

## **EDUCATIONAL- PROFESSIONAL VITA**

**2016**

**MARIA A. SHIELDS LEVI-MINZI, M.A.**

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### **EDUCATION**

- 2016 (Exp) Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL  
Doctor of Philosophy, Marriage and Family Therapy
- 2007 Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA  
Master of Arts, Mental Health Counseling
- 2002 State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Social Science

### **HONORS**

- 2014 ARSH Early Career Investigator Award
- 2013 NIDA Women & Sex/Gender Junior Investigator Travel Award
- 2002 Psi Chi Honor Society in Psychology
- 2000 St. John's University Women in Science Award

### **EXPERIENCE**

#### **Academic**

- 2011- Senior Research Associate  
Center for Applied Research on Substance Use and Health Disparities,  
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- 2009-2011 Research Associate II  
Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware,  
Coral Gables, FL
- 2009-2010 Research Associate I  
Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware  
Coral Gables, FL

2009-2010 Graduate Assistant  
Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences,  
Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL

2008-2009 Research Specialist  
Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware  
Coral Gables, FL

2007-2008 Research Assistant  
Department of Psychology, University of Miami, Miami, FL

2006- 2007 Independent Qualitative Research Study  
The Development of Self Esteem among Chronic Patients: A  
Psychoeducational Group Approach  
Lynch School of Education, Counseling, Developmental and Educational  
Psychology, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

2005-2007 Research Assistant  
Lynch School of Education, Counseling, Developmental and Educational  
Psychology, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

2005-2006 ROAD (Reaching Out About Depression) Volunteer Advocate  
ROAD Research Project  
Lynch School of Education, Counseling, Developmental and Educational  
Psychology, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA

2002 Teacher's Assistant  
Department of Sociology,  
State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY

2000-2001 Research Assistant  
Family Violence Lab, Department of Psychology,  
State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY

## **Research**

2015- Statistician/Project Evaluator, "Pediatric Dentistry and AEGD Residency  
Collaborative on Autism Spectrum Disorder," Health Resources and  
Service Administration (D88HP20126, Romer Ocanto, PI).

2015- Co-Investigator, "Evaluation of SAMHSA Targeted Capacity Expansion  
Program: Substance Abuse Tx for Minorities at High-Risk for HIV,"  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
(5H79TI024444-03, Stacey Hyde, PI).

2015- Research Associate, "Informal Markets for Antiretroviral Medications  
Used for HIV Prevention," President's Faculty Research Development  
Grant, Nova Southeastern University (Mance E. Buttram, PI)

2014- Senior Research Associate, "Cross-National Survey of Pharmaceutical

Diversion,” Denver Health and Hospital Authority (Steven P. Kurtz, PI).

- 2013-2014 Senior Research Associate, “The Diversion of Antiretroviral Medications to Street Markets,” National Institute on Drug Abuse (R01DA023157, Hilary L. Surratt, PI).
- 2012-2013 Senior Research Associate, “Case Management Alternatives for African American Women at High Risk for HIV,” National Institute on Drug Abuse (R01-DA013131; Hilary L. Surratt, PI).
- 2011-2012 Project Director, “The Diversion of Antiretroviral Medications to Street Markets,” National Institute on Drug Abuse (R01DA023157, Hilary L. Surratt, PI).
- 2009-2011 Project Director, “Understanding the Scope and Magnitude of Prescription Drug Diversion,” National Institute on Drug Abuse, (R01 DA021330, Steven P. Kurtz, PI)

### **Grants**

- Submitted but not funded Brief Narrative Stigma Reduction Intervention for Marginalized HIV Positive Women,” National Institute of Mental Health. Direct costs: \$335,000

### **Clinical**

- 2015- Therapist, Fresh Start Life Solutions  
Davie, FL
- 2014- Behavioral Specialist, Flipany (Florida Introduces Physical Activity and Nutrition to Youth), Healthy Kids Broward / Kids THRIVE program  
Wilton Manors, FL
- 2014-2015 Internship: Sunrise Middle School  
Fort Lauderdale, FL
- 2013-2016 Graduate Student Family Therapist  
Brief Therapy Institute, Nova Southeastern University
- 2007-2008 Youth Therapist, Family Intervention Team  
Henderson Mental Health Center, Fort Lauderdale, FL
- 2006-2007 Internship  
Schiff Day Treatment Center  
Cambridge, MA
- 2007 Summer Mental Health Worker  
Schiff Day Treatment Center  
Cambridge, MA
- 2006 Summer Mental Health Worker  
Schiff Day Treatment Center

Cambridge, MA

2002-2005 Educator  
Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Hempstead, NY

2002-2005 New York State Certified SAFER (Survivor Advocate for Emergency  
Rooms) Volunteer Advocate  
Nassau County, NY

### **Editorial**

Reviewer *AIDS and Behavior; Drug and Alcohol Dependence; The Qualitative  
Report; Journal of Adolescent Health; AIDS Care; The Journal of  
Adolescent Health*

Guest Editor *Biomed Research International*

2009 Independent Contractor  
McGraw Hill Publishing Company, Education Division, New York, NY

2008 Independent Contractor  
McGraw Hill Publishing Company, Education Division New York, NY

2004 Assistant to the Editor  
Journal of Infant, Child, and Adolescent Psychotherapy

### **Memberships**

American Psychological Association  
American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy  
College on Problems of Drug Dependence  
International Women's (InWomen's) and Children's Health and Gender Group

### **Certifications**

State of Florida Registered Intern, Mental Health Counseling  
CFARS (Children's Functional Assessment Rating Scale)  
CITI certified in The Protection of Human Research Subjects

### **Publications**

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Surratt, H.L., O'Grady, C.L., Kurtz, S.P. (2016). Finding What Works:  
Predicting Health or Social Service Linkage in Drug Using, African American Female Sex  
Workers in Miami, FL. *Health Care for Women International*. [online ahead of print] doi:  
10.1080/07399332.2016.1158262

Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Chen, M. (2015). "Environmental influences on HIV  
medication adherence: The role of neighborhood disorder." *American Journal of Public Health*,  
105(8), 1660-1666. doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2015.302612

Surratt, H.L., O'Grady, C.L., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Kurtz, S.P. (2015). "Medication adherence challenges among HIV positive substance abusers: The role of food and housing insecurity," *AIDS Care*, 27(3), 307-314. doi: 10.1080/09540121.2014.967656

Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Cicero, T.J., Tsuyuki, K., O'Grady, C.L. (2015). "Pain treatment and antiretroviral medication adherence among vulnerable HIV-positive patients," *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*, 29(4), 186-192. doi: 10.1089/apc.2014.0104

Tsuyuki, K., Surratt, H.L., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, O'Grady, C. L., Kurtz, S.K. (2015). "The demand for antiretroviral drugs in the illicit marketplace: Implications for HIV disease management among vulnerable populations." *AIDS and Behavior*, 19(5), 857-868. doi: 10.1007/s10461-014-0856-2

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, & Surratt, H.L. (2014). "HIV stigma among substance abusing people living with HIV/AIDS: Implications for HIV treatment," *AIDS Patient Care and STDs*, 28(8), 1-10. doi: 10.1089/apc.2014.0076

Surratt, H.L., O'Grady, C.L., Kurtz, S.P., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Chen, M. (2014). "Outcomes of a behavioral intervention to reduce HIV risk among drug-involved female sex workers." *AIDS and Behavior*, 18(4), 726-739. doi: 10.1007/s10461-014-0723-1

Surratt, H. L., O'Grady, C.L., Kurtz, S.P., Buttram, M.E., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2014). "HIV testing and engagement in care among highly vulnerable female sex workers: Implications for Treatment as Prevention Models," *Journal of Health Care for the Poor & Underserved*, 25, 3(3), 1360-1378. doi: 10.1353/hpu.2014.0113

O'Grady, C.L., Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2014). "Nonmedical prescription drug users in private vs. public substance abuse treatment: A cross sectional comparison of demographic and HIV risk behavior profiles". *Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy*, 9(9). doi: 10.1186/1747-597X-9-9

Buttram, M.E., Kurtz, S.P., Surratt, H.L., & **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2014). "Health and social problems associated with prescription opioid misuse among a sample of substance-using MSM." *Substance Use & Misuse*, 49(3), 277-284. doi: 10.3109/10826084.2013.828754

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., Buttram, M.E. (2013). "The under treatment of pain: A prescription for opioid misuse among the elderly?" *Pain Medicine*. 14(11), 1719-1729. doi: 10.1111/pme.12189

Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P., Cicero, T.J., O'Grady, C., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2013). "Antiretroviral Medication Diversion among HIV-positive Substance Abusers in South Florida." *American Journal of Public Health*, 103(6), 1026-1028. doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2012.301092

Kurtz, S.P., Surratt, H.L., Buttram, M.E., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Chen, M. (2013). "Interview as intervention: The case of young adult multidrug users in the club scene." *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 44(3), 301-308. doi: 10.1016/j.jsat.2012.08.004

Ibanez, G.I., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Rigg, K.K., Mooss, A.D. (2013). "Diversion of Benzodiazepines through Healthcare Sources." *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 48(1), 48-56. doi: 10.1080/02791072.2013.764232

Cicero, T. J., Kurtz, S.P., Surratt, H.L., Ibanez, G.E., Ellis, M., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Inciardi, J.A.

(2011). "Multiple Determinants of Specific Modes of Prescription Opioid Diversion." *Journal of Drug Issues* 41(2), 283-304.

Kurtz, S. P., Surratt, H.L., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** & Mooss, A. (2011). "Benzodiazepine dependence among multidrug users in the club scene." *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 119(1-2), 99-105. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2011.05.036

Levi-Minzi, M., & **Shields, M. A.** (2007). "Serial sexual murderers and prostitutes as their victims: Difficulty profiling perpetrators and victim vulnerability as illustrated by the Green River Case." *Brief Treatment and Crisis Intervention*, 7(1), 77-89.

## **Presentations**

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, O'Grady, C.L., Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P. (2015). *Examining the relationship between social context and prescription opioid initiation routes among young adults entering detoxification*. Poster presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-seventh Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona, June 13-18.

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Tsuyuki, K., Surratt, H.L. (2015). *Risk and Protective Factors Associated with ARV Adherence among Aging, Indigent, Substance Abusing People Living with HIV*. Paper presented at the HIV/AIDS Workgroup at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-seventh Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona, June 13-18.

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Tsuyuki, K., Surratt, H.L. (2015). *Risk and Protective Factors Associated with ARV Adherence among Aging, Indigent, Substance Abusing People Living with HIV*. Poster presented at the Nova Southeastern University GREAT GEC's 2015 Interprofessional Geriatrics Training Institute, Fort Lauderdale, FL, April 30-May 1.

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P. (2015). *The Use of Qualitative Research in Large Quantitative Studies: Capturing the Subtleties*. Paper presented at the TQR Sixth Annual Conference, Fort Lauderdale, FL, January 8-10.

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Surratt, H.L. (2014). *HIV stigma among substance abusing Indigent PLWHA: Implications for HIV treatment and ARV adherence*. Paper presented at the Ryan White Service Provider Forum, Miami, Florida, October 28, 2014.

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Surratt, H.L. (2014). *HIV stigma among substance abusing PLWH: Implications for HIV treatment, ARV adherence and diversion*. Poster presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-sixth Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 14-19.

Tsuyuki, K., Surratt, H.L., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, O'Grady, C. L. (2014). *Who in the world buys ARVs on the black market? The impact of drug use and ARV diversion on adherence*. Poster presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-sixth Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 14-19.

Chenail, R.J., Ilic, D., **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2014). *Focusing on focus in solution-focused brief therapy*. Presentation at the 2014 Solution-Focused Expo, Orlando, FL, February 14-16.

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.**, Surratt, H.L. & Kurtz, S.P. (2013). *Sex trading, substance abuse, and mental health problems among indigent HIV positive women: Implications for HIV treatment*,

*adherence, and diversion.* Poster presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, June 16-20.

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.,** Surratt, H.L. & Kurtz, S.P. (2013). *Sex trading, substance abuse, and mental health problems among indigent HIV positive women: Implications for HIV treatment, adherence, and diversion.* Poster presented at the International Women's and Children's Health and Gender Working Group (InWomen), San Diego, CA, June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2013). *A Case for Systemic Interventions for Schizophrenia.* Paper presented at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences Winter Interdepartmental Symposium, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL, February 10.

**Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2013). *Under treatment of pain: A prescription for opioid misuse among the elderly?* Paper presented at the Faculty Symposium, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL, February 7.

O'Grady, C.L., Surratt, H.L., Kurtz, S.P. & **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2012). *HIV risk behaviors among nonmedical prescription drug users in public and private substance abuse treatment facilities.* Poster presented at the XIX International AIDS Conference AIDS 2012, Washington, DC, July 21-26.

Kurtz, S.P., Surratt, H.L., Cicero, T.J., Ibañez, G.E., & **Levi-Minzi, M.A.** (2011). *Sources of diverted prescription opioids among a diverse sample of abusers in South Florida.* Paper presented at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence Seventy-third Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, June 19-23.

**Shields, M. A.,** Ibanez, G. E., Rigg, K., Inciardi, J. A., Surratt, H. A., & Kurtz, S. P. (2009). *The Life and Times of the Prescription Drug Abuser.* Paper presented at the American Psychological Association Convention, Toronto, CA, August 6-9.

**Shields, M. A.,** Ibanez, G. E., Rigg, K., Inciardi, J. A., Surratt, H. A., & Kurtz, S. P. (2009). *Nature of Diversion Activities Among Prescription Drug Dealers.* Paper presented at the American Psychological Association Convention, Toronto, CA, August 6-9.

**Shields, M. A.,** Inciardi, J. A., Surratt, H. A., Kurtz, S. P., & Ibanez, G. E. (2008). *Understanding the scope and magnitude of prescription drug diversion.* Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology, St. Louis, Missouri, November 13-16.