Family and Contextual Influences on Development

*Rhonda Belue*  
Assistant Professor  
Health Policy & Administration  
Email Address: RZB10@PSU.EDU  
Research Interests: Health disparities in families and children, evaluation methodology, medical decision making.

*Leann Birch*  
Distinguished Professor; Director, Center for Childhood Obesity Research  
Human Development & Family Studies  
Email Address: LLB15@PSU.EDU  
Research Interests: The links among parents' own eating and weight status, parenting practices, and child outcomes from infancy through adolescence, with a current focus on the emergence of dieting and problems of energy balance in girls during middle childhood and early adolescence.

*Chalandra Bryant*  
Associate Professor  
Human Development & Family Studies  
Email Address: CMB34@PSU.EDU  
Research Interests: Marital and premarital relationships, particularly among African American couples; the role social networks play in influencing partners' satisfaction with and commitment to their relationship.

*Robert Burgess*  
Professor  
Human Development & Family Studies  
Email Address: rlb8@psu.edu  
Research Interests: The evolution, development, and maintenance of violence in families and its continuity across generations.

*Ann Crouter*  
Professor  
Human Development & Family Studies  
Email Address: AC1@PSU.EDU  
Research Interests: Interrelationships of parents' employment situations, family processes, and children's and adolescent's social development; gender socialization in middle childhood and adolescence.

*David Eggebeen*  
Associate Professor  
Human Development & Family Studies  
Email Address: e5x@psu.edu  
Research Interests: Social demography of children, intergenerational support over the life course, fatherhood.

*Lori Francis*  
Assistant Professor  
Biobehavioral Health  
Email Address: LAF169@PSU.EDU  
Research Interests: Sociocultural factors influencing the development of obesity in low-income and minority children, including family environment, neighborhood characteristics and socioeconomic status; family-based interventions to reduce and prevent obesity and related morbidities in children; understanding biobehavioral, family environmental and cultural factors that influence self-regulation of energy intake and body weight in young children.

*Kim Haidet*  
Assistant Professor  
Nursing  
Email Address: kkh1@psu.edu  
Research Interests: Developmental psychobiology, perinatal/neonatal care, infants’ biobehavioral responses and health outcomes, parent-infant interactions and family dynamics, women’s health issues.

*Kathryn Hynes*  
Assistant Professor  
Human Development & Family Studies  
Email Address: kbh13@psu.edu  
Research Interests: Quantitative and qualitative methods to address how parents with young children successfully manage their work and family roles.

*Rukmalie Jayakody*  
Associate Professor  
Human Development & Family Studies  
Email Address: RXJ9@PSU.EDU  
Research Interests: The impacts of poverty and social policies on families and children: welfare reform and barriers to self-sufficiency; family structure and child outcomes; living arrangements and family transitions.
### Susan Mc Hale
**Professor**  
Human Development & Family Studies  
**Email Address:** X2U@PSU.EDU

**Research Interests**  
Family relationships and family roles (particularly gender roles) in childhood and adolescence; differential socialization of siblings.

### Emilie Phillips Smith
**Associate Professor; Interim Director, Center for Human Development and Family Research in Diverse Contexts**  
Human Development & Family Studies  
**Email Address:** eps10@psu.edu

**Research Interests**  
Preventing youth violence and aggression and promoting positive child and family development, approaches that develop partnerships across the home, school, and community contexts.