

MELISSA K. HOLT, PH.D.

Family Research Laboratory, Crimes against Children Research Center, & Psychology Department
 University of New Hampshire
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EDUCATION

- 1997-2002 **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**
 Doctor of Philosophy, Counseling Psychology, May 2002
 Master of Science, Counseling Psychology, May 1999
Dissertation: Victimization, perceived social support, and psychological
 outcomes among African American and Caucasian adolescents
- 1993-1996 **Tufts University**
 Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Magna Cum Laude

CURRENT POSITION

- October 2006 **Research Assistant Professor**
 -Present **University of New Hampshire - Crimes against Children Research Center,
 Family Research Laboratory, & Psychology Department**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2004 - 2006 **Research Scientist**
**University of New Hampshire - Crimes against Children Research Center &
 Family Research Laboratory**
 Served as the project director for a longitudinal study on peer, family, and
 community violence among urban, ethnically diverse elementary and middle
 school students. Analyzed quantitative and qualitative data and prepared
 manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals. Submitted grant applications to secure
 prevention program funding for the school district and for additional studies on
 child and family welfare issues.
- 2002 - 2004 **Post-Doctoral Research Fellow**
University of New Hampshire - Family Research Laboratory
 Analyzed data for a federally funded investigation of child neglect in clinical and
 community samples. Assisted in the development and validation of a
 computerized child report neglect instrument. Collaborated on projects with
 agencies including the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center and the UNH Institute on
 Disability. Prepared grant applications and submitted articles for publication.
- 2000 - 2001 **Statistical Analysis Research Associate**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Served as statistical research associate for the “Evaluation of Illinois Learning Standards” project, funded by the Illinois State Board of Education. Analyzed quantitative data with an emphasis on evaluating the association between Standards and student achievement. Generated performance level data summaries for schools.

1999 - 2001

Project Coordinator**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

Conducted methodologically innovative studies on bullying perpetration and victimization among ethnically diverse adolescents. Analyzed data using advanced statistical techniques such as social network analysis and hierarchical linear modeling. Trained and mentored undergraduate students.

1999 - 2000

Project Coordinator**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

Coordinated data entry from a national investigation on quality of life among individuals with Cystic Fibrosis and their families. Trained project members.

1997 - 2000

Project Coordinator**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

Collected and analyzed data for an investigation of disordered eating among ethnically diverse adolescents. Investigated the assessment, development, and treatment of eating disorders in a population of outpatients enrolled in an eating disorders program. Assisted in data analysis and article revision. Rated individuals on a behavioral-analytic measure of social competence.

1997 - 1999

Research Associate**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

Classified occupations with Holland codes using data from a national study focused on vocational aspirations and selections. Created descriptions for careers to be posted on O*NET (The Occupational Information Network).

TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE

1999 - 2001

Research Mentor**University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

Mentored undergraduate students on research projects focused on bullying and disordered eating. Trained and supervised students on survey administration procedures. Taught students research methods, basic statistical techniques, and how to use SPSS. Helped students analyze data to answer their own research questions.

1997 - 1999

Instructor**University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

Taught “Career Development: Theory and Practice” to undergraduate students. Lectured to 25-30 students twice a week. Provided feedback on exams, journals, papers and projects. Interpreted students’ results on career development inventories such as the Strong Interest Inventory and personality inventories such as the NEO-PI. Met individually with students to provide career guidance.

1996 - 1997

Instructor

Mido Foreign Language School, Seoul, Korea

Taught 16 courses in English and Literature to non-native English speakers ranging in age from preschool through adulthood. Class size ranged from 10-15 students. Developed curricula for beginning through advanced English courses.

1994

**Assistant Teacher
Boston City Hospital**

Organized and implemented educational and therapeutic activities for abused children in small group settings. Helped facilitate weekly family meetings.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2001 - 2002

**Clinical Psychology Intern
University of Illinois at Chicago Hospital (APA accredited)**

Provided individual and group psychotherapy in outpatient and inpatient settings with a focus on disordered eating and trauma. Conducted assessments for patients with health-related issues including morbid obesity and cancer. Evaluated mentally ill individuals for fitness to parent as member of a multi-disciplinary team.

2000

**Clinical Psychology Extern
Pediatric Neuropsychology Department, University of Chicago**

Administered cognitive, neurological, and psychological tests to children and adolescents. Provided written analysis and interpretation of test results. Designed comprehensive database for research purposes.

1999 - 2000

**Counselor
McKinley Health Center, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

Provided individual and group therapy to students with a focus on disordered eating, sexual assault, anxiety, and sexual orientation. Interpreted psychological testing data. Collaborated with staff psychiatrists on treating planning and medication management.

1998 - 1999

**Counselor
Counseling Center, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

Provided individual therapy to students with a focus on depression, anxiety, eating disorders, and sexual orientation. Observed evaluation and assessment interviews.

ADVOCACY EXPERIENCE

1998 - 1999

**Medical Advocate
Rape Crisis Services, Urbana, IL**

Assisted victims of sexual violence through the evidence collection process at hospitals. Provided consultation about available counseling, medical, and legal services. Participated in extensive training seminars during which topics including stages of trauma, legal procedures, and special populations were discussed.

1996

**Project Leader
Somerville Commission for Women, Somerville, MA**

Organized a community-wide march and rally against domestic violence.
Collaborated with commissioners on influencing statewide legislation for victims of domestic violence.

1993 - 1995

**Domestic Violence Advocate
Cambridge District Court, Cambridge, MA**

Provided comprehensive assistance to clients seeking restraining orders via courtroom advocacy, crisis counseling, and completion of legal documents.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2003	Outstanding Dissertation Award, American Educational Research Association, Counseling and Human Development Division
2002	Outstanding Doctoral Student Medal, University of Illinois Education Alumni Association
2001	Robert Mendelson Award for Counseling, University of Illinois
2001	American Psychological Association Student Travel Award
2001	William Chandler Bagley Fellowship, University of Illinois
2001	National Counseling Psychology Conference Student Fellowship
2000	Dissertation Award, University of Illinois Bureau of Educational Research
2000	Dissertation Award, Graduate College, University of Illinois
1999	Outstanding Master's Student Medal, University of Illinois Education Alumni Association
1998, 2001	Conference Travel Grant, University of Illinois
1998	Master's Research Grant, University of Illinois
1998	Graduate Teacher Certificate, University of Illinois
1997-1998	University Fellowship, University of Illinois
1996	Association of Tufts Alumnae Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Award

PUBLICATIONS

I. Published and In Press

- Holt, M.K., Kaufman Kantor, K., & Finkelhor, D. (in press). Parent/child concordance about bullying involvement and family characteristics related to bullying and peer victimization. *Journal of School Violence*.
- Espelage, D.L., Holt, M., & Poteat, P. (in press). Bullying in the schools. In Eccles, J. & Meece, J., *Schooling and Development*.
- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, K. (2007). Hidden victimization in bullying assessment. *School Psychology Review, 36*, 345-360.
- Espelage, D.L., & Holt, M. (2007). Dating violence among high school students (14.1-14.19). In Kendall-Tackett, K. & Giaccamoni, S., *Intimate Partner Violence*, Kingston, NJ: Civic Research Institute, Inc
- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, K. (2007). Multiple victimization experiences of urban elementary school students: Associations with psychosocial functioning and academic performance. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 31*, 503-515.
- Espelage, D., & Holt, M. (2007). Dating violence and sexual harassment across the bully-victim

- continuum among middle and high school students. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 36, 799-811.
- Holt, M., & Espelage, D. (2006, Online First version). Perceived social support among bullies, victims, and bully-victims. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*.
- Hines, D., Kaufman Kantor, G., & Holt, M. (2006). Similarities in siblings' experiences of neglectful parenting behaviors. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 30, 619-637.
- Holt, M., & Espelage, D. (2005). Social support as a moderator between dating violence victimization and well-being among African-American and Caucasian adolescents. *School Psychology Review*, 34, 309-328.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2005). Multiple victimization of adolescents. In K. Kendall-Tackett and S. Giacomoni (Eds.), *Victimization of Children and Youth: Patterns of Abuse, Response Strategies*. Kingston, NJ: Civic Research Institute, Inc.
- Kaufman Kantor, G., Holt, M., Mebert, C.J., Straus, M.A., Drach, K.M., Ricci, L.R., MacAllum, C.A., & Brown, W. (2004). Development and preliminary psychometric properties of the Multidimensional Neglectful Behavior Scale – Child Report. *Child Maltreatment*, 9, 409-428.
- Holt, M., & Keyes, M. (2003). Teachers' attitudes toward teasing and general school climate. In D. Espelage and S. Swearer (Eds.), *Bullying in American Schools: A Social-Ecological Perspective on Prevention and Intervention*. New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2003). A cluster analytic investigation of victimization profiles among high school students: Are profiles associated with differential psychological and educational outcomes? *Journal of Applied School Psychology*, 19, 81-98. Published simultaneously in M.J. Elias, & J. Zins (Eds.), *Bullying, Peer Harassment, and Victimization in the Schools: The Next Generation of Prevention*. Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Press, Inc.
- Espelage, D., Holt, M., & Henkel, R. (2003). Examination of peer group contextual effects on bullying during early adolescence. *Child Development*, 74, 205-220.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2002). Problem-solving skills among female college students with and without sub-clinical eating disorders. *Journal of Counseling and Development*, 80, 346-354.
- Espelage, D. & Holt, M. (2001). Bullying and victimization during early adolescence: Peer influences and psychosocial correlates. *Journal of Emotional Abuse*, 2, 123-142. Published simultaneously in R.A. Geffner, M.T. Loring, and C. Young (Eds.), *Bullying behavior: Current research, research, and interventions*. Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Press, Inc.

II. Under Review

- Becker Blease, K., Turner, C., & Holt, M. (under review). Family abuse, siblings, and the “age of possibilities.” National Council on Family Relations Report on the Transition to Adulthood.
- Finkelhor, D., Ormrod, R., Turner, H., & Holt, M. (in preparation). Pathways into polyvictimization. *Child Development*.

III. Internet Materials

- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, K. (under review). *Bullying and its relation to other*

victimization forms. www.Education.com.

Holt, M., & Winzeler, A. (2004). *Bullying primer*. Prepared for University of New Hampshire, Center on Adolescence Web site: <http://www.adolescence.unh.edu/bullyfacts.html>

Espelage, D., & Holt, M. (2003). Bulletin on bullying. Prepared for the American Association of University Women – Illinois Web site: <http://www.aauw-il.org/wwfg/archive/71/bullying.htm>

IV. In Preparation

Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Espelage, D. (in preparation). *Peer group influences on bullying and sexual harassment*.

Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, G. (in preparation). *Bullying pathways across the elementary-middle school transition*.

Holt, M., & Kaufman Kantor, G. (in preparation). *Parent-child interactions in maltreating families*.

Holt, M., Straus, M., & Kaufman Kantor, G. (in preparation). *A short form of the parent-report Multidimensional Neglectful Behavior Scale*.

Tucker, C., Holt, M., & Becker Blease, K. (under review). Sibling support and exposure to inter-parental conflict: Links to depression in emerging adulthood.

INVITED TALKS

Holt, M. (2008, May). *Cyber-bullying*. Invited talk to be presented at the University of New Hampshire Professional Development and Training Conference, Manchester, NH.

Holt, M. (2006, April). *Contextual influences on bullying and relationship between bullying and other victimization forms*. Invited talk presented at the Emerging Issues in Justice and Public Safety Applied Research Forum, New Westminster, British Columbia.

Holt, M. (2004, September). *Parent-child interactions within neglectful families*. Invited talk conducted at the Ninth Annual New England Conference on Child Maltreatment, Portland, ME.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, K. (2008, August). Peer group influences on aggression and victimization. Paper to be presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Boston, MA.

Tucker, C., Holt, M., & Becker Blease, K. (2007, November). *Sibling support and exposure to inter-parental conflict: Links to depression in emerging adulthood*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations' 69th Annual Conference.

Holt, M., Kaufman Kantor, G., & Finkelhor, D. (2007, July). *Bullying and its relation to other victimization forms across the elementary-middle school transition*. Paper presented at the 15th annual APSAC colloquium, Boston, MA.

Hamby, S., Finkelhor, D., Turner, H., & Holt, M. (2007, July). *Not all bad things are the same: The importance of distinguishing among violence, crime, disorder, & trauma*. Paper presented at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.

- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, G. (2007, July). *Bullying perpetration trajectories across the elementary-middle school transition*. Paper presented at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, K. (2007, March). An examination of bullying involvement and other youth victimization experiences across the elementary-middle school transition. In D. Finkelhor (Chair), *Developmental Victimology: Integrating Research on Childhood Victimization from the Home, School, Community and Internet*. Paper presented at the Society for Research on Child Development biennial meeting, Boston, MA.
- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, K. (2007, January). Bullying across the elementary-middle school transition. In K. Mitchell (Chair), *Child Victimization Research*. Paper presented at the 21st Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment.
- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, G. (2006, August) Hidden victimization in bullying assessment. In M. Holt & D. Espelage (Chairs), *New Directions in Bullying Research*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, G. (2006, August). Multiple victimization of urban adolescents. In D. Espelage (chair), *Victimization, Sexuality, & Alcohol/Drug Use During Adolescence: What is happening?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, G. (2006, July). *Family characteristics of youth involved in bullying*. Paper presented at the International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- Holt, M., & Espelage, D. (2005, July). *Dating violence and sexual harassment across the bully-victim continuum*. Paper presented at the International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- Holt, M., Finkelhor, D., & Kaufman Kantor, G. (2005, July). *Bullying and its relation to other victimization forms*. Paper presented at the International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- Hines, D.A., Kaufman Kantor, G., & Holt, M.K. (2004, July). *Sibling concordance for neglect experiences*. Paper presented at the International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- Holt, M., & Kaufman Kantor, G. (2004, July). An evaluation of parent-child interactions within neglectful families. In *Methodological issues in the measurement of child neglect*. Symposium conducted at the International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- Kaufman Kantor, G., Straus, M.A., Hines, D.A., & Holt, M.K. (2004, January). *Preliminary findings from the New England Community Survey of Child Neglect*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Consortium on Child Neglect, Washington, D.C.
- Holt, M., & Mebane, S. (2003, August). Social support buffers the impact of victimization: Race and sex differences. In S. Swearer (Chair), *Cognitive and social mechanisms in adolescent bullying*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Canada.

- Holt, M., & Espelage, D. (2003, August). Sexual abuse among ethnically diverse adolescent samples. In D. Espelage (Chair), *Childhood sexual abuse experiences among adolescents and young adults*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Canada.
- Kaufman Kantor, G., Straus, M.A., Holt, M., Ricci, L., & Drach, K. (2003, August). *Causes and assessment of neglect in community and clinical samples: Preliminary analysis of the Multi-dimensional Neglect Scale, Child Report*. Symposium conducted at the Victimization of Children and Youth International Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- Holt, M., Espelage, D., Keyes, M., & Koenig, B. (2003, April). Teachers' attitudes toward teasing, respect for diversity, and general school climate. In G. Morrison (Chair), *Aggression, violence, and victimization in school*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Kaufman Kantor, G., Straus, M., Holt, M., Ricci, L., Drach, K. (2003, January). *Causes and assessment of child neglect in community and clinical samples: Preliminary analysis of the Multi-dimensional Neglect Scale Child Report (MNS-CR)*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Child Neglect Consortium, Washington, D.C.
- Espelage, D. & Holt, M. (2002, April). *Using multilevel modeling to examine peer group contextual effects on bullying during early adolescence*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2002, July). *Sexual harassment, dating violence, and bullying victimization among adolescents: Does multiple victimization increase psychological distress?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Victimization of Children and Youth Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2002, April). *A cluster analytic investigation of victimization profiles among high school students: Are profiles associated with differential psychological and educational outcomes?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Schneiderhan, M., Holt, M., Keehn, M., Voller, M., Chu, M., Chau, S., Lee, M. (2002, April). *Management of medication-related weight-gain in psychiatry*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, Atlanta, GA.
- Espelage, D. & Holt, M. (2001, March). *Longitudinal analysis of bullying and peer influences during adolescence*. Paper presented at the National Conference in Counseling Psychology, Houston, TX.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2001, March). *Victimization experiences of African American adolescents*. Paper presented at the National Conference in Counseling Psychology, Houston, TX.
- Espelage, D., & Holt, M. (2001, April). *Popularity, friendship, and bullying during early adolescence*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Seattle, WA.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2001, April). *Sexual harassment, dating violence, and social support among*

- African American adolescents*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Seattle, WA.
- Espelage, D. & Holt, M. (2001, April). *Relations among popularity, friendship, and bullying during early adolescence*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2001, April). *Victimization and resilience among African-American adolescents*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN.
- Espelage, D., Holt, M., and Henkel, R. (2001, August). Do middle school students bully each other to “fit in”? In D. Espelage (Chair), *Negotiating peer interactions during early adolescence – Bullying, harassment, and jealousy*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Espelage, D. & Holt, M. (2001, August). Research on bullying during early adolescence: What have we learned? In D. Espelage and S. Swearer (Chairs), *Bully prevention and intervention - Integrating research and evaluation findings*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Holt, M. (2001, August). The developmental progression of novice therapists. In R. Packard (Chair), *Development of professional identity as a clinician*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2001, August). Sexual harassment among African American adolescents. In D. Espelage (Chair), *Negotiating peer interactions during early adolescence – Bullying, harassment, and jealousy*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2000, April). *Problem-solving and perceived relationship characteristics among college women with sub-clinical eating disorders*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (2000, August). *Obesity and disordered eating among male and female black adolescents*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.
- Holt, M. & Espelage, D. (1999, May). *Associations among eating disorder symptoms, relationship quality, and perceived social support*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Holt, M. (1999, August). Using the EAT-26 with male and female college students. In D. Espelage (Chair), *Evaluating psychometric properties of eating disorders instruments in diverse samples*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Boston, MA.
- Holt, M. & McKenna, M. (1998, August). Social competence and relationship quality: Associations with disordered eating. In D. Espelage (Chair), *Eating Disorders: New perspectives on development and treatment*. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE

Committees: University of New Hampshire Center on Adolescence Advisory Committee
Member
National Conference in Counseling Psychology Social Action Committee,
Domestic Violence Group (2001)

Review Work: National Science Foundation, External Reviewer
Journal of Traumatic Stress
Child Abuse and Neglect
Journal of Adolescence
Journal of Adolescent Health
Journal of Youth and Adolescence
Journal of Interpersonal Violence
American Educational Research Association, 2001 National Conference

Consulting: Expert Consultant, *The Harassment Project* (educational video produced by
Kinetic Media & distributed by Human Relations Media)

Board Memberships: Board of Trustees, Harborlight Montessori School