

OHJAE GOWEN (권오재)

Department of Sociology
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- EMPLOYMENT** Assistant Professor of Sociology, Seoul National University, 2025–Present.
Assistant Professor of Sociology, Singapore Management University, 2024–25.
- EDUCATION** Ph.D., Sociology, Harvard University, 2024.
Dissertation: “The Rigidity of Men’s Work and Family Lives and the Making of Gender Inequality.”
Committee: Mary C. Brinton (co-chair), Alexandra Killewald (co-chair), David Pedulla, Xiang Zhou.
A.M., Sociology, Harvard University, 2021.
M.A., Sociology, Seoul National University, 2017.
B.A., Sociology, Seoul National University, 2015.
Minor in Western History; *summa cum laude*.
- RESEARCH INTERESTS** Family, social demography, gender, work and employment, labor markets, social stratification, quantitative methods.
- PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS** Han, Sinn Won, **Ohjae Gowen**, and Mary C. Brinton. 2024. “When Mothers Do It All: Gender-Role Norms and Women’s Fertility Intentions in Postindustrial Societies.” *European Sociological Review* 40(2): 309–325. [doi:10.1093/esr/jcad036](https://doi.org/10.1093/esr/jcad036).
Nominee, The 2025 Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research.
Gowen, Ohjae. 2023. “Becoming a Father, Staying a Father: An Examination of the Cumulative Fatherhood Wage Premium to U.S. Residential Fathers.” *Social Forces* 102(2): 475–495. [doi:10.1093/sf/soad066](https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soad066).
2024 Winner, ASA Sociology of Population Section Student Paper Award.
2024 Winner, ASA Section on Aging & the Life Course Graduate Student Paper Award.
Gowen, Ohjae, Ethan Fosse, and Christopher Winship. 2023. “Cross-Group Differences in Age, Period, and Cohort Effects: A Bounding Approach to the Gender Wage Gap.” *Sociological Science* 10: 731–768. [doi:10.15195/v10.a26](https://doi.org/10.15195/v10.a26).
Kim, Seokho, Hongjung Kim, Sangkyu Lee, Eunji Kim, and **Ohjae Gowen**. 2018. “Lack of Dream-Capital among Korean Youths: Rationally Chosen or Culturally Forbidden?” *Development and Society* 47(3): 347–370.
- WORK IN PROGRESS** **Gowen, Ohjae**. “Career, Children, or Neither? Fathers’ Housework and Mothers’ Work-Family Arrangements Following First Birth in the United States.”
Gowen, Ohjae. “Deinstitutionalizing Overwork and Women in the Workplace.”
Gowen, Ohjae and Sinn Won Han. “Marriageable Family? Parental Wealth and Marriage in South Korea.”
Han, Sinn Won, **Ohjae Gowen**, and Senhu Wang. “Marriage Under Constraint: How Unmarried Young Adults Evaluate Structural Barriers in Japan and South Korea.”
Gowen, Ohjae, Senhu Wang, and Sinn Won Han. “Family-of-Origin Status and Mate Selection Preferences: Cross-National Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment.”

Ciocca Eller, Christina, Natasha Quadlin, **Ohjae Gowen**, and Jen-Chen Chao. “The Economic Returns to ‘Some’ College: Heterogeneous Higher Education Pathways and Inequality in Early Careers.”

OTHER
RESEARCH
PROJECTS

Developing the Urban Quality Index (PI: Im, Dong-Kyun).

Undergraduate Students’ Gender Perceptions and Attitudes (PI: Kwon, Hyunji).

“Changing Family and Gender Attitudes in South Korea, 2005–2025” in the 80th Anniversary of National Liberation Public Opinion Survey (PI: Kim, Seokho).

CONFERENCES,
INVITED TALKS,
& WORKSHOPS

“Family-of-Origin Status and Mate Selection Preferences: Cross-National Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment.”

Research on East Asian Demography and Inequality (READI), 2026 Annual meeting (Hong Kong).

“Marriage Under Constraint: How Unmarried Young Adults Evaluate Structural Barriers in Japan and South Korea.”

Korean Sociological Association, 2026 Spring meeting (Busan).

“Marriageable Family? Parental Wealth and Marriage in South Korea”

Population Association of Singapore, 2025 Annual meeting (NTU).

Research on East Asian Demography and Inequality (READI), 2025 Annual meeting (Seoul).

“Deinstitutionalizing Overwork and Women in the Workplace”

Population Association of America, 2024 Annual meeting (Columbus).

Work and Family Researchers Network, 2024 Conference (Montreal).

ISA RC28, 2024 Summer meeting (Providence).

Social Stratification and Mobility Study Workshop, 2024 (UTokyo).

Korean Sociological Association, 2024 Winter meeting (Seoul).

Center for Family and Population Research, National University of Singapore, 2025.

Institute of Social Research, Korea University, 2025 (remote).

Graduate student organization-led workshop series, Department of Sociology, Seoul National University, 2026.

“Career, Children, or Neither? Fathers’ Housework and Mothers’ Work-Family Arrangements Following First Birth in the United States”

Population Association of America, 2023 Annual meeting (New Orleans).

ISA RC28, 2023 Summer meeting (Ann Arbor).

American Sociological Association, 2023 Annual meeting (Philadelphia).

Department of Sociology, Brown University, 2023.

Nuffield College, Oxford University, 2023 (remote).

Korea Inequality Research Network Colloquium, 2024 (remote).

“The Economic Returns to ‘Some’ College: Heterogeneous Higher Education Pathways and Inequality in Early Careers”

Population Association of America, 2022 Annual meeting (Atlanta).

“Becoming a Father, Staying a Father: An Examination of the Cumulative Fatherhood Wage Premium to U.S. Residential Fathers”

HONORS,
FELLOWSHIPS,
& AWARDS

Guest speaker for “Social Inequalities/Social Justice” (Prof. Felipe Dias), Department of Sociology, Tufts University, 2023.
 Guest speaker for “Men, Women, and Work” (Prof. Mary C. Brinton), Department of Sociology, Harvard University, 2021.
 Social Demography Seminar, Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Harvard University, 2021.
 Korea Inequality Research Network, 2021 Annual Symposium.
 The New Faculty Startup Fund, Seoul National University, 2025–27.
 Faculty Start-Up Grant, School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University, 2024–25.
 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, GSAS, Harvard University, 2024.
 Travel Grant, The Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University, 2023.
 Student Forum Travel Fund, American Sociological Association, 2023.
 Dissertation Writing Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, 2022.
 Student Scholarship, Seoul National University Alumni Association of New England, 2022.
 GSAS Division of Social Sciences Fund, Harvard University, 2022.
 Travel Grant, GSAS Graduate Student Council, Harvard University, 2022.
 Doctoral Study Abroad Fellowship, Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies, 2017–2024.
 Hakbong National Prize for Outstanding Research, Seoul National University School of Law, 2017.
 Sang-Back Award for the Best Senior Thesis, Department of Sociology, Seoul National University, 2015.

TEACHING

Seoul National University, Department of Sociology
 “Research Practicum in Sociological Methodology: Quantitative Methods” (Graduate).
 “Sociological Research Design” (Graduate).
 “Generations and Social Change” (Undergraduate).

Singapore Management University, School of Social Sciences
 “Research Methods in Sociology and Political Science” (Undergraduate).
 “Social Stratification and Inequality” (Undergraduate).

Korea Social Science Data Archive Methodology Workshop (KOSSDA)
 “Categorical Data Analysis” (5-day intensive workshop).

SERVICE

Seoul National University
 Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Sociology, 2026–
 Associate Director, Education Division, Korea Social Science Data Archive (KOSSDA), 2026–
 Research Cluster 2 Coordinator, Department of Sociology, 2026–

Population Association of Singapore (PAS)
 2025 Annual Meeting Organizing Committee (member).

American Sociological Association
 Sociology of Population Section 2025 Student Paper Award Committee (member).

Ad-hoc Reviewer

American Journal of Sociology, Social Forces, Demography, Research in Social Stratification and Mobility, Population Research and Policy Review, Socio-Economic Review, Chinese Sociological Review, Journal of Family Research, Journal of Comparative Family Studies, Sociology Compass, Korean Journal of Sociology, Korean Journal of Population Studies.

PROFESSIONAL
AFFILIATIONS

Seoul National University

Affiliated Researcher, Institute of Gender Research, 2026–Present.

Korean Sociological Association

Board Member, International Committee, 2026.

Korean Family Studies Association

Board Member, 2026.

Professional Organizations

Korean Sociological Association, Population Association of Korea, Korean Inequality Research Network, Research on East Asian Demography and Inequality, Population Association of America, Population Association of Singapore, ISA RC 28 (Social Stratification and Mobility).

LANGUAGES
& SKILLS

English (fluent), Korean (native).
R, Stata.