

## **Maria Morrison, PHD, LCSW**

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Room 302  
St. Louis, MO 63103  
Email: maria.morrison@slu.edu

### **EDUCATION**

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PhD August 2022, Washington University in St. Louis  
Brown School of Social Work

MSW May 2008, University of Alabama

MFA July 2000, Goddard College  
Concentration: Poetry

BA May 1998, University of Montana  
Major: English

### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

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Fall 2022 **Assistant Professor of Social Work**  
School of Social Work  
Saint Louis University

### **PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

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Twenty years of practice experience, 14 at the MSW level. Practice and research focused on the mental health needs of individuals affected by mass incarceration. Professional goals are to contribute toward reduction of incarceration rates through development and implementation of evidence-based, trauma-focused interventions for individuals transitioning out of prison.

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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- Trauma among individuals who experience incarceration
- Intervention services for individuals leaving prison
- Legacy of racial violence in the criminal justice system

## **EXTERNAL RESEARCH FUNDING**

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- 2022      *Ruth L. Kirchstein National Research Service Award*  
Individual Predoctoral Fellowship (Parent F31)  
National Institute of Mental Health  
\$48,536
- 2017-2020      *National Research Service Award*  
NIMH T32 MH019960; PI: Leopoldo Cabassa  
Mental Health Services Predoctoral Training Program  
\$70,140

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

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- 2019-2022      *Doctoral Affiliate, Institute for Justice Research and Development, College of Social Work, Florida State University*
- 2020      *Teaching Excellence Award for Doctoral Teaching Fellows, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis*
- 2007-2008      *Christine Smith Graduate Studies Scholarship, University of Alabama*
- 2007-2008      *Peggy Spain McDonald Endowed Scholarship, University of Alabama*
- 2006-2007      *National Alumni Fellowship, University of Alabama*
- 1994-1998      *Erasmus Scholarship, University of Montana*
- 1993-1997      *Honors College Presidential Scholarship, University of Montana*

## **DISSERTATION RESEARCH**

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Trauma Exposures Across the Life Course for Individuals Who Experience Incarceration: A Latent Class Analysis

*Chair:* Brett Drake, PhD, MSW

*Committee Members:* Melissa Jonson-Reid, PhD, MSW; Carrie Pettus-Davis, PhD, MSW; Darrell Hudson, PhD, MPH; Geoff Ward, PhD

## MENTORED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- 2018-22      *Research Assistant*, Center for Violence and Injury Prevention, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis (Faculty Supervisor: Brett Drake)
- 2018-19      *Research Assistant*, Institute for Advancing Justice Research & Innovation, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis (Faculty Supervisor: Carrie Pettus-Davis)

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Morrison, M.**, Hai, A.H., Bandaru, Y.S., Salas-Wright, C.P., & Vaughn, M.G. (under review). Opioid misuse and associated health risks among adults on probation and parole: Prevalence and correlates 2015-2020.
- Morrison, M.**, Pettus-Davis, C., Drake, B., Roth, K. & Renn, T. (invited revision). Trauma and incarceration: A latent class analysis of lifetime trauma exposures for individuals in prison.
- Morrison, M.** (under review). The Mass Incarceration Trauma Framework: A conceptual frame for understanding trauma among individuals who experience incarceration.
- Weatherly, C. Carag, J, Zohdy, S., & **Morrison, M.** (under review) The mental health impacts of human-ecosystem-animal relationships: A systematic scoping review of Eco-, Planetary, and One Health approaches.
- Morrison, M.** & Drake, B. (2022). Foster children of incarcerated parents: A longitudinal nationwide analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review*.
- Sohn, Y., Drake, B., **Morrison, M.** & Jonson-Reid, M. (2021). In what kinds of communities do people on the sex offender registry live? An analysis of ten states. *Children and Youth Services Review*.
- Drake, B., Jonson-Reid, M., Gandarilla Ocampo, M., **Morrison, M.**, & Dvalishvili, D. (2020). A practical framework for considering the use of predictive risk modeling in child welfare. *American Academy of Political and Social Science*.
- Morrison, M.**, Pettus-Davis, C., Renn, T., Veeh, C. & Weatherly, C. (2019). What trauma looks like for incarcerated men: A study of men's lifetime trauma exposures in two state prisons. *Journal of Traumatic Stress Disorders and Treatment*.
- Morrison, M.**, Weatherly, C., & Nelsen, M. (in progress). Epidemiology of trauma among men before, during, and after incarceration: A systematic scoping review of the literature.

## PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- Morrison, M. & Drake, B.** (2021, January). *Foster Children of Incarcerated Parents: A Longitudinal Nationwide Analysis*. Oral paper presentation. 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR), Virtual Conference.
- Morrison, M.** (2020, March). *Epidemiology of Trauma Exposure, PTSD and Comorbidities Among Male Prisoners*. Poster presentation. Center for Mental Health Services Research Re-Launch Event, Washington University in Saint Louis, Saint Louis, MO.
- Morrison, M.** (2019, August). *Truth, Reconciliation, & Mass Incarceration*. Oral paper presentation. International Academy of Law and Mental Health Congress, Rome, Italy.
- Morrison, M.** (2018, July). *Needs of Children in Adult Prisons*. Poster presentation. International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.

## PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

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- 2008-present *Social Worker (08-15), Senior Social Worker (15-present)*  
Equal Justice Initiative, Montgomery, AL  
Member of legal teams representing incarcerated clients with excessive sentences. Specialization in cases involving children in adult system. Helped develop a comprehensive reentry program for clients released from prison. (Transitioned to part-time in 2017)
- 2002-2006 *Milieu Counselor (02-03), Senior Milieu Counselor (03-06)*  
Glenwood Mental Health Services, Division for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances, Residential Services, Birmingham, AL
- 2000-2001 *Adolescent Outreach Worker*  
Massachusetts Department of Social Services, Adolescent Outreach Program, Boston, MA
- 1999-2000 *House Manager*  
Justice Resource Institute, River Street Community Supportive Housing Program, Boston, MA

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- Spring 2023 *Instructor, Saint Louis University School of Social Work*  
Graduate courses: *Human Behavior and the Social Environment*; and  
*Research for Evidence-Informed Social Work Practice*
- Fall 2022 *Instructor, Saint Louis University School of Social Work*  
Undergraduate course: *Criminology: The Nature of Crime*
- Spring 2022 *Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School*  
Graduate course: *Principles and Practices of Differential Diagnosis*
- Fall 19-Sp 22 *Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School*  
Graduate course: *Research Methods Seminar* (6 semesters)
- Fall 2018-21 *Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School*  
Graduate course: *Data Management* (3 semesters)
- Fall 2020-21 *Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School*  
Graduate course: *Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families, & Groups*  
(3 semesters)
- Fall 2020-21 *Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School*  
Graduate course: *Research Methods with Statistical Applications for Social Work*  
(2 semesters)
- Spring 2021 *Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School*  
Graduate course: *Dialectical Behavior Therapy*
- Spring 2020 *Instructor, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School*  
Graduate course: *Criminal Justice Involved Adults*
- Summer 2019 *Social Work Field Instructor, Florida State University College of Social Work*  
Community agency: Joseph House (reentry program for men), Tallahassee, FL
- Spring 2019 *Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School*  
Graduate course: *Mental Health Policy*
- Spring 2018 *Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis Brown School*  
Graduate course: *Child Maltreatment Prevention*

Summer 2015 *Social Work Field Instructor*, Auburn University Master of Social Work Program  
Community agency: Equal Justice Initiative, Montgomery, AL

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

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**Morrison, M.** (2022, Mar). *Trauma-informed Care in Reentry Settings*. Invited webinar presentation. Renaissance Halfway House, Montgomery, AL.

**Morrison, M.** (2021, Feb). *Social Workers Responding to the Criminal Justice System*. Invited webinar presentation. University of Tennessee College of Social Work, Coalition of Black Social Workers, Nashville, TN

**Morrison, M.** (2020, June). *Challenging Narratives: Stories of Social Work and Mass Incarceration*. Invited webinar presentation. The Office of the Alternative Defense Counsel, Denver, CO.

**Morrison, M. & Feddon, D.** (2018, Sept). *Confronting the Legacy of Racial Terror in the Age of Mass Incarceration*. Invited webinar presentation. National Black Catholic Congress, Baltimore, MD.

Feddon, D. & **Morrison, M.** (2018, April). *The Role of Truth and Reconciliation in Serving Men in Prisons in the Era of Mass Incarceration*. Invited speaker. Baton Rouge Area Society of Psychologists, Monthly Meeting, Baton Rouge, LA.

**Morrison, M.** (2016, June). *Protecting Our Most Vulnerable Children in the Age of Mass Incarceration*. Oral presentation. National Association of Social Workers National Conference, Washington, DC.

**Morrison, M.** (2016, April). *Consequences of Mass Incarceration for Children*. Invited speaker. University of Oklahoma and Tulsa Community College, Public Health Symposium, Roadmaps to Success: Improving Public Health for Underserved Populations, Tulsa, OK.

**Morrison, M.** (2015, July). *All Children Are Children: Challenging Excessive Punishment of Juveniles*. Oral presentation. National Organization of Forensic Social Workers Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

**Morrison, M.** (2014, July). *Hope for Children Condemned to Die in Prison: The Role of the Social Worker on the Legal Team*. Oral presentation. National Association of Forensic Social Workers Annual Conference, New York City, NY.

**Morrison, M.** (2012, November). *Working with the Client*. Invited speaker. Equal Justice Initiative National Conference: Building Capacity to Implement *Miller v. Alabama*, Atlanta, GA.

**Morrison, M.** (2010, March). *When 13- and 14-Year-Old Children are Sentenced to Die in Prison*. Invited speaker. National Association of Social Work-Alabama Chapter Student Advocacy Day, Montgomery, AL.

## **ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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- Aug 22-pres. *Bachelor of Social Work Program Committee Member*  
School of Social Work, Saint Louis University
- 2020-2021 *Professional Development Seminar Committee Member*  
Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2019-2020 *Peer Reviewer for Academic Journal*  
Global Social Welfare
- Jan 2019 *Conference Volunteer*  
Society for Social Work Research 2019 Conference, San Francisco, CA
- 2018-19 *Peer Mentor to Incoming Doctoral Students*  
Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2016 *Book Reviewer for Criminal Defense Based Forensic Social Work*  
Routledge/Taylor & Francis
- Nov 2015 *Conference Co-Organizer & Presenter, "Best Practices for Serving Traumatized Children and Communities,"* Communities of Practice Fall Convening, Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention, Baltimore, MD

## **SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

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- 2021-present *Member of Board of Trustees and Board Secretary*  
Waldorf School of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
- 2017-2019 *Member of Board of Directors and Consultant*  
Joseph House (nonprofit ministry of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, FL serving men recently released from prison)
- 1996-98 *Court Appointed Special Advocate*  
Montana CASA, Missoula, MT

1994-96      *Rape Crisis Counselor*  
University of Montana Sexual Assault Recovery Services, Missoula, MT

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS**

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2018-present    Society for Social Work Research

2006-2017      National Association of Social Workers

2014-2017      National Association of Forensic Social

### **PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE & CERTIFICATIONS**

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2011-present    Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, Alabama

2016            Certificate in Traumatic Stress Studies, Trauma Center, Justice Resource Institute,  
Boston, MA

2008-2011      Licensed Graduate Social Worker, Alabama