

Who We Are

[ChiungFangChang](#) Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Sociology and the Program Director of Sociology at Lamar University. Dr. Chang teaches courses in research methods, population studies, sociology of family, data analysis, and urban studies. In 2011, Lamar recognized Dr. Chang with the Merit Award as University Scholar. She has been elected to the American Association for Chinese Studies and the Southwest Sociological Association. In addition, she served as an Associate Editor for the International Journal for Sociological Research since 2008. Her research interests include population studies in China, intermarriage and assimilation among minority population, racial identity, and fertility behavior of minority women. Her research has generated more than 20 papers presented at various sociological and demographic conferences. She has authored over fifteen publications in scholarly journals and books. Dr. Chang has published two books, in

behavior among minority and new immigrants in China and Taiwan.

fertility

[Mary Ann Davis](#) LCSW, Ph.D., is an Adjunct Instructor in the Sociology at Lamar University. Dr. Davis teaches Academic Partnership courses in Marriage and the Family, Sociology, Aging

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polygamy/plural marriage. She has also conducted five years of research on Operation Rescue, one of the largest and most violent pro-life activist groups in the US. She is on the editorial board of the Electronic Journal of Human Sexuality. Her research has been published in the Archives of Sexual Behavior, in the Journal of Community Health, and recently in an edited volume (with Stuart Wright) by New York University Press. Dr. Fagen teaches undergraduate courses in Sociology of Gender, Introduction to Sociology, Single Women in the US: A Sociological and Historical Perspective, and Marriage and Family.

[Margot Gage](#) Ph.D. is a social epidemiologist and assistant professor at Lamar University. She earned her PhD in social epidemiology and public health from the University of Amsterdam/Amsterdam Medical Center (UVA/AMC) from the Department of Public Health. During her PhD she visited UCLA to carry out research. Before coming to Lamar University Dr. Gage completed two postdoctoral fellowships. Her first postdoctoral fellowship was at the UVA/AMC. After being awarded a personal Norwegian career grant she went to complete her

second post

chair in 2014 interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. He teaches every semester and in recent years has taught social psychology and social stratification. Dr. Smith has also taught research methods, survey research, marriage and the family, statistics, social theory and principles of sociology. Though administrative duties consume most of his time today, his research interests and publications have examined cognitions that support social classification.

[Stuart A. Wright](#) Ph.D., is a Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminal Justice at Lamar. Dr. Wright teaches sociology, social movements, and terrorism. He is a former NIMH Research Fellow (Yale) and Rockefeller Foundation Scholar (Bellagio, Italy). In 2000, Lamar recognized Dr. Wright with a career achievement award as University Scholar. He authored over fifty publications in scholarly books and journals. He is known internationally for his research on religious and political movements, conflict and violence. He has published six books, including *Armageddon in Waco* (University of Chicago Press, 1995), *Patriots, Politics, and the Oklahoma City Bombing* (Cambridge University Press, 2007), *Saints under Siege: The Texas State Raid on the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints* (with James T. Richardson, New York University Press, 2011), and most recently, *Storming Zion: Government Raids on Religious Communities* (with Susan J. Palmer, Oxford University Press, 2016). Wright also serves as legal expert in his field. He has testified in Congressional hearings on state conflict, served as an advisor to a number of high profile legal cases, including the Branch Davidian criminal and civil trials, the Oklahoma City bombing trial of Timothy McVeigh, the dragging death of James Byrd, Jr., and the trials of polygamists after the FLDS raid in Texas.