

# IRIS HUIMENG ZHAO

She/her/hers

Department of Sociology  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, WI 53703

[iris.zhao@wisc.edu](mailto:iris.zhao@wisc.edu)  
<https://huimengirishao.com>

## EDUCATION

---

- Ph.D.** University of Wisconsin – Madison in progress  
Sociology  
Affiliations: Center for Demography and Ecology  
Center for Demography of Health and Aging  
Collaborative for Reproductive Equity
- M.A.** University of Chicago 2020  
Social Sciences  
Thesis: “Exploring Fertility Desire and Flexibility in China”  
Thesis Advisor: Professor Jenny Trinitapoli, Department of Sociology
- B.A.** Indiana University – Bloomington 2019  
Sociology, Gender Studies

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Social demography; family sociology; fertility; gender and sexuality; reproductive justice

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

---

Trinitapoli, Jenny, Abdallah Chilungo, **Huimeng Zhao**, jimi adams, and Sara Yeatman. 2022. Visualizing Young Men’s Fertility Desires: A View from Balaka, Malawi.” *Socius* 8:23780231221094750. doi: [10.1177/23780231221094752](https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231221094752).

Murray, Dakota, Clara Boothby, **Huimeng Zhao**, Vanessa Minik, Nicolas Bérubé, Vincent Larivière, and Cassidy R. Sugimoto. 2020. “Exploring the Personal and Professional Factors Associated with Student Evaluations of Tenure-Track Faculty.” *PLOS ONE* 15(6):e0233515. doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0233515](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0233515).  
(Altmetric’s 2020 Top 100 Articles)

## ONGOING PROJECTS

---

**Huimeng Zhao**. "Flexible Fertility Preferences Under Low Fertility Context - Evidence from China." In manuscript, presented at PAA 2022.

**Huimeng Zhao.** "Politics of Population Control, Populationism, and Abortion Access in China." In preparation.

**Huimeng Zhao** and Acton Jiashi Feng (equal authorship). "Who is making the second (and third) baby? Educational pairings and fertility in China" In manuscript, presented at PAA 2023 and ASA 2023.

Monica Grant and **Huimeng Zhao.** "Changes in spousal differences in educational attainment and modern contraceptive use: Evidence from Ethiopia, Malawi, and Uganda." In manuscript, presented at ICFP 2022.

Monica Grant and **Huimeng Zhao.** "Spousal Differences in Educational Attainment and Fertility Preferences: Evidence from Ethiopia, Malawi, and Uganda." In manuscript, presented at PAA 2023

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

---

"Who is having the second baby? Educational pairings and fertility in China." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, PA., U.S.A., August 2023.

"Flexible Fertility Preferences Under Low Fertility Context - Evidence from China." *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA., U.S.A., April 2022.

"Exploring Fertility Desire and Flexibility in China." *University of Chicago Master of Arts Program for Social Sciences Virtual Academic Conference*, Chicago, IL., U.S.A., June 2020.

"Fertility Desire in China." *The New School for Social Research Sociology Graduate Conference*, New York City, NY, U.S.A., April 2020 (abstract accepted, conference cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

"Are Great Researchers Terrible Teachers?" *National Conference on Undergraduate Research*, Oklahoma City, OK., U.S.A., April 2018.

## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

---

Student Research Grants Competition \$600, UW-Madison	2023
Conference Travel \$800, Department of Sociology, UW-Madison	2023
Conference Travel \$1500 USD annually, Collaborative for Reproductive Equity, UW-Madison	2022 – present

Conference Travel 2022 – present  
\$700-1000 USD annually, Center for Demography and Ecology, UW-Madison

University Scholarship 2019  
\$20,000 USD, Merit-based, University of Chicago

Alpha Kappa Delta 2018  
International Sociology Honor Society Membership

Conference Travel 2018  
\$1,000 USD, Competitive Awards and Research School, Indiana University

Emerging Scholars Research Scholarship 2016  
\$1,000 USD, Center of Excellence for Women in Technology, Indiana University

## **SERVICE**

---

China Marriage and Family Reading Group (ReadCMF) 2022 – present  
Founder, committee, coordinator (with [Acton Jiashi Feng](#) and [Man Zhang](#))  
[Past discussions](#)

The Sociology of Gender Brownbag (FemSem) 2023 – 2024  
Student Coordinator

## **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

---

Annual Berkeley Workshop on Formal Demography 2023

## **SKILLS**

---

Stata, R, GeoDa, MS Office Suite

## **LANGUAGES**

---

Chinese (Mandarin): Native  
English: Fluent