of prescription drug diversion.* Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology, St. Louis, Missouri, November 13-16.

Shields, M. A., Ibanez, G. E., Rigg, K., Inciardi, J. A., Surratt, H. A., & Kurtz, S. P. (2009). *The life and times of the prescription drug abuser.* Paper presented at the American Psychological Association Convention, Toronto, Canada, August 6-9.

Shields, M. A., Ibanez, G. E., Rigg, K., Inciardi, J. A., Surratt, H. A., & Kurtz, S. P. (2009). *Nature of diversion activities among prescription drug dealers.* Paper presented at the American Psychological Association Convention, Toronto, Canada, August 6-9.

HONORS

2014	ARSH Early Career Investigator Award
2013	NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse) Women & Sex/Gender Junior Investigator Travel Award
2002	Psi Chi Honor Society in Psychology
2000	St. John's University Women in Science Award

MEMBERSHIPS

American Psychological Association
American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy
American Society of Addiction Medicine
College on Problems of Drug Dependence

CERTIFICATIONS

State of Florida Registered Intern Mental Health Counseling (IMH6633)
CPR and AED Certified
CFARS (Children's Functional Assessment Rating Scale)
CITI certified in The Protection of Human Research Subjects