



## Dena M. Abbott

Department of Educational Psychology  
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### EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

**Ph.D.** Counseling Psychology (APA-Accredited) August 2017  
Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas

Predoctoral Internship (APA-Accredited)  
University of Utah University Counseling Center

**M.A.** Professional Counseling August 2012  
Texas Wesleyan University, Fort Worth, Texas

**B.A.** Psychology August 2006  
Austin College, Sherman, Texas

### PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Licensed Psychologist (#1017), Nebraska State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Professor of Counseling Psychology** Fall 2020 to present  
University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Department of Educational Psychology  
*Advanced Practicum (EDPS 997G)*  
*Practicum in Counselor Supervision & Consultation (EDPS 997E)*  
*Sex-Positive Approaches to Human Sexuality in Counseling Psychology (EDPS 991)*  
*Advanced Counseling Psychology I (EDPS 976)*

**Assistant Professor of Counseling Psychology** Fall 2017 to Spring 2020  
Louisiana Tech University, Department of Psychology & Behavioral Sciences

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Mercier, C.\*\*, **Abbott, D. M.**, & Ternes, M. (In press). Coping matters: An examination of Black Americans' coping with the COVID-19 pandemic. *The Counseling Psychologist*.

**Abbott, D. M.**, Mollen, D., Boyles, J., & Anaya, E. J. (2021). Hidden in plain sight: Low-income and working-class atheists. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/cou0000562>

Mollen, D., & **Abbott, D. M.** (2021). Sexuality as a competency: Advancing training to serve the public. *Training and Education in Professional Psychology*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/tep0000378>

Note. \*\* = Former Student; \* = Current Student

- Abbott, D. M.** (2021). Psychotherapy with the nonreligious: A relational cultural approach. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pro0000392>
- Abbott, D. M., & Franks, A. S.** (2021). Coping with COVID-19: An examination of the role of (non)religiousness/(non)spirituality. *Journal of Religion & Health*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10943-021-01284-9>
- Abbott, D. M., Mollen, D., Anaya, E.\*, Burnes, T., Jones, M.\*\*, & Rukus, V.\*\*** (2021). Providing sexuality training for psychologists: The role of predoctoral internship sites. *American Journal of Sexuality Education, 16* (2), 161-180. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15546128.2021.1892555>
- Abbott, D. M., Franks, A., Cook, C., & Mercier, C.\*\*** (2021). (Non)religious coping with a natural disaster in a rural U.S. community. *Secularism and Nonreligion, 10*(1), 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.5334/snr.139>
- Abbott, D. M., Ternes, M., Mercier, C.\*\*, & Monceaux, C.\*\*** (2020). Anti-atheist discrimination, outness, and psychological distress among atheists of colour. *Mental Health, Religion, and Culture, 23*(10), 874-887. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13674676.2020.1858771>
- Monceaux, C.\*\*, Wilcox, M. M., & Abbott, D. M.** (2020). The role of moral reasoning and attitudes regarding bisexuality in the development of bisexual counseling competence. *Psychology of Sexual Orientation & Gender Diversity*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/sgd0000433>
- Abbott, D. M., Mollen, D., Mercier, C.\*\*, Anaya, E. J.\*, & Rukus, V. A.\*\*** (2020). "Isn't atheism a White thing?": Centering the voices of atheists of color. *Journal of Counseling Psychology, 67*(3), 275-287. <https://doi.org/10.1037/cou0000399>
- Mollen, D., Burnes, T., Lee, S., & Abbott, D. M.** (2020). Sexuality training in counseling psychology. *Counselling Psychology Quarterly, 33*(3), 375-392. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09515070.2018.1553146>
- Abbott, D. M., Pelc, N., & Mercier, C.\*\*** (2019). Cultural humility and the teaching of psychology. *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology, 5*(2), 169-181. <https://doi.org/10.1037/stl0000144>
- Abbott, D. M., & Mollen, D.** (2018). Atheism as a concealable stigmatized identity: Outness, anticipated stigma, and well-being. *The Counseling Psychologist, 46*(6), 685-707. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0011000018792669>

**Abbott, D. M.,** Harris, J. E., & Mollen, D. (2016). The impact of religious commitment on women's sexual self-esteem. *Sexuality and Culture*, 20(4), 1063-1082.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-016-9374-x>

### BOOK CHAPTERS

Boyles, J.\*, & **Abbott, D. M.** (In press). Consensually non-monogamous families and their children. In M. D. Vaughn, & T. Burnes (Eds.), *Handbook of clinical practice with consensually non-monogamous clients*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

Pelc, N., & **Abbott, D. M.** (2018). Sexuality in couples. In J. L. Lebow, A. L. Chambers, & D. C. Breunlin (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Couple and Family Therapy*. Springer International Publishing.

**Abbott, D. M.,** & Mollen, D. (2017). Sexual disorders and gender. In K. Nadal (Ed.), *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Psychology and Gender*. Sage Publications, Inc.

**Abbott, D. M.,** Pelc, N., & Mollen, D. (2016). Toward a human rights agenda: Social issues that have shaped psychology in the United States. In W. Woody, R. Miller, & W. Wozniak (Eds.), *Psychological specialties in historical context: Enriching the classroom experience for teachers and students* (pp. 232-254).  
<http://teachpsych.org/ebooks/>

### MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Mercier, C.\*\*, & **Abbott, D. M.** (Under review). What's faith got to do with it?: Gendered racism and religious coping.

Yeatts, P., **Abbott, D. M.,** & Mollen, D. (Under review). Development and validation of the Atheist Identity Concealment Scale (AICS).

### MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

**Abbott, D. M.,** Vargas, J.\*, & Santiago, H.\* (Data analysis). Promoting sexuality training for counseling psychologists: A student-focused participatory action approach.

**Abbott, D. M.,** Anaya, E. J.\*, & Reichenberg, R. (Data analysis). Women navigating an atheist identity in the U.S.: A mixed methods investigation.

**Abbott, D. M.,** Santiago, H.\*, & Reichenberg, R. (Data analysis). A mixed methods examination of identity and well-being among atheists living in the rural U.S.

Langston, J., Coleman, T., Delaney, D., Hwang, K., Brewster, M., Allen, R. Marriott, J., Swanson, S. B., **Abbott, D. M.,** Johnson, E., Simmons, J., Edwards, M., & Lane, J. E. (Data analysis). Toward godlessness: A confirmatory coded scheme of how and why people become atheists.

Anaya, E. J.\*, & **Abbott, D. M.** (Data analysis). Sexual self-esteem and academic performance among women with a history of sexual trauma.

Boyles, J.\*, & **Abbott, D. M.** (Data collection). The impact of sexual education on sexual self-esteem.

### BOOK REVIEWS

Mollen, D., & **Abbott, D. M.** (2018). Book review: Becoming cliterate: Why orgasm equality matters – and how to get it. *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 42, 251-252. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0361684317751338>

### PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Bradshaw, L., Dyer, R., Boyles, J.\*, & **Abbott, D. M.** (2021, August 12-15). From academia to the public sector: Making sex-positivity more inclusive [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Online.

Mercier, C. \*\*, Ternes, M., & **Abbott, D. M.** (2021, August 12-15). The cumulative stress of being Black and now this, too: How Black Americans cope during COVID-19 [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Online.

**Abbott, D. M.**, Mollen, D., & Boyles, J.\* (2020, August 6-8). The experiences of low-income and working class atheists. In D. M. Abbott (Chair), *Highlighting social class and classism in counseling psychology research* [Symposium]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Washington, DC, United States.

Mercier, C.\*\*, Monceaux, C.\*\*, **Abbott, D. M.**, & Ternes, M. (2020, August 6-8). *Experienced discrimination, outness, and psychological distress among atheists of color* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Washington, DC, United States.

Mollen, D., **Abbott, D. M.**, Mintz, L., Nummerdor, K., & Dyer, R. (2020, July 14). *Infusing sex-positive in counseling psychology research, training, and practice* [Webinar]. American Psychological Association Division 17's Building a Counseling Psychology of Liberation Webinar Series.

Anaya, E. J.\*, & **Abbott, D. M.** (2020, March 5-8). *The impact of sexual self-esteem on academic performance among college women with sexual victimization* [Poster presentation]. Association for Women in Psychology Annual Convention, Austin, TX, United States.

- Abbott, D. M.**, Mollen, D., Mercier, C.\*\*, Anaya, E. J.\*, & Rukus, V. A.\*\* (2019, August 8-11). "Isn't atheism a White thing?": Centering the voices of atheists of color. In J. S. Sawyer (Chair), *Atheist research in psychology: Current trends and future directions* [Symposium]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, United States.
- Abbott, D. M.**, Mollen, D., Burnes, T., & Lee-Hodges, S. (2019, August 8-11). *Sexuality training in counseling psychology* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, United States.
- Mercier, C.\*\*, & **Abbott, D. M.** (2019, August 8-11). *What's faith got to do with it?: Gendered racism and religious coping* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, United States.
- Monceaux, C.\*\*, Lantz, M. M., & **Abbott, D. M.** (2019, August 8-11). *The relationship between bisexual counseling competence, moral reasoning, and attitudes* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, United States.
- Squyres, E. R.\*\*, & **Abbott, D. M.** (2019, July 26-27). *Fatitudes: Could psychological flexibility mediate the relationship between anti-fat attitudes and psychological distress?* [Paper presentation]. Biannual Conference of the Louisiana-Mississippi Association for Contextual Behavioral Science.
- Liang, C., **Abbott, D. M.**, Hong, Y., Madadi, M., & White, A. (2019, July 26-31). Clustering help-seeking behaviors in LGBT online communities: A prospective trial. In G. Meiselwitz (Ed.), *Social computing and social media: Design, human behavior, and analytics, 21<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction*, 11578. Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-21902-4\\_25](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-21902-4_25)
- Abbott, D. M.**, Craney, R. S., & Hutchison, A. N. (2018, August 9-12). *#metoo: Sexual harassment in academic settings* [Roundtable discussion]. Division 17's Section for Advancement of Women, American Psychological Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, United States.
- Abbott, D. M.** & Pelc, N. (2018, August 9-12). *Cultural humility in psychological research and pedagogy* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, United States.
- Rodriguez, Y., Datchi, C., Pelc, N., & **Abbott, D. M.** (2018, February 23-24). *Advancing women's careers in academia: Gender, power, and privilege* [Roundtable]. 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Roundtable on Cultural Psychology and Education, New York, NY, United States.

**Abbott, D. M.** (2017, April). *Secular and religious people navigating relationships* [Panel discussion]. Secular Student Alliance, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, United States.

**Abbott, D. M., & Harris, J.** (2015, November). *Becoming a more integrative therapist: An introduction to multitheoretical psychotherapy* [Workshop]. Texas Psychological Association Annual Convention, San Antonio, Texas, United States.

**Abbott, D. M., & Harris, J.** (2015, August 6-9). *The impact of religious commitment on the sexual self-esteem of women* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

**Abbott, D. M., & Mollen, D. M.** (2014, June). *Dancing with the elephant: Diversity and oneness – An experiential multicultural awareness training* [Workshop]. The South Central Area Mankind Project USA, Richardson, Texas, United States.

#### **GRANTS & AWARDS**

**Faculty Seed Grant, University of Nebraska – Lincoln** December 2020  
Exploring the Psychological Well-Being of Diverse U.S.-Based Atheists  
\$10,000.00

**Living Well Foundation** November 2019  
Affordable Psychological Testing in Lincoln Parish  
\$19,500.00

**Division 17 Early Career Psychologist Travel Grant** August 2019  
American Psychological Association Annual Convention  
\$500.00

**Living Well Foundation** Partially funded  
“Providing Mental Health Services to LGBT-Identified Community Members of Northeast Louisiana”  
\$1,800.00

#### **AD-HOC REVIEWING**

*Journal of Counseling Psychology*  
*The Counseling Psychologist*  
*Psychology of Women Quarterly*  
*Scholarship of Teaching & Learning in Psychology*  
*Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*

*Sexuality & Culture*  
*Women in Therapy*  
*Religions*  
*Secular Studies*  
*Secularity & Nonreligion*

**SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION****Mentor***Psychology of Women Quarterly* Student Advisory Board

Fall 2021 to Spring 2022

**Special Interest Group (SIG), Co-Chair**

Sex Positivity, Division 17

August 2020 to present

**Membership Chair**APA's Division 17, Section for the  
Advancement of Women

Sept. 2019 to present

**Special Task Group (STG) Member**

Sex Positivity, Division 17

August 2019 to July 2020

**Exhibit Hall Coordinator**

Association of Women in Psychology 2020 Conference

July 2019 to March 2020

**Assistant Newsletter Editor**WomanView, Newsletter for APA's Division 17  
Section for the Advancement of Women

Nov. 2016 to Aug. 2019

**Program Reviewer**

National Multicultural Conference &amp; Summit

August 2018

**Convention Program Committee**

American Psychological Association Division 17

2017 to present

**Convention Program Committee**American Psychological Association Division 17  
2017 APA Annual Convention

December 2016

**Student Representative**American Psychological Association Division 17  
Society for the Advancement of Women

Spring 2015 to Summer 2016

**Co-Reviewer** (with Jeff Harris, Ph.D.)Ivey et al., *Essentials of intentional interviewing* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.).  
Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning.

April 2014

**SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY****Diversity Advocate**Search Committee, Counseling Psychology Program  
University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Fall 2021 to Spring 2022

<b>Committee Member</b> Scholarship Committee, Dept. of Educational Psychology University of Nebraska – Lincoln	Fall 2020 to present
<b>Committee Member</b> Inclusive Excellence Committee, Dept. of Educational Psychology University of Nebraska - Lincoln	Fall 2020 to Spring 2021
<b>Committee Member</b> Human Use Committee/Institutional Review Board Louisiana Tech University	July 2018 to May 2020
<b>Faculty Advisor</b> Trans Student Advocacy Group (TAG) Louisiana Tech University	January 2019 to May 2020
<b>Committee Member</b> Counseling Psychology Faculty Search Louisiana Tech University	March 2018 to December 2019
<b>Research Committee Member</b> University of Utah Counseling Center	Aug. 2016 to July 2017
<b>Doctoral Intern Selection Committee</b> University of Utah Counseling Center	Aug. 2016 to Feb. 2017
<b>CLINICAL EXPERIENCE</b> <b>Licensed Psychologist</b> Center for Counseling & Psychological Resources, Ruston, LA	April 2019 to Dec. 2019
<b>Psychology Intern (APA-Accredited)</b> University of Utah Counseling Center, Salt Lake City, UT	Aug. 2016 to July 2017
<b>Assessment Clinician</b> Allen Psychological Center, Allen, Texas	Aug. 2015 to Dec. 2015
<b>Inpatient Addiction Treatment Therapist</b> Santé Center for Healing, Argyle, Texas	May 2014 to Dec. 2014
<b>University Counseling Center Therapist</b> Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas	Aug. 2013 to May 2014
<b>Therapist</b> Samaritan House, Fort Worth, Texas	Feb. 2012 to June 2012



**Community Family, Couples, & Individual Therapist** Jan. 2012 to June 2012  
Glick House Community Counseling Center

**SPECIALIZED TRAINING**

**Comprehensive Structural Equation Modeling** February 2019  
Stats Camp, Dr. Todd Little

**Gottman Method Couples Therapy** July 2017  
Level 1

**Diagnosis & Treatment of Sexual Issues** October 2010  
Dr. Marty Klein

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Atheist Research Collaborative 2018 to present

American Psychological Association 2012 to present

Division 2: Society for Teaching of Psychology (2013 to present)

Division 17: Society of Counseling Psychology (2013 to present)

Div. 17's Section for the Advancement of Women (2014 to present)

Division 35: Society for the Psychology of Women (2012 to present)