

Alexandra M. (Kale) Daro, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

2020 | Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE

- Dissertation: School Entry Timing: Connections between Parents' School Readiness Beliefs, Academic Redshirting, and Children's Reading Achievement (using ECLS-K(2011))

2018 | M.A. in Developmental Psychology from University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE

- Thesis: An Analysis of the Components of Dialogic Reading

2008 | B.A. in Psychology from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL

EMPLOYMENT

2023 – current | Research Scientist, Buffett Early Childhood Institute

2020 – 2023 | Research Specialist, Buffett Early Childhood Institute

2015 – 2020 | Graduate Research Assistant, Buffett Early Childhood Institute

2014 – 2015 | Part-Time Instructor, Dept. of Psychology, Univ of Nebraska at Omaha

2011 – 2013 | Graduate Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Psychology, Univ of Nebraska at Omaha

FELLOWSHIPS

2021-2022 | Policy Fellow, Nebraska Academy for Early Childhood Research

CURRENT PROJECTS

Nebraska Preschool Development Grants Needs Assessment

2020 - 2021 | Research Specialist

2021 – current | Co-Principal Investigator

Nebraska Child Care Market Rate Survey

2020 - 2022 | Research Specialist

2022 – 2024 | Co-Principal Investigator

2024 – Current | Principal Investigator

Collaboration with the National Workforce Registry Alliance

2023 – current | Research Scientist

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Publications:

Roberts, A., **Daro, A.M.**, & Gallagher, K. (2023). Profiles of well-being among early childhood educators. *Early Education and Development*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10409289.2023.2173463>

Chadwell, M.R., Roberts, A.M., & **Daro, A.M.** (2019). Ready to teach all children? Unpacking early childhood educators' feelings of preparedness for working with children with disabilities. *Early Education and Development*. doi: 10.1080/10409289.2019.1621584

Roberts, A.M., Gallagher, K.C., **Daro, A.M.**, Iruka, I.U., & Sarver, S.L. (2019). Workforce well-being: Personal and workforce contributions to early educators' depression across settings. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 61, 4-12. doi: 10.1016/j.appdev.2017.09.007

In Progress Manuscripts:

- Bosire, J. P. O., Gallagher, K.C., & **Daro, A.M.** (Revise and Resubmit). Impact of COVID-19 on the Well-being of Parents with Young Children from Under-Resourced Backgrounds: A Qualitative Study. Submitted to the Journal of Child and Family Studies.
- Daro, A.M.** (submitted). Teachers' efficacy and job satisfaction predicting student achievement in Colombian students. Submitted to the Journal of Latino/Latin American Studies.
- Daro, A.M.** (in preparation). Patterns in parents' ratings of school readiness beliefs: Connections to academic redshirting.
- Daro, A.M.** (in preparation). Accessing the Promise and the Purpose: Parents' Perspectives on Access to Early Care and Education.
- Bosire, J.P.O., **Daro, A.M.**, Gallagher, K.C., & Caddell, K. (Revise and Resubmit). Expanding the child care table of influence: Reaching under-resourced families to understand their needs and barriers to accessing early childhood care and education. Children and Youth Services Review.
- Daro, A.M.**, Cunningham, K.M., Sutton, K., Thompson, P., & Gallagher, K. (Manuscript under review). Beyond compensation: Burnout, intent to leave, and ECE workforce wellbeing.
- Daro, A.M.**, Welch, G.W., Belcher-Badal, K., & Mayfield, W. (Manuscript under review). The perfect pairing: Utilizing state workforce registries and targeted surveys to investigate workforce wellbeing.

Reports and Briefs:

- Bosire, J., **Daro, A. M.**, Roberts, T., & Gallagher, K. C. (2024). "Love for children and patience:" Voices of Nebraska's parents of young children. Retrieved from <https://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/resources/reports-publications>
- Daro, A.**, Welch, G.W., & Bryant, V. (2022). 2023 Nebraska Child Care Market Rate Survey. University of Nebraska: Buffett Early Childhood Institute. Retrieved from: <https://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/-/media/beci/docs/2023-market-rate-survey-report-spreads-final.pdf>
- Daro, A.**, Gallagher, K.C., & Cunningham, K.M. (2022). The Nebraska COVID-19 Early Care and Education Provider Survey III: Holding it together—and hanging by a thread. Retrieved from Buffett Institute website: <https://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/resources/covid-19>
- Welch, G.W., Svoboda, E.A., **Daro, A.**, Bryant, V., & Glissmeyer, C. (2021). 2021 Nebraska Child Care Market Rate Survey. University of Nebraska: Buffett Early Childhood Institute. Retrieved from: <https://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/-/media/beci/docs/2021-market-rate-survey-report-final-spreads.pdf?la=en>
- Daro, A.**, & Gallagher, K. (2020). The Nebraska COVID-19 early care and education provider survey II: Experiences, economic impact, and ongoing needs. "Things are starting to take a toll." Retrieved from <https://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/-/media/beci/docs/provider-survey-2-080420-final.pdf?la=en>
- Gallagher, K., Roberts, A., Garrett, A., Sutton, K., & **Daro, A.** (2020). Wages and well-being in Educare and Omaha Early Learning Centers.
- Welch, G.W., Svoboda, E., Garrett, A., Gallagher, K., Goldberg, M., & **Daro, A.** (2019). Nebraska child care market rate survey report. Retrieved from: <https://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/resources/reports-publications>

Roberts, A.M., Gallagher, K.C., **Daro, A.M.**, Iruka, I.U., & Sarver, S.L. (2019). Risk factors for depression among early childhood teachers. Retrieved from: <https://buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/-/media/beci/docs/jadp-research-brief-4-8-19.pdf?la=en>

Roberts, A.M., Gallagher, K.C., Sarver, S.L., & **Daro, A.M.** (2018). Early Childhood Teacher Turnover in Nebraska. Retrieved from: https://issuu.com/buffettearlychildhoodinstitute/docs/early_childhood_staff_turnover_in_n

Textbook Entries:

Daro, A.M. & Ammons, S.K. (2020). Work-Family Conflict. In R. Summers, C. Golden, L. Lashley, & E. Ailes (Eds.) Essays in Developmental Psychology. Retrieved from <https://www.assessmentpsychologyboard.org/edp>

Daro, A.M. & Ryalls, B.O. (2020). Dynamic Systems Theory: Smith and Thelen. In R. Summers, C. Golden, L. Lashley, & E. Ailes (Eds.) Essays in Developmental Psychology. Retrieved from <https://www.assessmentpsychologyboard.org/edp>

Daro, A.M. & Santo, J.B. (2020). Wimmer and Perner 1983. In R. Summers, C. Golden, L. Lashley, & E. Ailes (Eds.) Essays in Developmental Psychology. Retrieved from <https://www.assessmentpsychologyboard.org/edp>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

Presentations:

First Author:

Daro, A.M., Bass, K., Welch, G. W., Huddleston-Casas, C., & Baumfalk, B. (submitted). One step at a time: Nebraska's progress toward subsidy reimbursement informed by cost of care. Part of the panel Innovations in subsidized child care policy: The case of California, District of Columbia, and Nebraska. Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management 2024 Fall Conference.

Daro, A.M., Thompson, P. J., Sutton, K., Cunningham, K. M., & Gallagher, K. C. (April 2024). Beyond compensation: Burnout, intent to leave, and ECE workforce wellbeing. Presented at the 2024 CYFS Summit on Research in Early Childhood, Lincoln, NE.

Daro, A.M. & Svoboda, E. (Accepted). Valuing provider perspectives: Merging narrative and numeric data. Part of the panel on Mixed and Interpretivist Research Methods in Early Care and Education. To be presented at the 16th International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, May 2020, Urbana, IL.*

Kale, A.M., Bower, A., Giles, H., Stone, T., Santo, J.B., & Bukowski, W.M. (July 2012). Understanding Early Adolescent General Self-Worth: Sex Differences in the Association of Gender Roles and Body Image. Presented at the 22nd International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

*Canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Non-First Author:

Bosire, J.P.O., Gallagher, K., & **Daro, A.** (March 2023) Impact of COVID-19 on the Well-being of Parents with Young Children: A Qualitative Study. Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development's biennial meeting.

Bosire, J.P.O., Caddell, K., **Daro, A.**, & Gallagher, K. (March 2023). Reflections from Under-resourced Populations' Needs and Barriers Accessing Early Childhood Care and Education. Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development's biennial meeting.

- Gallagher, K., & **Daro, A.** (April 2021). Shifting Child Care Policy through Rapid Research Methods: COVID-19's Impact in Nebraska. Paper presented as part of the symposium Rapid, Responsive, Relevant Research for Childcare: The Ecology of COVID-19. Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development's biennial meeting.
- Roberts, A., **Daro, A.**, & Gallagher, K. (April 2021). A Person-Centered Approach to Early Childhood Professionals' Well-being. Paper presented as part of the symposium A Holistic Approach to Early Childhood Educators' Well-being and Work Environments. Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development's biennial meeting.
- Eum, J., Bragg, S., **Daro, A.**, Sarver, S., & Iruka, I. (April 2016). Findings for Nebraska Early Childhood Workforce Survey. Presented at the CYFS Summit on Research in Early Childhood, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Lincoln, NE.

Posters:

First Author:

- Daro, A.** Cunningham, C., Sutton, K., Thompson, P., & Gallagher, K. (accepted). Beyond compensation: Burnout, intent to leave, and Head Start professionals' experiences of wellbeing. National Research Conference on Early Childhood (NRCEC) 2024.
- Daro, A.**, Welch, G., Belcher-Badal, K., & Mayfield, W. (accepted). Utilizing state workforce registries and target surveys to investigate workforce wellbeing. National Research Conference on Early Childhood (NRCEC) 2024.
- Daro, A.** (April 2021). Connections between Parents' School Readiness Beliefs and Academic Redshirting. Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development's biennial meeting.
- Daro, A.** (April 2018). An Analysis of the Components of Dialogic Reading. Presented at the CYFS Summit on Research in Early Childhood, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Lincoln, NE.
- Kale Daro, A.**, Bower, A., Giles, H., Santo, J.B., & Bukowski, W.M. (April 2013). Understanding early adolescent felt gender pressure: Sex differences in the association to appearance and help pressure. Presented at the 35th Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, WA.
- Kale, A.M.**, Bower, A., Giles, H., Santo, J.B., & Bukowski, W.M. (February 2012). Understanding Early Adolescent General Self-Worth: Sex Differences in the Association of Gender Roles and Body Image. Presented at the 4th Student Research and Creative Activity Fair, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE.

Non-first Author:

- Roberts, A., Gallagher, K., **Daro, A.**, Iruka, I., & Sarver, S. (April 2018). Personal and Workplace contributors to Teachers' Depression across Early Childhood Settings. Presentation at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY.
- Chadwell, M., Roberts, A., & **Daro, A.** (2017, October). Early childhood educators' preparedness for working with children with disabilities: Contributing factors. Poster presented at DEC Conference on Young Children with Disabilities and Their Families, Portland, OR.

SERVICE

Supervision of Graduate Research Assistants

- 4 total beginning in 2020
- Distribution of work tasks
- Mentoring

Ad Hoc Reviewer for the following journals:

- Early Education and Development
- Early Childhood Research Quarterly
- International Journal of Child Care and Education Policy
- Journal of Early Childhood Research
- Educational Psychology

Reviewer for the following conferences:

- American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)
- National Research Conference on Early Childhood (NRCEC)

Reviewer for the following grants:

- OPRE's Secondary Analyses of Child Care Data Grants

Internal Committee Participation

- Hiring Committees
- Employee Engagement Committee

MEMBERSHIPS

American Educational Research Association (AERA): 2020 to present

Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD): 2020 to present

American Evaluation Association (AEA): 2023 to present

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NSECE Virtual Training on Linking Administrative Data

July 2018

AERA-VRLS Course: Introduction to Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

June 2020

CILVR short course on Analysis of Complex Survey Data (from NCES)

December 2020

CILVR short course on Questionnaire Item Writing

February 2023

Propensity Score (AEA 2023)

October 2023

Transformative Mixed Methods (AEA 2023)

October 2023

DAIS (AEA 2023)

October 2023

Secondary Data in Mixed Methods

March 2024

STATISTICS

Relevant Coursework Taken:

- University of Nebraska at Omaha
 - PSYC 9010: Regression
 - PSYC 9020: ANOVA
 - PSYC 9120: Multivariate Statistic Analysis
 - PSYC 9320: Program Evaluation
 - PSYC 9510: Research Methods in Developmental Psychology
 - PSYC 9650: Research Methods in Psychology

- GERO 8356: Structural Equation Modeling