

# Don E. Willis

College of Medicine  
 Department of Internal Medicine  
 Division of Community Health and Research  
 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences - Northwest  
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## EDUCATION

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- 2018 Ph.D., Sociology, University of Missouri – Columbia, MO  
Dissertation: “Feeding the Student Body: Insecurity and Inequality Among College Students.”
- 2013 M.A., Sociology, University of Arkansas – Fayetteville, AR
- 2010 B.A., Sociology, University of Central Arkansas – Conway, AR

## POSITIONS

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- 2020 – Present Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Community Health and Research, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences – Fayetteville
- 2021 – Present Affiliate Faculty/Instructor, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Arkansas – Fayetteville
- 2018 – 2020 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Arkansas – Little Rock  
 Program Coordinator, Poverty Studies, University of Arkansas – Little Rock and Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty – SHECP

## RESEARCH FUNDING AND GRANTS

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Role	Dates	Amount	Admin IC	Title and Project Number
Co-I	--	\$20,000		Translational Research Institute, Team Science Award - Physical Activity among Marshallese
Co-PI	7/2021-4/2022	\$253,334	NIGMS	Arkansas IDEA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) Supplement – Understanding Hesitant Adopters Project Project #: 3P20GM103429-20S1
Co-I	5/2021-5/2022	\$1,500,000	NIMHD	NIH CEAL - COVID-19 PREVENT (Partnership for Rapid Engagement to enhance Vaccine Uptake for Everyone: Neighbors working Together) Project Project #: 3R01MD013852-03S2
Co-I	3/2021-11/2022	\$715,920	NIMHD	NIH RADx – Connecting Our Neighborhoods Need for Enhanced and Coordinated Testing (CoNNECT) to Achieve Equity: CoNNECT to Achieve Equity Project #: 3R01MD013852-02S3
Co-I	2019-2024	\$317,879	NIMHD	Family DSMES – Diabetes Self-Management Project Project #: 3R01MD013852-04S1

**BOOK**

2015 Fitzpatrick KM, **Willis DE** (Eds.). 2015. *A Place-Based Perspective of Food in Society*. New York: Palgrave/Macmillan.

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS** (\* equal/alphabetical authorship; † media or award)

- Postdoc, Graduate, and Medical student co-authors **underlined and bolded**

2022 **Willis DE**, Selig JP, Andersen JA, Hall S, Hallgren E, Williams M, Bryant-Moore K, McElfish PA. Hesitant but vaccinated: assessing COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among the recently vaccinated [published online ahead of print, 2022 Jan 15]. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*. 2022;10.1007/s10865-021-00270-6. doi:10.1007/s10865-021-00270-6

† Scientific American: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/people-are-getting-covid-shots-despite-hesitation/>

**Willis DE**, Andersen JA, Montgomery BEE, Selig JP, Shah SK, Zaller N, Bryant-Moore K, Scott AJ, Williams M, McElfish PA. COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Experiences of Discrimination Among Black Adults [published online ahead of print, 2022 Apr 7]. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*. 2022;10.1007/s40615-022-01290-x. doi:10.1007/s40615-022-01290-x

† NPR, KUAF, Ozarks at Large: <https://www.kuaf.com/people/kyle-kellams>

† NPR, KUAR: <https://www.ualrpublicradio.org/local-regional-news/2022-05-03/black-arkansans-who-experienced-racism-can-be-more-hesitant-to-get-covid-vaccine-report-says? amp=true>

**Willis DE**, Andersen JA, Hallgren E, Moore R, Selig JP, Scott AJ, Kraleti SS, McElfish PA. COVID-19 Death Exposure among Adults in the United States [published online ahead of print, 2022 Aug 4]. *Omega (Westport)*. 2022;302228221116523. doi:10.1177/00302228221116523

**Willis DE**, Schootman M, Shah SK, Reece S, Selig JP, Andersen JA, McElfish PA. Parent/guardian intentions to vaccinate children against COVID-19 in the United States. *Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics*. 2022. DOI: 10.1080/21645515.2022.2071078

**Willis DE**, Long CR, Rowland B, Tidwell C, Andersen JA, McElfish PA. COVID-19 and Food Insecurity in a Vulnerable Rural State. *Dialogues in Health*. 2022;1:100013. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dialog.2022.100013>

\* McElfish PA, Purvis RS, Riklon S, **Willis DE**. Complicity in sociology and community-based participatory research with Marshallese [published online ahead of print, 2022 Feb 25]. *Sociology of Health & Illness*. 2022;10.1111/1467-9566.13452. doi:10.1111/1467-9566.13452

Montgomery BEE, Pro G, **Willis, DE**, and Zaller N. County-level jail incarceration, community economic distress, and preterm birth among women in the US South. Forthcoming in: *Journal of Clinical and Translational Science*.

McElfish PA, Selig JP, Scott AJ, Rowland B, **Willis DE**, Reece S, CarlLee S, Macechko MD, Shah SK. Associations between General Vaccine Hesitancy and Healthcare Access among Arkansans. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 2022 Nov 2:1–7. doi: 10.1007/s11606-022-07859-w. Epub ahead of print.

McElfish PA, **Willis DE**, Shah SK, Reece S, Andersen JA, Schootman M, Richard-Davis G, Selig JP, Warmack TS. Parents' and Guardians' Intentions to Vaccinate Children against

COVID-19. *Vaccines*. 2022; 10(3):361. <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines10030361>

Andersen JA, **Willis DE**, Hallgren E, McElfish PA, Felix HC. Physical Activity and Fruit and Vegetable Consumption during the COVID-19 Pandemic for People with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus. *Primary Care Diabetes*. 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pcd.2022.07.004>

McElfish PA, Rowland B, Scott AJ, Andersen JA, CarlLee S, McKinnon JC, Reece S, Meredith-Neve SM, Macechko MD, Gurel-Headley M, **Willis DE**. Hesitant Adopters: An Examination of Hesitancy among Adults in Arkansas Who Have Taken the COVID-19 Vaccine. *Clinical and Translational Science*. 2022;15(10):2316-2322. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cts.13367>

Bogulski CA, **Willis DE**, Williams CA, Ayers BL, Andersen JA, McElfish PA. Stressful life events and social support among pregnant Marshallese women. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*. 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10995-022-03404-7>

Andersen JA, Rowland B, Gloster E, **Willis DE**, Hernandez N, Felix HC, Long CR, & McElfish PA. Associations among Self-Reported Mental Health, Physical Activity, and Diet during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Nutrition and Health*. March 2022. doi:10.1177/02601060221082362

**Kendrick A**, Fantasia H, Morse B, **Willis DE**. Food Insecurity in College Students: A Concept Analysis. *Nursing Forum*. May 2022.

McElfish PA, Selig JP, Scott AJ, Rowland B, **Willis DE**, Reece S, CarlLee S, **Gurel-Headley M**, Shah SK, Macechko MD. Associations between 5-year influenza vaccination and sociodemographic factors and healthcare access among Arkansans. *Vaccine*. 2022;40(27):3727-3731. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vaccine.2022.05.031>

Rowland B, Bogulski CA, **Willis DE**, Scott AJ, Gloster EE, Andersen JA. Experiences of Marshallese Food Processing Workers during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *J Agromedicine*. 2022;27(3):292-302. doi:10.1080/1059924X.2021.2002222

Moore R, Purvis RS, Willis DE, Worley KC, Hervey D, Reece S, Yeates A, McElfish PA. The Vaccine Hesitancy Continuum among Hesitant Adopters of the COVID-19 Vaccine. *Clinical and Translational Science*. 2022. doi: 10.1111/cts.13385

Purvis RS, Moore R, **Willis DE**, Hallgren E, McElfish PA. Factors influencing COVID-19 vaccine decision-making among hesitant adopters in the United States. *Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21645515.2022.2114701>

McElfish PA, Bogulski C, Langston K, Carleton A, Semingson J, Gurel L, **Willis DE**. Bilingual care navigation and enhanced case management during COVID-19. *Families, Systems, & Health*. 2022. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/fsh0000682>

2021 **Willis DE** and McElfish PA. 2021. Racial disparities in the COVID-19 response affecting the Marshall Islands diaspora, United States of America. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*. 99:680–68. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.20.277855>

**Willis DE**, Andersen JA, Bryant-Moore K, Selig JP, Long C, Felix H, Curran GM, McElfish PA. 2021. “COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy: Race/Ethnicity, Trust, and Fear.” *Clinical and Translational Science*. doi: 10.1111/cts.13077

† 2022 ASCPT Clinical and Translational Science Award

† 2021 most downloaded article published that year in *Clinical and Translational Science*

† NPR, KUAR: [https://www.kuaf.com/post/understanding-vaccine-hesitancy?fbclid=IwAR3APF\\_PB6csLK8oIIVL0mjQ\\_UVabLDM3wyW4bFYkW](https://www.kuaf.com/post/understanding-vaccine-hesitancy?fbclid=IwAR3APF_PB6csLK8oIIVL0mjQ_UVabLDM3wyW4bFYkW)

[JR8Y25LC-ZcrSQxm8#stream/0](https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-9566.13212)

† ASCPT Podcast: <https://ascptpod.com/podcast/clinpharmpod-covid-19-vaccine-hesitancy-and-sociodemographics/>

**Willis DE.** 2021. “Feeding Inequality: Food Insecurity, Social Status and College Student Health.” *Sociology of Health & Illness*. 43(1): 220-237. doi: 10.1111/1467-9566.13212

† Video Abstract: <https://youtu.be/2DHcf9XPSNg>

**Willis DE,** Presley J, Williams M, Zaller N, McElfish PA. 2021. “COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy among Youth.” *Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics* 1-3. doi:[10.1080/21645515.2021.1989923](https://doi.org/10.1080/21645515.2021.1989923).

Andersen JA, **Willis DE,** Malhis JR, Long CR, McElfish PA. 2021. “The association between education and basic needs insecurity for Marshallese during the COVID-19 pandemic.” *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*. doi: [10.1007/s40615-021-01125-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40615-021-01125-1).

Purvis RS, **Willis DE,** Moore R, Bogulski C, McElfish PA. Perceptions of adult Arkansans regarding trusted sources of information about the COVID-19 pandemic. *BMC Public Health*. 2021;21(1):2306. Published 2021 Dec 20. doi:10.1186/s12889-021-12385-1. PMID: 34930208 PMCID: PMC8685165

McElfish PA, **Willis DE,** Shah SK, Bryant-Moore K, Rojo MO, Selig JP. 2021. “Sociodemographic Determinants of COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy, Fear of Infection, and Protection Self-Efficacy.” *J Prim Care Community Health*. 2021;12:21501327211040746. doi:10.1177/21501327211040746

McElfish PA, **Willis DE,** Bogulski C, Kelen M, Riklon S, Alik E, Laelan M, Brown AL, Sinclair KA, Andersen JA, Amick III BC, Williams M. 2021. “COVID-19 Vaccine Willingness and Hesitancy among Marshallese Pacific Islanders.” *Journal of Patient Experience*.

McElfish PA, **Willis DE,** Bryant-Moore K, Rojo M, Andersen J, Kaminicki K, James LP. 2021. “Arkansans Preferred COVID-19 Testing Locations.” *Journal of Primary Care & Community Health*. Doi:10.1177/21501327211004289.

Fitzpatrick, KM., **Willis, DE.** 2021. “Homeless and Hungry: Food Insecurity in the Land of Plenty.” *Food Security*. 13, 3–12. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12571-020-01115-x>

McElfish PA, Purvis RS, **Willis DE,** Riklon S. 2021. “COVID-19 Disparities Among Marshallese Pacific Islanders.” *Preventing Chronic Disease* 18:200407. doi: 10.5888/pcd18.200407.

Moore R, Purvis RS, Hallgren E, **Willis DE,** Hall S, Reece S, CarlLee S, Judkins H, McElfish, PA. 2021 “

Motivations to Vaccinate Among Hesitant Adopters of the COVID-19 Vaccine.” *J Community Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10900-021-01037-5>

Hallgren E, **Willis DE,** Rowland B, Selig JP, McElfish PA. Association between Diagnosed Anxiety and Depression and Exposure to Life Stressors during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*. 2021; 14(4):54-68. <https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/jhdrp/vol14/iss4/6>

Purvis RS, Hallgren E, Moore RA, **Willis DE,** Hall S, **Gurel-Headley M,** McElfish PA. Trusted Sources of COVID-19 Vaccine Information among Hesitant Adopters. *Vaccines*. 9(12):1418. doi:10.3390/vaccines9121418.

Reece S, CarlLee S, Scott AJ, **Willis DE,** Rowland B, Larsen K, Holman-Allgood I, McElfish PA. Hesitant Adopters: An Examination of Hesitancy among Adults in Arkansas Who

Have Taken the COVID-19 Vaccine. *Clinical and Translational Science*. Forthcoming 2022.

- Moore R, **Willis DE**, Sumit SK, Purvis RS, Shields X, McElfish PA. 2021. “The risk seems too high’: Thoughts and feelings about COVID-19 vaccination.” *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 18(16):8690. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18168690>
- Hallgren E, Moore R, Purvis RS, Hall S, **Willis DE**, Reece S, CarlLee S, **Gurel-Headley M**, McElfish PA. Facilitators to Vaccination among Hesitant Adopters. *Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics* 1-8.
- Andersen JA, Felix HC, Eswaran H, Payakachat N, **Willis DE**, Bogulski C, McElfish PA. 2021. Factors Associated with First-Time Telehealth Utilization for Marshallese Living in the United States. *Telemedicine Reports*. 2(1):217-223. <http://doi.org/10.1089/tmr.2021.0023>
- Felix HC, Andersen JA, **Willis DE**, Malhis JR, Selig JP, McElfish PA. 2021. “Control of Type 2 Diabetes Melitus during the COVID-19 Pandemic.” *Primary Care Diabetes*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pcd.2021.06.012>
- McElfish PA, Purvis RS, James LP, **Willis DE**, Andersen JA. 2021. “Perceived Barriers to COVID-19 Testing.” *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 18, 2278. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18052278>
- McElfish PA, Rowland B, Porter A, Felix HC, Selig JP, Semingson J, **Willis DE**, Smith M, Riklon S, Alik E, Padilla-Ramos A, Jasso EY, Zohoori N. 2021. “Use of Community-Based Participatory Research Partnerships to Reduce COVID-19 Disparities Among Marshallese Pacific Islander and Latino Communities – Benton and Washington Counties, Arkansas, April–December 2020.” *Preventing Chronic Disease*.
- Moore R, Zielinski MJ, Thompson RG, **Willis DE**, Purvis RS, McElfish PA. 2021. “This Pandemic Is Making Me More Anxious about My Welfare and the Welfare of Others: COVID-19 Stressors and Mental Health.” *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 18(11):5680. doi: 10.3390/ijerph18115680.
- 2020 Fitzpatrick KM, **Willis DE**. 2020. “Chronic Disease, the Built Environment, and Unequal Health Risks in the 500 Largest U.S. Cities.” *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 17(8):2961.
- McElfish PA., Cleek AB, **Willis DE**, Purvis RS, James, LP. 2020. “Leveraging Community Engagement Capacity to Address COVID-19 Disparities among Pacific Islander and Latinx Communities in Arkansas.” *Journal of Clinical and Translational Science* 1–13. doi: [10.1017/cts.2020.562](https://doi.org/10.1017/cts.2020.562).
- Fitzpatrick KM, Spialek M, **Willis DE**, Paschal J, English E. 2020. “Food Insecurity in the Post-Disaster Harvey Setting.” *Current Developments in Nutrition* 4(2):138-138.
- Fitzpatrick KM, Harris C, Drawve G, **Willis DE**. 2020. “Assessing Food Insecurity Among US Adults During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” *Journal of Hunger and Environmental Nutrition*.
- 2019 **Willis DE**, Fitzpatrick KM. 2019. “Adolescent Food Insecurity: The Special Case of Marshallese Youth in Northwest Arkansas.” *Public Health Nutrition*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1368980019002647>
- Rubin, Z, **Willis DE**, Ludwig M. 2019. “Measuring Success in Intentional Communities: A Critical Evaluation of Commitment and Longevity Theories.” *Sociological Spectrum*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02732173.2019.1645063>

† Outstanding Article Award 2020, Communal Studies Association Annual Meeting

- Willis DE**, 2019. “Feeding the Student Body: Unequal Food Insecurity Among College Students.” *American Journal of Health Education* 50(3):167-175.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/19325037.2019.1590261>
- 2018 Fitzpatrick KM, Shi X, **Willis DE**, Niemeir J. 2018. “Obesity and Place: Chronic Disease in the 500 Largest U.S. Cities.” *Obesity Research & Clinical Practice*.
- 2017 **Willis DE**, Fitzpatrick KM. 2017. “Food Insecurity and Social Capital Among Middle School Students.” *Youth & Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0044118X17725460>
- Fitzpatrick KM, **Willis DE**. 2017. "Risks, Resources, and Depressive Symptomatology Among Marshallese Adolescents." *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/ort0000288>
- Rubin Z, Ludwig M, **Willis DE**. 2017. “Happy, Healthy, Functional, Fit: What Works Best in Present-Day Intentional Communities. *Communities*. 176. 42-26.
- 2016 **Willis DE**, Fitzpatrick KM. 2016. “Psychosocial Factors as Mediators of Food Insecurity and Weight Status Among Middle School Students.” *Appetite*, 103:236-43.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2016.04.022>
- 2015 Fitzpatrick KM, **Willis DE**. 2015. “Parent/Student Risk and Protective Factors in Understanding Early Adolescents’ Body Mass Index.” *The Journal of Early Adolescence*, 36(4):510-526.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0272431615570058>
- 2014 Fitzpatrick KM, **Willis DE**, O'Connor G. 2014. “Circumstances, Resources, and Weight Status Outcomes Among Middle School Students.” *The Journal of Early Adolescence*, 34(8):1058-74. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0272431613518974>

## BOOK CHAPTERS AND ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

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- 2018 **Willis DE**, Fitzpatrick KM. 2018. “Poverty, Food Insecurity, and Health among Youth.” in *Food and Poverty: Food Insecurity and Food Sovereignty among America’s Poor*, edited by Leslie Hossfeld, Brooke Kelly, and Jill Waity. Vanderbilt University Press.
- 2014 Fitzpatrick KM, **Willis DE**. 2014. “Race and Place.” *Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Health, Illness, Behavior and Society*, edited by Stella Quah, William C. Cockerham, and Robert Dingwall. Oxford, England: Blackwell Publishing Limited.

## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW (\* = equal/alphabetical authorship)

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- Willis DE**, Montgomery BEE, Selig J, Andersen JA, Shah SK, Li J, Reece S, **Alik D**, McElfish PA. COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Racial Discrimination among US Adults. Submitted to: *Preventive Medicine Reports*.
- Willis DE**, Moore R, Selig JP, CarlLee S, **Gurel-Headley MP**, Cornett L, McElfish PA. COVID-19 Booster Uptake: are hesitant adopters less likely to get a booster shot than non-hesitant adopters? Submitted to: *Behavioral Medicine*.
- Andersen JA, **Willis DE**, Kaholokula JK, Rowland B, Council S, Riklon S, McElfish PA. Experiences of Discrimination among Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders living in the United States. Submitted to: *Social Science & Medicine*
- CarlLee S, **Willis DE**, Andersen JA, Gurel-Headley MP, Kraleti SS, Selig JP, Moore R, Diaz-Cruz A, Macechko MD, McElfish PA. Healthcare Access and Experiences of Racial Discrimination as Predictors of General Vaccine Hesitancy. Submitted to: *Public Health*
- Andersen JA, Scott AJ, Rowland B, **Willis DE**, McElfish PA. Associations between COVID-19

Death Exposure and COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Vaccine Uptake. Submitted to: *Southern Medical Journal*.

- Hallgren E, Narcisse MR, Andersen JA, **Willis DE**, Thompson T, Long CR, Bryant-Smith G, McElfish PA. Medical Financial Hardship and Food Insecurity among Cancer Survivors in the United States. Submitted to: *Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network*.
- Long CR, Narcisse M, Selig JP, **Willis DE**, Gannon M, Rowland B, English ES, McElfish PA. Prevalence and Associations between Food Insecurity and Overweight Obesity among Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Adolescents. Submitted to: *Public Health Nutrition*.
- Purvis RS, Moore R, **Willis DE**, Kraleti SK, **Gurel-Headley MP**, CarlLee S, McElfish PA. Key conversations and trusted information among hesitant adopters of the COVID-19 vaccine. Submitted to: *Journal of Health Communication*
- Reece S, CarlLee S, Scott AJ, **Willis DE**, Rowland B, Larsen K, Holman-Allgood I, McElfish PA. Predicting COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among vaccinated adults in the United States. Submitted to: *Perspectives in Public Health*.
- Andersen JA, Gloster E, Hall S, Rowland B, **Willis DE**, Kraleti SS, McElfish PA. Associations between COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake, Race/Ethnicity, and Political Party Affiliation. Submitted to: *Journal of Community Health*.
- Williams ML, Selig JP, Amick BC III, Li J, **Willis DE**, Kraleti S, Meredith-Neve SM, CarlLee S, McElfish PA. COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in a small rural southern state: Results of a weighted random sample survey. Submitted to: *PLOS ONE*
- Moore R, Purvis RS, CarlLee S, Hallgren E, Kraleti S, Willis DE, McElfish PA. Understanding Vaccination among Hesitant Adopters of the COVID-19 Vaccine Using the Increasing Vaccination Model. Submitted to: *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*
- McElfish PA, Selig JP, Scott AJ, Rowland B, **Willis DE**, Reece S, CarlLee S, Macechko MD, Shah SK. Associations between General Vaccine Hesitancy and Sociodemographic Factors and Health Care Accesses among Arkansans. Submitted to: *Journal of General Internal Medicine*.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

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- Willis DE**. The Social Costs of Food Insecurity Among College Students
- Hermesen J, **Willis DE**. Young Women's Attitudes about Future Work: The Role of Maternal Education and Employment.
- Willis DE**, Kaholokula J, Andersen JA, Bogulski C, Riklon S, Scott A, McElfish PA. Racial Congruence, Discrimination, and Self-rated Health among Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders Living in the United States
- Willis DE**, Andersen JA, Li J, McElfish PA, et al. Vaccine Hesitancy and Subjective Social Status among US Adults.
- Willis DE**, Cornett L, McElfish PA, et al. Are Hesitant Adopters Distinct from Hesitant Non-Adopters?
- Willis DE**, Andersen JA, McElfish PA, et al. State-level Structural Racism and Vaccine Attitudes.
- Willis DE**, Long C, McElfish, PA, et al. Food Insecurity and the Uneven Health Consequences of COVID-19.

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

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- 2022 ASCPT Clinical and Translational Science Award  
Most downloaded article published in 2021 in *Clinical and Translational Science*
- 2021 Astounding Apprentice Award  
– Translational Research Institute award for most publications at UAMS over a 91-day period (3 first authored, 7 co-authored)
- 2020 Outstanding Article Award – Communal Studies Association
- 2017 Mizzou Advantage International Travel Award (\$900)
- 2017 Sociology Research Award (\$2,000)
- 2017 Deaton Scholar
- 2013-2018 G. Ellsworth Huggins Fellowship (~\$50,000 across 5 years)
- 2013 Bernice Jones Endowed Chair in Community Award (\$500)

**RESEARCH REPORTS** (\* equal/alphabetical authorship)

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- 2021 Rubin, Zach, and **Don E. Willis**. 2021. The State of Food and Housing at Lander University. A Report by the Lander Task Force on Food Insecurity and Homelessness.
- McElfish, Pearl A., Holly Felix, Zoran Bursac, Brett Rowland, Jennifer Andersen, **Don E. Willis**, et al. 2021. Comparative Effectiveness of Diabetes Prevention Program Interventions for Marshallese Patients: A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial.
- McElfish, Pearl A., Holly Felix, Zoran Bursac, Brett Rowland, Jennifer Andersen, **Don E. Willis**, et al. 2021. Impact of COVID-19 on Marshallese Communities in the United States.
- 2019 **Willis, Don**. 2019. Food Insecurity Among UMKC Students: A Summary Report. University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.
- 2017 Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, Katelynn Towne, and **Don E. Willis**. 2017. The 2016 Missouri Crime Victimization Survey: Executive Report. University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.
- \* Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, Katelynn Towne, and **Don E. Willis**. 2017. The 2016 Missouri Crime Victimization Survey: Perceptions of Law Enforcement Report. University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.
- \* Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, Katelynn Towne, and **Don E. Willis**. 2017. The 2016 Missouri Crime Victimization Survey: Neighborhood Trust, Safety, and Fear Report. University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.
- \* Avery, Eileen, Joan Hermsen, Katelynn Towne, and **Don E. Willis**. 2017. The 2016 Missouri Crime Victimization Survey: Intimate Partner Violence Report. University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.
- 2013 Fitzpatrick, Kevin M., **Don E. Willis**, and Gail O'Connor. 2013. Hunger and Poverty in Northwest Arkansas: A Comparative Analysis. Community Factsheet Vol. 4:2. Community and Family Institute: Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas.
- Fitzpatrick, Kevin M., **Don E. Willis**, and Gail O'Connor. 2013. Health, Well-Being, and Food Insecurity Among 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Grade Students. Community Factsheet Vol. 4:1. Community and Family Institute: Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas.
- Fitzpatrick, Kevin M., **Don E. Willis**, and Gail O'Connor. 2013. Counting NWA's Homeless: Preliminary Results from the 2013 Homeless Census. Community Factsheet Vol. 4:6.



Community and Family Institute: Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas.

Fitzpatrick, Kevin M., **Don E. Willis**, and Gail O'Connor. 2013. The Changing Face of NWA's Homeless: More Results from the 2013 Homeless Census. Community Factsheet Vol. 4:7. Community and Family Institute: Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas.

2012 Fitzpatrick, Kevin M., **Don E. Willis**, and Gail O'Connor. 2012. Hope 2012: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Service-Focused Event for Northwest Arkansas. Community Factsheet Vol. 3:8. Community and Family Institute: Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas.

**Willis, Don E.**, Gail O'Connor, and Kevin M. Fitzpatrick. 2012. Hope 2012: A Health Status Report. Community Factsheet Vol. 3:10. Community and Family Institute: Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas.

2011 Hallgren, Emily, **Don E. Willis**, and Kevin M. Fitzpatrick. 2011. Hope 2011: A Health Status Report. Community Factsheet Vol. 3:7. Community and Family Institute: Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Arkansas.

Fitzpatrick, Kevin M., Emily Hallgren, and **Don E. Willis** 2011. *Race and Ethnicity Matter: What NWA Residents Are Saying About Quality of Life*. Community Factsheet Vol. 3:2. Community and Family Institute: Department of Soc and Cr Justice, Univ. of Arkansas

#### **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS** (\* by invitation)

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2022 **Willis DE**, McElfish PA. COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Experiences of Discrimination Among Black Adults. Presented at the National Institutes of Health *Promoting COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Uptake Among Populations Who Experience Health Disparities Grantee Meeting*. (October 2022, Virtual meeting).

Fitzpatrick KM, Harris C, **Willis DE**, Obermaier A, Drawve G. Place Still Matters: Individual Level Social Vulnerabilities, Place-Level Structural Disadvantage and Food Insecurity During COVID-19. Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA (August).

2021 **Willis DE**, English ES, McElfish PA, Long CR. 2021. "Food Insecurity and health during COVID-19 in Arkansas." Food Insecurity, Neighborhood Food Environment, and Nutrition Health Disparities: State of the Science; National Institutes of Health Virtual Workshop.

2020 Fitzpatrick, Kevin M., **Don E. Willis**. 2020. "Homeless and Hungry: Food Insecurity in the Land of Plenty." Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA-Virtual (August).

2019 **Willis, Don E.**, Kevin M. Fitzpatrick. 2019. "Adolescent Food Insecurity: The Special Case of Marshallese Youth in Northwest Arkansas." Presented at the Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Little Rock (November).

\* **Willis, Don E.** 2019. "Food Insecurity and the Social Reproduction of Inequality." Emporia at the Table (EAT) Initiative. Emporia State University.

**Willis, Don E.** 2019. "Embodying Inequality: Food Insecurity, Social Status, and Health Outcomes Among College Students." Presented at the American Sociological Association Meetings, New York City (August).

\* **Willis, Don E.** 2019 (February). "Poverty, Food, and Nutritionism. University of Arkansas at Little Rock Downtown Lecture Series.

- \* **Willis, Don E.** 2019 (April). “Whose side are we on?” Revisiting Becker’s Question. Speaker at University of Central Arkansas, Alpha Kappa Delta Induction Ceremony.
- 2018 **Willis, Don E.** 2018. “The Social Costs of Food Insecurity Among College Students.” Presented at the Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Conway (November).
- Hermesen, Joan M., and **Don E. Willis.** 2018. “Young Women’s Attitudes Toward Future Work” Presented at the American Sociological Association Meetings, Philadelphia (August).
- Rubin, Zach., and **Don E. Willis.** 2018. “Defining and Measuring Success in Intentional Communities: An Analysis of What Works Today.” Presented at the Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meetings, Minneapolis (March).
- 2017 Fitzpatrick, Kevin M., and **Don E. Willis.** 2017. "Risks, Resources, and Depressive Symptomatology Among Marshallese Adolescents" Presented at the American Sociological Association Meetings, Montréal (August).
- \* **Willis, Don E.** 2017 (Spring/Summer). Food Insecurity and Inequality. Missouri Scholars Academy.
- 2015 Schatz, Enid, Margaret Ralston, Sangeetha Madhavan, **Don E. Willis,** F. Xavier Gomez-Olive, and Mark Collinson. 2015. “Older person’s living arrangements and health in rural South Africa: Confirming social positioning?” Presented at the 7<sup>th</sup> African Population Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa (November/December).
- Willis, Don E.,** and Kevin M. Fitzpatrick. 2015. “Psychosocial Mediators of the Food Insecurity-Obesity Paradox.” Presented at the Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meetings, Kansas City (March).
- Hermesen, Joan M., and **Don E. Willis.** 2015. “Young Women's Attitudes about Future Work: The Role of Maternal Education and Employment.” Presented at the Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meetings, Kansas City (March).
- \* **Willis, Don E.** 2015 (Spring/Summer). Food Insecurity and Inequality. Missouri Scholars Academy.
- 2014 **Willis, Don E.,** and Kevin Fitzpatrick. 2014. “Resources and Relationships: Food Insecurity and Social Capital Among Middle School Students.” Presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, San Francisco (August).
- 2013 Fitzpatrick, Kevin M., **Don E. Willis,** and Gail O’Connor. 2013. “Social Class, Social Resources and Weight Status Outcomes Among Middle School Students.” Presented at the American Sociological Association Meetings, New York (August).

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

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2020 - present    **Assistant Professor – University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences – Northwest, Division of Community Health and Research**

Supervisor:        Dr. Pearl McElfish, Vice Chancellor, UAMS Northwest

Main Projects:    Vaccine Hesitancy and Uptake, statewide and national studies with nested-design to match qualitative interviews with quantitative survey data. Covid-19 testing survey. Covid-19 Impact Statewide; Covid-19 Marshallese National Sample; Covid-19 contact tracing reports to Arkansas Dept. of Health.

Responsibilities: Analyzing Data, Research Design, Writing Research Reports, Writing Peer-reviewed Publications, Dissemination of Research

2018 - 2020       **Assistant Professor – University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Sociology**

- Supervisor: Dr. Krista Lewis, Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
 Responsibilities: Analyzing Data, Writing Research Reports, Writing Peer-reviewed Publications
- 2017 - 2018 **Graduate Research Assistant – University of Missouri, Sociology**  
 Faculty: Dr. Joan Hermsen, Dr. Eileen Avery  
 Main Project: Missouri Crime Victimization Survey  
 Responsibilities: Analyzing Data, Writing Research Reports
- 2016 - 2018 **Graduate Research Assistant – University of Missouri, Women’s & Gender Studies**  
 Faculty: Dr. Joan Hermsen  
 Main Project: Motherhood Timing and Health/Wellness  
 Responsibilities: Merging and analyzing Health and Retirement Study data. Reviewing literature on the impact of parenthood timing on health in later life. Writing literature reviews and publishable manuscripts.
- 2014 – 2015 **Graduate Research Assistant – University of Missouri, Women’s & Gender Studies**  
 Faculty: Dr. Joan Hermsen  
 Main Project: Gender & Work Attitudes among Youth  
 Responsibilities: Merging and analyzing thirty years of Monitoring the Future data. Reviewing literature on youth attitudes about gender. Writing literature reviews and publishable manuscripts.
- 2014 – 2015 **Graduate Research Assistant – University of Missouri, Health Sciences**  
 Faculty: Dr. Enid Schatz  
 Main Project: Older Person’s Health and Living Arrangements in South Africa  
 Responsibilities: Merging WHO data and S. Africa Census data. Analysis. Reviewing literature. Writing literature reviews and publishable manuscripts.
- 2011 – 2013 **Graduate Research Assistant – University of Arkansas, Sociology and Criminology**  
 Faculty: Dr. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Community and Family Institute  
 Main Projects: Point-in-time Homeless Census; HOPE 2011-2012 – A Northwest Arkansas Report on Food Insecurity; Owl Creek Survey  
 Responsibilities: Research design and implementation. Data collection. Data analysis. Writing research reports and publishable manuscripts.

## TEACHING POSITIONS

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- 2021 – as needed **Affiliate Faculty – University of Arkansas – Fayetteville**  
 General Sociology SOC 2013 Fall 2021
- 2018 – 2020 **Assistant Professor – University of Arkansas – Little Rock**  
 Intro to Sociology SOC 2300 Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Summer 2019  
 Senior Capstone Seminar SOC 4387 Fall 2019  
 Urban Sociology SOC 3341 Fall 2018, Fall 2019  
 Poverty and Place SOC 4395 Spring 2019
- 2016 – 2018 **Graduate Instructor – University of Missouri**  
 Intro to Sociology (Honors) SOC 1000H Fall 2017, Spring 2017  
 Sociology of Health SOC 3440 Spring 2018  
 The Family SOC 3420 Fall 2016  
 Aging and The Life Course SOC 4210 Spring 2016
- 2013 – 2014 **Graduate Teaching Assistant – University of Missouri**  
 Social Research Methods SOC 2950 Spring 2014  
 Intro to Sociology SOC 1000 Fall 2013

Criminology	SOC 3600	Fall 2013
2012 – 2013	<b>Lab Instructor – University of Arkansas – Fayetteville</b>	
Advanced Data Analysis Lab	SOC 5311L	Spring 2013
Social Science Data Analytics Lab	SOC 3440	Fall 2012

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**GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING**

2021 – 2022	Advisee: Amber Obermaier – University of Arkansas – Fayetteville
	Role: Thesis Committee Member
2020 – 2022	Advisee: Amy Kendrick – University of Massachusetts – Lowell
	Role: Dissertation Committee Member

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**PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

2022	National Institutes of Health (NIH): An Introduction to Cross-classified, Multiple Membership, and Dynamic Group Multilevel Models (October 20)
2021	Cultural Competency Training – Marshallese STATA Mediation and Moderation Analysis STATA Automating Reproducible Research Reports UAMS Cultural Competency UAMS Implicit Bias Training
2019	Best Teachers Institute STaR Academy (Online Teaching)
2017	Professional Grant Development – Grant Training Center Social Media Research Safe Space Training
2015	Writing Intensive Courses

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**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

2013 – present	American Sociological Association – ASA
2020 – present	- Medical Sociology
2015 – 2018	- Children and Youth – ASA Section
2015 – 2018	- Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility – ASA Section
2019 – present	Coalition for Food and Agricultural Sociology (CFAS)
2018 – 2020	Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty – SHECP
	- Faculty Council Member
	- Programming Committee Member
2013 – 2020	Midwest Sociological Association
2017 – 2020	Association for the Study of Food in Society – ASFS
2017 – 2018	- Graduate Association for Food Studies – ASFS

**SERVICE – INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL, AND DISCIPLINARY SERVICE**

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**Committees**

- 2021 – 2022 Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander Interest Group for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) Against COVID-19 Disparities (2021 – 2022).
- 2021 – 2022 American Indian / Alaskan Native Interest Group for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) Against COVID-19 Disparities (2021 – 2022).

**Review Editor**

- 2022 - present *Frontiers in Environmental Health – Housing Conditions and Public Health*

**Guest Editor**

- 2022 *Nutrients*, special issue on food and nutritional insecurity

**Editorial Advisory Board**

- 2019 – present *Simulacra*

**Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer**

- 2022 – by request *PLOS ONE*
- 2022 – by request *Discover Social Science and Health*
- 2021 – by request *American Journal of Public Health*
- 2021 – by request *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*
- 2020 – by request *Nutrients*
- 2020 – by request *Journal of Appalachian Studies*
- 2019 – by request *Journal of Nutrition*
- 2019 – by request *Social Problems*
- 2018 – by request *Int. J. of Environ. Research and Public Health*
- 2017 – by request *Social Forces*
- 2017 – by request *Sociology of Education*
- 2017 – by request *Health Sociology Review*
- 2016 – by request *Appetite*

**Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty**

- 2018 – 2020 Coordinator of Poverty Studies Program
- 2018 – 2020 Faculty Council Member
- 2018 – 2020 Programming Committee Member
- 2018 Poverty Studies Syllabi Review

**Learning for Life Organization**

- 2018 – 2020 National Exploring Social Services Committee

**SERVICE – DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE, AND UNIVERSITY**

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**University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute**

2022 - Present Protocol Review and Monitoring Committee (PRMC) - Community Research Reviewer

**Department of Sociology and Anthropology**

2019 Development of Program Assessment Questionnaire

2019 Assessment Report Generated

2018-2020 UALR Sociology Club

**Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty**

2018 - 2020 Coordinator, UALR Poverty Studies Program

**Committees**

2020 CSSC Assessment Committee

2019 - 2020 CSSC Curriculum Committee

**Faculty Adviser**

2018 GENEius Club

**Trainings and Professional Development**

2019 ATLE – Internships and Service Learning

2019 ATLE – Teaching Controversial Topics

**Mentorship**

2022 - Present Junior faculty  
- Cari Bogulski, PhD

2020 - 2022 Graduate Students  
- Amy Kendrick, PhD  
- Amber Obermaier, MA

2017 Deaton Scholars  
- Callahan McAndrew

2015 – 2017 Incoming Graduate Students  
- Aaron Arredondo  
- Emily Murray

**REFERENCES**

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Email [DEWillis@uams.edu](mailto:DEWillis@uams.edu) for reference information