

# Leesh Menard

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## EDUCATION

**Columbia University**, New York, NY August 2021 - Anticipated May 2026  
Ph.D. in Social Work, Policy Focus

- Overall GPA: 4.00/4.00

**Columbia University**, New York, NY August 2021 - Anticipated May 2023  
Master in Social Work, Policy Focus

- Overall GPA: 4.00/4.00

**Vassar College**, Poughkeepsie, NY August 2014 - May 2018  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology & Sociology

- Honors: Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society
- Senior Thesis: An Exploration of Biracial Racialization, Social Conditioning, & Self-Esteem

## RELEVANT SKILLS

- Experience with RCTs
- Advanced proficiency in SPSS and R-Studio
- Advanced Proficiency in Adobe Acrobat
- Experience with IRB applications and protocols
- Experience surveying, interviewing, and collecting data
- Experience with both quantitative and qualitative data
- Organizational skills
- Attention to detail
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Excellent ability to multitask and prioritize
- Supervision experience
- Extensive experience conducting and writing literature reviews

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

Proficiency: SPSS, RDC, RAVE iMedidata, REDCap, Qualtrics, Adobe Acrobat, Microsoft Office (Word, Power Point, Excel, Access), Google Suite, Mac OS, and Windows OS

Elementary Proficiency: R

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Research Assistant**, Columbia University – New York, NY August 2022 – Present

- Support research projects related to transgender Medicaid utilization for gender-affirming care, LGBTQ+ health and health care policy, poverty, and MSW curriculum development for psychedelic therapies
- Conduct literature reviews, conduct data analysis, prepare grants, complete scientific writing, and prepare presentations

**Research Assistant**, GLSEN – New York, NY January 2022 – Present

- Conduct basic quantitative and qualitative data analysis for the National School Climate Survey (NSCS), a nationwide survey on LGBTQ+ youth and bias in K-12 schools
- Write, edit and proofread research reports, briefs, and other materials for internal and external audiences, including key sections of the 2021 National School Climate Survey (NSCS)
- Collaborate on the creation of a survey instrument for a study focusing on discrimination against LGBTQ+ parents in schools
- Develop research materials that can be used in education policy efforts surrounding issues of equity and bias for LGBTQ+ youth in K-12 schools, including 42 individualized State Snapshots
- Conduct background research and write comprehensive literature reviews for various projects

- Monitor data collection and demographics of participants; continuously develop and carry out new recruitment strategies for under-represented participants

**Research Consultant, Seeking Asylum & Finding Empowerment (SAFE) – New York, NY** March 2022 – August 2022

- Worked with client to develop an LGBTQ+ immigrant community needs assessment (Queer Immigrant Survey)
- Provided advice on the content and format of the survey
- Developed interface for survey questions and responses, including paper and electronic input and collection, QR codes, and other methods to maximize response
- Identified and communicated with community partners

**Study Coordinator, Albert Einstein College of Medicine – Bronx, NY** February 2020 – May 2021

- Co-authored a paper on the effects of early infant probiotic supplementation on eczema, asthma, and rhinitis
- Developed study protocol and protocol amendments for IRB, including the development of new measures
- Managed data collection, analysis, and cleaning and performed regular audits for a variety of research projects, including a RCT, a longitudinal study, and a retrospective chart review study
- Created progress reports for the PI, study funding agencies, and the IRB
- Prepared conference abstracts, oral presentations, and poster presentations; represented the studies at internal and external academic meetings and community events
- Assisted in the development of databases, data coding manuals, and data entry guidelines
- Recruited, acclimated, and supervised undergraduate student research interns

**Research Assistant, Lehman College – Bronx, NY** January 2019 – February 2020

- Collected, input, and analyzed data focused on homelessness, poverty, and discrimination and the impact of these issues on at-risk youth and families
- Collaborated on and co-authored presentations and papers
- Conducted background research and wrote comprehensive literature reviews
- Recruited participants and conducted city-based data collection by visiting shelters and canvassing New York
- Coordinated with IRB and DoE to ensure compliance with external and internal policies and regulations
- Generated and prepared surveys
- Performed various administrative tasks, such as coordinating schedules and managing expenses

**Research Fellow, GLSEN – New York, NY** May 2019 – August 2019

- Conducted basic quantitative and qualitative data analysis and wrote weekly reports of findings for the 2019 National School Climate Survey
- Wrote, edited, and proofread research reports, briefs, and other materials for internal and external audiences
- Monitored data collection and demographics of participants; continuously developed and carried out new recruitment strategies for under-represented participants
- Reviewed literature and managed the upkeep of the research literature database of current social science literature
- Created and maintained a “partner database” to connect with local organizations regarding the 2019 National School Climate Survey

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**Associate Teacher, Little Red School House & Elisabeth Irwin High School – New York, NY** August 2018 – June 2019

- Collaborated with a variety of team members, consisting of the principal, therapists, parents, previous teachers, & specialists, to provide comprehensive educational support for students
- Incorporated a social-emotional curriculum into the daily class routine, highlighting positive community behaviors & giving developmentally appropriate strategies & tools to encourage self-control & self-awareness
- Assisted in developing & implementing academic curriculum
- Support the head teacher with classroom management while promoting the understanding of LREI's curriculum

**Teacher's and Program Assistant, Columbia University – New York, NY** June – August 2017 | 2018

- Attended a 2-week seminar on how to innovate strategies of community leadership & group organization

- Acted as a teacher’s assistant five days a week in an “Introductory Psychology” class – helped facilitate in-class discussion, created daily reading quizzes, oversaw students' experiments
- Ran daily & weekly community outreach programs, working with programs such as Fresh Youth Initiative

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

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<b>Social Work Intern</b> , CBST Ark Immigration Clinic - New York, NY	September 2021 - May 2022
<b>Programming Intern</b> , ALANA Center, Vassar College – Poughkeepsie, NY	August 2014 – May 2018
<b>Mentor</b> , Transitions Pre-Orientation & Mentorship Program – Poughkeepsie, NY	August 2015 – May 2017
<b>Intern</b> , Community Family Development Center – Poughkeepsie, NY	January 2017 – May 2017
<b>Residential Support Staff</b> , Northwestern Counseling & Support Services – St. Albans, VT	June 2016 – January 2017

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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<b>Membership</b> , American Psychological Association (APA)	February 2019 - Present
<b>Membership</b> , The Society of Research on Adolescence (SRA)	June 2019 - Present
<b>Selection Committee Member</b> , GLSEN Rainbow Library	Summer 2022

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATION

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### *Publications*

**Menard, L.** (2023, January). *Inequity in Health Equity: Expanding Data Collection to Advance Health Equity for Transgender and Nonbinary Individuals*. Public Health Review.

Kosciw, J. G., Clark, C. M., & **Menard, L.** (2022, October). *The 2021 National School Climate Survey: The experiences of LGBTQ+ youth in our nation’s schools*. New York: GLSEN.

Cabana, M., **Menard, L.** (2022, October). Asthma. In Nadal, K., (Ed.), *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Filipina/x/o American Studies*. SAGE Publications.

Cabana, M., Lecroy, M., **Menard-Livingston, A.**, Rodgers, C. (2022, April). *Effect of Early Infant Probiotic Supplementation on Eczema, Asthma and Rhinitis at 7 Years of Age*. Pediatrics, 149(5).

Sisselman-Borgiam A., **Menard, L.**, Budescu, M., & Torino, G. (2022, March). *Differences in Discrimination Experiences Between Homeless and Non-homeless Youth*. Urban Social Work.

Chhabra, R. & **Menard-Livingston, A.** (2020, September). *What About Children’s Mental Health? Constantly Shifting School Reopening Plans May Have Long-Term Psychological Consequences*. NY Daily News. Retrieved from <https://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/ny-oped-what-about-childrens-mental-health-20200918-civeqvspgvgvbxdnksav5epsulum-story.html>.

Cabana, M. & **Menard-Livingston, L.** (2020, July). *Will Telemedicine Be the Blockbuster or Netflix of Healthcare?*. MedPageToday. Retrieved from <https://www.medpagetoday.com/practicemanagement/telehealth/87662>.

### *Presentations*

**Menard, L.** (2023, April). *Peer Victimization and Sexual Risk Behaviors Among LGBTQ+ Youth*. Paper accepted for a paper symposium presentation at the biennial meeting of The Society of Research on Adolescence (SRA), San Diego, CA.

Zongrone, A., & **Menard-Livingston, A.** (2020, March). *Exploring the Benefits of GSAs for Student Well-Being Across Racial/Ethnic Groups*. Paper accepted\* for presentation at the biennial meeting of The Society of Research on Adolescence (SRA), San Diego, CA.

Sisselman-Borgiam A., Budescu, M., Torino, G., Lau, J., & **Menard-Livingston, A.**, (2020, July). *(On Demand) Trauma Symptoms, Suicidal Thoughts, and Discrimination Among Homeless Youth*. Presentation accepted\* for the annual meeting of the Society for Prevention Research (SPR), Convention, Virtual.

**Menard-Livingston, A.**, Sisselman-Borgiam A., Budescu, M., & Torino, G. (2020, August). *Mental Health Disparities Among Transgender/Gender Non-conforming (trans/GNC) Homeless Youth*. Poster accepted\* for presentation at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association (APA) Convention, Washington, DC.

Budescu, M., Sisselman-Borgiam A., Torino, G., & **Menard-Livingston, A.**, (2020, August). *Subjective Sleep Quality Among Homeless Youth*. Presentation accepted\* for the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association (APA) Convention, Washington, DC.

*\*Conference presentation canceled or modified for virtual presentation only, because of COVID-19*

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