

MATTHEW W. EPPERSON, PhD, MSW
Center for Behavioral Health Services & Criminal Justice Research
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
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Curriculum Vitae: October, 2009

PROFESSIONAL/RESEARCH INTERESTS

Intervention research on co-occurring problems of HIV, substance abuse, mental illness, and criminal justice involvement
HIV prevention and epidemiology
Substance abuse and mental illness
Criminal justice populations
Use of multimedia tools in intervention development and delivery
Dissemination / translational research
Criminal justice content in social work education

EDUCATION

2005-2008	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK <i>Doctor of Philosophy – Degree awarded with distinction</i> Concentration: Advanced Social Work Practice Dissertation Title: “Criminal justice involvement and sexual HIV risk among drug-involved men and their primary female sexual partners: Individual and couple-level effects” Dissertation Sponsor: Nabila El-Bassel Dissertation Committee: Andre Ivanoff, Allen Zweben, Bruce Link, Jennifer Hill	New York, NY
2005-2008	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK <i>Master of Philosophy</i>	New York, NY
1994-1996	GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY <i>Master of Social Work</i>	Allendale, MI
1988-1992	CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY <i>Bachelor of Science, Sociology/Criminal Justice. Minor: Psychology</i>	Mt. Pleasant, MI

CURRENT POSITIONS

2008-2010	<i>Postdoctoral Fellow:</i> CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES & CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH – The Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research – RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
2006-Present	<i>Associate Research Scientist:</i> SOCIAL INTERVENTION GROUP – COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

RESEARCH SUPPORT

2008-2013	Co-Investigator: <i>Multimedia HIV/STI Prevention for Drug-involved Female Offenders.</i> National Institute on Drug Abuse (R01DA025878, P.I. Nabila El-Bassel; \$3,300,000)
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- 2009-2011 Principal Investigator: *HIV Prevention Intervention Research at the Intersection of Criminal Justice Involvement, Mental Illness and Substance Abuse*. National Institutes of Health – Health Disparities Loan Repayment Program
- Under Review* Principal Investigator: *Mixed Methods Study of HIV Risk, Drug Use, and Treatment among Criminal Offenders*. National Institute on Drug Abuse (R03DA029447, A-Start)
- 2008-2010 Postdoctoral Research Fellow: *Mental Health & Criminal Justice Postdoctoral Training*, National Institute of Mental Health (T32MH070313, P.I. Nancy Wolff)
- 2007-2008 Co-Investigator: *Targeted Recruitment of Criminal Justice Participants into HIV/STI Prevention for Drug-involved Couples*, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Supplement to R01DA016993, P.I. Nabila El-Bassel; \$50,000)
- 2007-2008 Predoctoral Research Fellow: *Behavioral Sciences Training in Drug Abuse Research*, National Institute on Drug Abuse (T32DA007233, P.I. Bruce Johnson)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2008-2010 CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES & New Brunswick, NJ
 CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH – RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Postdoctoral Fellow – Director: Nancy Wolff Mentors: Jeffrey Draine and Steven Belenko
- Intervention Research: Collaborating on critical time intervention for released mentally ill prisoners and an HIV prevention intervention tailored for persons with mental illness
 - Developing a conceptual model of the overlapping risks of HIV, substance abuse, and mental illness among community-based criminal justice populations
 - Data Analysis: Conducting mixed methods research to characterize the context of HIV risk for community-based offenders and the mediating role of integrated treatment
 - Grant writing: Drafted NIH loan repayment grant (funded) and a mixed methods grant on HIV risks and treatment among criminal offenders (R03-ASTART, under review), and conceptualizing a pathway to independence grant (K99/R00). Assisted with grant renewal of a CJ-DATS study on STI risks among juvenile offenders
- 2006-Present SOCIAL INTERVENTION GROUP New York, NY
 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Associate Research Scientist – Director: Nabila El-Bassel
- Co-Investigator on a NIDA-funded multimedia HIV prevention efficacy trial with women involved in the criminal justice system (PI Nabila El-Bassel): Site recruitment, study design and implementation, IRB protocol submission, grant application, pilot study implementation, intervention modification and multimedia development
 - Co-Investigator on a qualitative study on HIV risk contexts, intimate partner violence, and drug behaviors among women defendants at Midtown Community Court
 - Quantitative and qualitative data analysis, coordinating and assisting in grant applications, and manuscript preparation on several datasets
- 2007-2008 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES New York, NY
Predoctoral Fellow: Behavioral Science Training in Drug Abuse Research
 Program Directors: Bruce Johnson, Greg Falkin
- This program supports behavioral scientists in conducting their dissertation research and pursuing scientific careers in the areas of drug use/misuse and HIV/AIDS

- 2005-2007 FDNY-CSU/COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY FAMILY ASSESSMENT AND GUIDANCE PROGRAM. *Graduate Research Assistant* – Director: Grace Christ New York, NY
- Performed interviews and clinical measures with families of NYC firefighters killed on 9/11/01. Conducted qualitative analysis and coding of interviews using NVivo software. Assisted in development and pilot testing of a service utilization questionnaire
- 2007 POLICY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC – *Research Interviewer* Delmar, NY
- 2005-2006 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK New York, NY
Research Assistant – Supervisor: Craig Schwalbe

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2008, 2009 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK New York, NY
Adjunct Assistant Professor – Course: Criminal Justice / Social Work Interface
-Conceptualized and designed a MSW course to extend our understanding of the U.S. criminal justice system, how it intersects with the social work profession and client systems, and how social workers can promote social justice at this critical juncture
- 2007 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK New York, NY
Adjunct Professor/Preceptor – Course: Clinical Practice Evaluation
-A research methods course for clinical MSW students, designed to reinforce and extend understanding of a scientific approach to building knowledge for practice evaluation
- 2007, 2008 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK New York, NY
Teaching Assistant – Dr. Ada Mui – Course: Quantitative Methods for Social Workers
-Introductory MSW statistics course – Lab instruction, grading, and consultation
- 2007 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK New York, NY
Teaching Assistant – Dr. Ellen Lukens – Course: Evidence Based Practice for Persons with Serious Mental Health Conditions
-Course focused on recovery-oriented evidence-based practices for serious mental illness
- 2003 CORNERSTONE UNIVERSITY Grand Rapids, MI
Adjunct Professor – Course: Substance Abuse Practice
-BSW course on working with substance abusing populations

PUBLICATIONS

Epperson, M.W., Platais, I., Valera, P., Barbieri, R., Gilbert, L., El-Bassel, N. (2009). Fear, trust, and negotiating safety: HIV risk contexts for Black women defendants. *Affilia Journal of Women and Social Work*, 24 (3), 257-271.

Khan, M.R., Doherty, I.A., Schoenbach, V.J., Taylor, E.M., **Epperson, M.W.**, Adimora, A.A. (2009). Incarceration and high-risk sexual partnerships among men in the United States. *Journal of Urban Health*, 86(4), 584-601.

Valera, P., **Epperson, M.W.**, Ramaswamy, M., Freudenberg, N., Daniels, J. (2009). Substance use and HIV risk behaviors among young men involved in the criminal justice system. *American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse*, 35(1), 43-47.

Epperson, M.W., El-Bassel, N., Gilbert, L., Orellana, E.R., Chang, M. (2008). Increased HIV risk associated with criminal justice involvement among men on methadone. *AIDS and Behavior*, 12(1), 51-57.

Epperson, M.W., Schwalbe, C. (2006). Review of *Mental Health Screening and Assessment in Juvenile Justice*, edited by Thomas Grisso, Gina Vincent, and Daniel Seagrave. *Social Service Review*, 80(4), 754-756.

Epperson, M.W., El-Bassel, N., Gilbert, L., Chang, M. (*Accepted for Publication*). Examining the longitudinal relationship between criminal justice involvement and sexual risk behaviors among drug-involved men. *Journal of Urban Health*.

Epperson, M.W., Khan, M.R., El-Bassel, N., Wu, E., Gilbert, L. (*In Press*). A longitudinal study of personal and partner's incarceration and HIV risk among drug-involved couples. *AIDS and Behavior*.

Epperson, M.W., El-Bassel, N., Khan, M.R., Goddard, D. (*Accepted for Publication*). How community consultants shaped the development of a multimedia HIV prevention intervention for women in the criminal justice system. In *HIV Prevention: Intervention Programs, Practices and Implications*. Hauppauge, NY: Nova Science Publishers.

Christ, G., Horseley, H., Cardillo-Geller, L., Creel, L., **Epperson, M.W.**, et al (*In Press*). A home-based multisystem intervention for widows and children of firefighters who died on September 11, 2001. *Death Studies*.

Manuscripts submitted for publication

Epperson, M.W., Khan, M., Miller, D., Perron, B., El-Bassel, N., Gilbert, L. (*Under Review*). Assessing criminal justice involvement as a unique indicator of HIV risk among drug-involved women in New York City.

Khan, M.R. **Epperson, M.W.**, Friedman, S.R., Mateu-Gelabert, P. (*Under Review*). Incarceration and STI/HIV in Bushwick, Brooklyn, NY: A social network perspective.

Link, B., **Epperson, M.W.** (*Under Review*). Does assisted outpatient treatment predict arrest for persons with severe mental illness?

Khan, M.R., El-Bassel, N., **Epperson, M.W.**, Gilbert, L., Adams, C. (*Under Review*). The promise of multimedia technology for STI/HIV prevention.

Perron, B., Bohnert, A.S.B., Monsell, S.E., Vaughn, M.G., **Epperson, M.W.**, Howard, M.O. (*Under Review*). Patterns and correlates of drug-related emergency room visits: Results from a national survey.

Manuscripts in preparation

Epperson, M.W., Belenko, S. (*In Preparation*). Qualitative analysis of post-release HIV risk contexts for incarcerated men and women.

Epperson, M.W., Draine, J. (*In Preparation*). A conceptual model of community reentry from incarceration which addresses mental health and HIV risk.

Epperson, M.W., Roberts, L.E., Tripodi, S., Ivanoff, A. & Gilmer, C. (*Under Review*). The state of criminal justice content in MSW programs.

Manuel, J., Epperson, M.W. (*In Preparation*). Effects of mental health treatment on substance abuse outcomes: A longitudinal study of substance abuse treatment recipients.

Khan, M.R., Epperson, M.W. (*In Preparation*). Longitudinal associations between adolescent substance abuse and multiple sexual partnerships and STI in adulthood.

Tripodi, S. J., Epperson, M. W., Knippel, D., & Lacasse, J. (*In Preparation*). Are we preparing students for criminal justice field placements and careers?

Epperson, M.W., Link, B. (*In Preparation*). Predictors of arrest for psychiatric inpatient discharges in New York State.

Perron, B., Campbell, R.D., Zhang, W., Woodward, A., Taylor, R., Epperson, M.W. (*In Preparation*). Use of social work services for mental health and substance abuse problems in the United States: Results from a nationally representative survey

Orellana, E.R., Epperson, M.W., El-Bassel, N., Gilbert, L. (*In Preparation*). Sex trading and HIV risk among men in methadone maintenance treatment.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS (*All refereed*)

Epperson, M.W., Link, B.L. (2010, January). Paper: *Does Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Affect Arrest Rates for Persons with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness?* Society for Social Work and Research 14th Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Tripodi, S.J., Pettus-Davis, C., Bender, K., Vaughn, M. (2010, January) Symposium: *From Prevention to Reentry: Understanding Predictors of Crime and Desistance from Criminal Behavior*. **M.W. Epperson:** Discussant.

Epperson, M.W., Tripodi, S., Pettus-Davis, C., Scheyett, A., McCarter, S. (2009, November). Panel: *Criminal Justice Content in SW Education: Where We Are, Where We're Going*. Council on Social Work Education 55th Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX. **M.W. Epperson:** Panel organizer.

Epperson, M.W., Roberts, L.E., Tripodi, S., Ivanoff, A., Gilmer, C. (2009, November). Paper: *Criminal Justice Coursework, Specialization, and Joint Degree Offerings in Accredited MSW Programs*. Council on Social Work Education 55th Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

Tripodi, S. J., **Epperson, M. W.**, Knippel, D., & Lacasse, J. (2009, November). Paper: *Are we preparing students for criminal justice field placements and careers? A descriptive analysis of criminal justice courses and field placements in the top 100 Accredited MSW programs*. Council on Social Work Education 55th Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

Roberts, L.R., **Epperson, M.W.**, Tripodi, S.J. (2009, October). Paper: *Criminal Justice Content in Social Work Education*. New York State Social Work Education Association 42nd Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY.

Epperson, M.W., Khan, M., Blankenship, K., Behrend, L. (2009, May). Symposium: *Exploring the Effect of Incarceration on Intimate Partnerships and HIV Risk*. Society for Prevention Research 17th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. M.W. Epperson: Symposium organizer.

Epperson, M.W. (2009, May). Paper: *Examining Mutual Influence: Couple-level Incarceration and HIV Risk for Drug-involved Men and their Primary Female Partners*. Society for Prevention Research 17th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Epperson, M.W. (2009, April). Poster: *Criminal Justice Involvement and subsequent sexual HIV risk behavior: A longitudinal study of men in drug treatment*. The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health – 3rd Annual Conference for the Dissemination of Student Research on Addictions, Infectious Disease, and Public Health, Baltimore, MD.

Epperson, M.W., Blankenship, K., Khan, M., Valera, P. (2009, January). Symposium: *Criminal Justice Involvement and HIV Risk among Men: Implications for HIV Prevention*. Society for Social Work and Research 13th Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA. **M.W. Epperson**: Symposium organizer and discussant.

Epperson, M.W. (2009, January). Paper: *Does Criminal Justice Involvement Influence Subsequent Sexual HIV Risk for Substance Abusing Men?* Society for Social Work and Research 13th Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Valera, P., **Epperson, M.W.**, Ramaswamy, M., Freudenberg, N., Daniels, J. (2009, January). Paper: *The Association between Substance Use and Sexual HIV Risk Behaviors among Young Incarcerated Men*. Society for Social Work and Research 13th Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Epperson, M.W. (2008, October). Paper: *Developing a Criminal Justice/Social Work Interface Course in a MSW Program*. Council on Social Work Education 54th Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Valera, P., **Epperson, M.W.**, Ramaswamy, M., Freudenberg, N., Daniels, J. (2008, October). Poster: *Substance Use and Sexual HIV Risk Behaviors among Young Men who have been Incarcerated*. The 136th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, San Diego, CA.

Epperson, M.W., Miller, D., Khan, M., El-Bassel, N., Gilbert, L. (2008, August). Poster: *The Impact of Criminal Justice Involvement on Subsequent HIV Risk Behaviors for Women on Methadone*. XVII International AIDS Conference, Mexico City, Mexico.

Epperson, M.W., Valera, P., Daniels, J., Freudenberg, N., Ramaswamy, M. (2008, August). Poster: *Substance Use and Sexual HIV Risk Behaviors among Incarcerated Adolescent Males*. XVII International AIDS Conference, Mexico City, Mexico.

Khan, M.R., Doherty, I.A., Schoenbach, V.J., Taylor, E.M., **Epperson, M.W.**, Adimora, A.A. (2008, May). Paper: *Incarceration and High-Risk Sexual Partnerships among Men in the United States*. British Association for Sexual Health and HIV/American Sexually Transmitted Disease Association 3rd Joint Conference, Brooklyn, NY.

Epperson, M.W., El-Bassel, N., Gilbert, L. (2008, April). Poster: *Criminal Justice Involvement and Associated HIV Risk among Men on Methadone*. 2nd Annual Conference for the Dissemination of Student Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD.

Epperson, M.W., El-Bassel, N., Gilbert, L. (2008, January). Paper: *Criminal Justice Involvement and HIV Risk among Men on Methadone: Implications for HIV Prevention*. Society for Social Work and Research 12th Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

Orellana, E.R., El-Bassel, N., Gilbert, L., Wu, E., **Epperson, M.W.** (2008, January). Paper: *Childhood Sexual Abuse and Sex Trading among Men in Methadone Treatment: Implications for HIV Prevention*. Society for Social Work and Research 12th Annual Conference, Washington DC.

Epperson, M.W. & El-Bassel, N. (2007, November). Poster: *Criminal Justice Involvement and Associated HIV Risk Among Men on Methadone*. The 135th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, Washington DC.

Christ, G.H., & **Epperson, M.W.** (2007, May). Paper: *Longer Term Recovery Tasks of Bereaved Widows and their Children: A Five Year Prospective Study*. 23rd Association of Oncology Social Work Annual Conference, Portland, OR.

Orellana, E.R., El-Bassel, N., Gilbert, L. & **Epperson, M.W.** (2006, November). Paper: *Sex trading and HIV risk among men in methadone maintenance treatment*. The 134th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, Boston, MA.

Christ, G.C., Kane, D., Horsely, H., Cardillo-Geller, L., Creel, L., **Epperson, M.W.** (2006, December). Paper: *The Recovery of Families with Young Children who Lost a Firefighter Father in the 9/11 Disaster*. 5th International Conference on Social Work in Health and Mental Health, Hong Kong, China.

CLINICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE WORK EXPERIENCE

2004-2005	PITT COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH/LME – <i>Care Management Chief</i>	Greenville, NC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Member of the management team of a regional community mental health center• Directed care management unit: access and emergency services, utilization management• Managed a yearly budget of \$650,000 and \$10 million in service authorizations	
2004-2005	NATHANSON ADOPTION SERVICES – <i>Home Study Consultant</i>	Charlotte, NC
1997-2004	COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE NETWORK OF WEST MICHIGAN – <i>Jail Diversion Coordinator/Mental Health Clinician</i>	Grand Rapids, MI
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed and implemented a jail diversion program for persons with mental illness• Performed crisis management and mental health assessments in a correctional facility• Provided alternative sentencing assessments for drug court candidates	
1996-1997	THE BUCKEYE RANCH – <i>Dual Diagnosis Clinician</i>	Columbus, OH
1996	SAINT CLAIRE COUNTY DAY TREATMENT – <i>Social Worker</i>	Port Huron, MI
1993-1996	WEDGWOOD CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICES - <i>Therapist</i>	Grand Rapids, MI

1992-1993 RAINBOW YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES – *Juvenile Counselor* Alpena, MI

PROFESSIONAL/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

2007-Present *Reviewer: AIDS and Behavior*
2007 *Guest Reviewer: Alcohol Treatment Quarterly*
2006 *Guest Student Reviewer: Research on Social Work Practice*
2005-2008 *Co-Founder: DOCTORAL PRACTICE FORUM:* New York, NY
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
-Developed a community forum to discuss relevant theoretical and
research innovations related to social work practice
2000-2004 *Coordinator – COMMUNITY CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM* Grand Rapids, MI
1995-1996 *Therapist (MSW Internship) – CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES* Muskegon, MI
1992 *Wilderness Counselor (B.S. Internship) – EAGLE VILLAGE, INC.* Hersey, MI

HONORS AND AWARDS

2009-2011 NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
Health Disparities Loan Repayment Award
2009 SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL WORK AND RESEARCH
Outstanding Dissertation Award – Honorable Mention
2008 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Doctor of Philosophy awarded with distinction
2006-2007 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Graduate Research Assistantship
2005-2008 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Doctoral Program Fellowship
2005 MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
University Distinguished Fellowship (Declined)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS / LICENSURE

Member, National Association of Social Workers
Member, International AIDS Society
Member, American Public Health Association
Member, Society for Social Work and Research
Member, Council on Social Work Education
Member, Society for Prevention Research
Certified: Advanced and Law Enforcement, International Critical Incident Stress Foundation