

Curricula Vitae – Thulitha Wickrama, PhD

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Education:

Pennsylvania State University	Ph.D.	Human Development and Family Studies Foci: Research Methods & Family Relations Dissertation: Racial Discrimination & Depression in Alabama	2007
Minnesota State University	M.S.	Community Health Thesis: Physical Health of Rural Adults in Minnesota	2003
Iowa State University	B.S.	Major: Statistics Minor: Biology	2001

Advanced Training:

Emory University – MPH Epi Program – Global Health Policy
University of Chicago, Hierarchical Modeling - Raudenbush,
Johns Hopkins University, MPlus, MLM, Muthen & Muthen,
Workshops on Psychological Counseling (APA Recognized)

Academic Work Experience:

- **Faculty Member, Lecturer & Senior Research Associate, 2021-Present**
Department of Child, Youth, and Family Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, US
 - Research on Adolescent Health
 - Student Research Supervision
 - Faculty Collaboration on Research
- **Affiliated Faculty, 2012-Present**
Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Colombo:
 - PhD Program, Main Supervisor
 - MPhil in Clinical Psychology, Supervision and Lecturing – Research Methods
 - Research: Mental and physical health among disadvantaged women and children
- **Faculty Member, Assistant Professor, 2007-2012**
Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Auburn University, US
 - Teaching: Research Methods, Marriage and Family in a Global Context, Patterns Family Interaction
 - Research
 - Community and family trauma and stress on marriage and family relationships
 - Adolescent mental, physical, and behavioral health inequalities
 - African American marriages and health inequalities
 - Advising: Theses Chair and Dissertation Committee Member
 - Service: Research & Methodology Collaboration with Faculty, Graduate Admission Committee

- **Graduate Research Assistant and Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2003-2007**
Penn State University, University Park, US
 - TA for Research Methods, Family Therapy, Family Relationships
 - RA for NICHD funded project on African American Marriages and Health
- **Graduate Research Assistant, Library, 2001-2003**
Minnesota State University, Mankato, US
 - Maintain Library Website / Webmaster
 - Library Archive Development

Academic Work Experience (Other Tertiary Educational Institutions):

- **Head of Academics and Lecturer, Metropolitan College, 2020-2023**
 - Girne American University and OTHM PhD, MSc, and MBA program administration
- **Head of Faculty of Health and Social Science, ICBT Campus, 2018-2019**
 - Cardiff Metropolitan University (UK) BSc and MSc Program administration
- **Dean of Postgraduate Studies & Professor of Research, CIRP/CIIHE, 2014 & 2020**
 - Coventry University (UK) Program administration
- **Lecturer, Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA), 2012-2013**
 - Lecturing Research Methods in the Masters in Public Management Program

Research Collaborations:

- **APA Visionary Award (Co-PIs: Banford, A., Lamber, J., & Wickrama, T.), 2015-2016, \$17,384**
 - Meeting of long-term psychological needs of widowed women after a mass trauma
 - A collaboration between Brigham Young University and California State University
- **Brigham Young University, 2012-2020**
 - Covid-19 and Black Lives Matter experiences on mental health in the United States, 2020-21
 - Resilience and Coping in disasters affected women in Sri Lanka, 2016-2018
 - Needs assessment of quality of life among war affected women in Sri Lanka, 2012-2013
- **Utah State University, 2020**
 - Researcher on the effects of Covid-19 on adolescent risk behavior – NIH Funded Project
- **Vanderbilt University & University of Colorado, 2014**
 - Agricultural Decision-Making and Adaptation to Precipitation Trends in Sri Lanka – ADAPT-SL
 - Cross Cultural Validation Study of Farmer Adjustment to Meteorological Changes

International / Global Health Research Positions

- **Director, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Skills Development, Government of Sri Lanka, National Human Resource Development Council of Sri Lanka (NHRDC), 2013-2014/5**
 - Assessments, interventions, and policy recommendations for disadvantaged women in post war regions of Sri Lanka
 - Mental health coping strategies, skill development program for male and female youth
 - Assessment and gender-based policy recommendations for employment satisfaction among male and female graduates.
 - Assessing the gendered factors leading to educational development of school leavers: A quantitative study and recommendations.
 - Development of a career guidance system for youth
 - International and local gender-based labor market assessment and future projections: A project done in consultation with academics, government officials, and employers.
 - Assessing the experiences of women migrating for employment
- **Research Officer – The Colombo Plan, 2015-2017**
US Department of State – Bureau of INL- Partnerships <https://www.state.gov/j/inl/focus/partnerships>
 - **Outcome Evaluation Study of Drug Treatment Program in Afghanistan, 2015-2018**
 - A collaborative project between PIRE (Pacific Institute of Research and Evaluation), Afghan Ministry of Counternarcotics, and The Colombo Plan.
 - **Coordinator, *International Journal of Substance Use Disorder Treatment***; an academic and practitioner focused peer reviewed publication.
 - **Monthly and Quarterly Reporting to the NIL, US Department of State** of progress in treatment, training, monitoring, and finances of 150 drug treatment centers in Afghanistan and Pakistan.
 - Other Duties: *Officer-in-Charge* of Division in absence of Director

Research Projects (Ongoing):

- **Pesticide Safety** – Latino Adolescent Workers in Oklahoma. 2021-Present
- **Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (AddHealth)**. 2021-Present
- **18 and Life** – A Study of 18 Year Old Adolescents in Oklahoma. 2021-Present
- **18 and Life Follow-up Study** – Longitudinal Panel Study of Participants from 2018
- **International Partnership** between UNL-CYFS and a Sri Lanka College – In Progress

Research Projects Completed (Selection):

- **Community Influence on Dengue Infectious Disease in Developing Countries.** 2018-2020, Funded by IHSB, Georgia. \$14,500. Role: Principal Investigator
- **USAID (United States Agency for International Development)** Project at Transparency International Sri Lanka, Oct-Dec 2018. **Role:** Research Consultant
- **Vanderbilt University Cross Cultural Validation Project in Sri Lanka,** 2014 – 2015. \$10,000. **Role:** Research Consultant.
- **Long-term psychological needs of widowed women after a mass trauma,** 2015-2016 Funded by the American Psychological Association (APA) Visionary Grant. \$17,385 **Role:** Co-Principal Investigator
- **Long term social and behavioral implications of psychological consequences post Tsunami for Adolescents and Mothers.** 2004-2006 and 2008-2010. Funded by USDA \$20,000, University of Toronto \$20,000. **Role:** Co-Principal Investigator
- **Assessing mental, physical, and behavioral health and a CBT/MBCT therapy among war affected women in Sri Lanka.** Funded by the Government of Sri Lanka, 2013-2015, \$40,000 **Role:** Principal Investigator
- **The impact of racial discrimination on educational and employment achievements of African Americans; the role of psychosocial resources.** 2007-2012. Funded by the Alabama Experimental Station. \$20,000. **Role:** Principal Investigator
- **Longitudinal study of body composition and psycho-behavioral factors.** 2008-2010. Funded by the Alabama Experiment Station \$50,000, 2011. **Role:** Co-Principal Investigator Investigated the social and psychological influence on obesity among college students.
- **A Study of African American Marriage and Health,** 2005-2010. Funded by NIH/NICHD \$2,593,186.00 (PI: Chalandra Bryant). **Role:** Project Coordinator and Statistical Consultant: Grant Writing, Questionnaire Creation, Recruitment, Data Analysis, Presentation/Pubs

Publications:

Book Chapters

1. Wickrama, K.A.S., O'Neal, C.K., **Wickrama, K.A.T.** (2025). Family Economic Wellbeing and Later Life Physical Health and Wellbeing. Cambridge Scholars Publishing. ISBN: 978-1-0364-1705-5
2. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M. J., & Perera, N. T. (2023). Writing a literature review. In Saliya, C. A. (Ed.). *Social research methodology and publishing results: A guide to non-native English speakers.* IGI Global: Hershey, PA. DOI: 10.4018/978-1-6684-6859-3.ch008
3. Banford, A., Lambert, J., & **Wickrama, T.** (2016). *Cumulative Effects of Multiple Traumas in Women Widowed by War and Disaster in the Developing World: The Case of Sri Lanka.* In the

International Perspectives on Traumatic Stress: Theory, Access, and Mental Health Services, Editor Bitu Gharooft. ISBN: 978-1-63484

4. **Wickrama, T.** & Wheeler, B. (2013). Mental health following divorce. *Cultural Sociology of Divorce*. Edited By Robert E. Emery. Sage Publications. ISBN 9781412999588
5. **Wickrama, T.** & De Zoysa, P. (2013). Divorce in Sri Lanka. *Cultural Sociology of Divorce*. Edited By Robert E. Emery. Sage Publications. ISBN 9781412999588

Journal Articles:

1. Terrell, A., Merten, M.J., & **Wickrama, T.** (2025) Perceived parental relationship quality and adolescent conscious bias: important links between affect, agency, gender, and race/ethnicity. *Front. Psychol.* 16:1644117. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2025.1644117
2. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M., & Terrell, A. (2025). Adolescent Social Connectedness and Young Adult Achievement: The Linking and Moderating Role of Self-Esteem Trajectories. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 34, 974 - 989. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-025-03041-y>.
3. Xu, W., Parra, G. R., **Wickrama, T.**, & Merten, M. J. (2025). Intergenerational transmission of parenting across more than two decades: The mediating role of depressive symptoms. *Family Process*, 64:e70043. <https://doi.org/10.1111/famp.70043>
4. Wickrama, T., Merten, M.J. & Terrell, A. (2024). Adverse Childhood Experiences and Intimate Partner Violence Among Recent Adults: Mental Health and Race. *Journ Child Adol Trauma* 17, 399–409. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40653-023-00597-z>
5. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M. J., Wickrama, K. A. S., & Terrell, A. (2024). Adolescents Tsunami Exposure and Mental Health Consequences: Protective Role of Cultural Coping Strategies. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 21(6), 756.
6. Wickrama, K.A.S., Lee, T. K., **Wickrama, T.**, & Sutton, T. E. (2024). How do family adversity and youth stressful experiences lead to adult economic adversity? An integration of multiple life course mechanisms. *Journal of Family Studies*, 30(4), 681–699. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13229400.2024.2315416>
7. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M.J., Terrell, A., & Wickrama, K.A.S. (2024). Adolescent Cumulative Adversity, Mental Health, and Young Adult Sexual Health. *American Journal of Health Behavior*, 49(1), 80-92(13).
8. **Wickrama, T.**, Wickrama, K. A. S., Merten, M. J., Gunasingham, S., Thanigaseelan, S., Sathiyavasan, S. (2023). Social and family context and prevention of mosquito-borne diseases in developing countries: A case of dengue in Sri Lanka, *Eagan Journal of Contemporary Research*, 2(1), 9-22. doi: <https://doi.org/10.61495/ejcr.v2.1.2>

9. Wickrama, K.A.S., **Wickrama, T.**, Sutton, T.E., & Lee, T.K. (2023). Adolescent chronic pain links parental rejection to young adult biopsychosocial problems. *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 41, 2, 187-202. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bjdp.12440>
10. Wickrama, K.A.S., **Wickrama, T.**, & Bae, M., & Merten, M.J. (2022). Early Socioeconomic Adversity and Young Adult Diabetic Risk: An Investigation of Genetically Informed Biopsychosocial Processes over the Life Course. *Journal of Biodemography and Social Biology*, 67:3-4, 203-223, doi: 10.1080/19485565.2022.2161463
11. Terrell, A., **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M., & Becnel, J. (2022). Adolescents' Adverse Family Context and Intimate Partner Violence Mediating Role of Social Media Experience. *Current Psychology*. doi.org/10.1007/s12144-022-03160-5
12. Perera, N.T. & **Wickrama, T.** (2022). Psychological Aspects of Tourism Sector Recovery in Sri Lanka. *Sri Lanka Journal of Development Insights*, 1, 25-30.
13. **Wickrama, T.** & Perera, N.T. (2022). Nature Embedded Ecotourism as a Modern Solution for the Human-Elephant Conflict: Moving from Exploitation and Destruction to Participatory Conservation. *Sri Lanka Journal of Development Insights*, 1, 30-35.
14. Rastin, A.S.K, **Wickrama, T.**, & Merten, M.J. (2022). Individual, Family, and Contextual Factors Associated with Relapse among Afghan Drug Treatment Clients. *Eagon Journal of Contemporary Research*, 1,1,5-9. <https://doi.org/10.61495/ejcr.v1.1.1>
15. Banford Witting, A., Lambert, J., Johnson, L.N., Goodkin, C., & **Wickrama, T.** (2019). The Sigma of Widowhood in War and Disaster Affected Communities of Sri Lanka: Contextual Paths between Trauma Exposure and Mental Health Distress. *International Journal of Psychology*, 55(4): 647-656. Doi: 10.1002/ijop.12618
16. Banford Witting, A., Hughes Barrow, L, Lambert, J., Whiting, J., Hartshorn, R., Marks, L., **Wickrama, T.**, & Thanigaseelan, S. (2020). We have Lost Our Lives Already: Loss and Coping among Sri Lankan Women. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment, and Trauma*. Doi: 10.1080/10926771.2020.1759746
17. S.H. Lee, Wickrama, K.A.S., Klopach, E.T., & **Wickrama, T.** (2019). Stressful Work Conditions, Positive Affect, and Physical Health of Middle-Aged Couples: A Dyadic Analysis. *Stress & Health*, 35(4): 382-395. Doi: 10.1002/smi.2866.
18. Lambert, J.E., Banford Witting, A., Spencer, J., Ponnampereuma, L., & **Wickrama, T.** (2019). Toward Understanding Posttraumatic Stress and Depression among Trauma-Affected Widows in Sri Lanka. *Journal of Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*, 11(5), 551-558. Doi: 10.1037/tra0000361
19. Lambert, J., Banford, Witting, A., Anderson, S., Ponnampereuma, L., & **Wickrama, T.** (2017). Posttraumatic cognitions and depressive symptoms in war and disaster affected windows in Sri Lanka: The role of community support. *Journal of Contemporary Family Therapy: An International Journal*, 40(3): 259-265.

20. Lambert, E. J., Banford Witting, A., Ponnampereuma, L., & **Wickrama, T.** (2017). Subjective reactions to international research participation: An illustration of ethical considerations with women heading households in Sri Lanka. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 89(4), 518-523. Doi: 10.1037/ort0000274
21. **Wickrama, T.**, Wickrama, K.A.S., Banford, A., & Lambert, J. (2017). PTSD symptoms among Tsunami exposed mothers in Sri Lanka: The role of disaster exposure, culturally specific coping strategies, and recovery efforts. *Journal of Stress, Anxiety, and Coping*, 30(4), 415-427, Dec. DOI: 10.1080/10615806.2016.1271121
22. Banford, W.A., Lambert, J., & **Wickrama, T.** (2016). War and Disaster in Sri Lanka: Implications for Widows' Family Adjustment and Perception of Self Efficacy in Caring for One's Family. *International Journal of Psychology*, 54(1): 126-134. Impact Factor: 1.198
23. Banford, W.A., Lambert, J., **Wickrama, T.**, Thanigaseelan, S., & Merten, M. (2016). War and Disaster in Sri Lanka: Depression, Family Adjustment and Health Among Women Heading Households. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, Aug; 62(5):425-33. Imp Factor: 1.147
24. Wickrama, K.A.S. O'Neal, C.W., Lee, T.K., & **Wickrama, T.** (2015). Early Socioeconomic Adversity, Youth Positive Development, and Young Adults' Cardio-Metabolic Disease Risk. *Health Psychology*, 34(9): 905-14. Impact Factor: 3.611
25. de Zoysa, P., **Wickrama, T.**, & Wickramasuriya, T. (2015). Online Social Networking and its Perceived Life Satisfaction among Sri Lankan Medical Students. *South East Asian Journal of Medical Education*, 9(2): 33-35.
26. Banford, A.J., Ivey, D., **Wickrama, T.**, Fischer, J., Prouty, A., & Smith, D. (2014). The role of natural disaster in individual and relational adjustment in Sri Lankan mothers following the 2004 tsunami. *Disasters*, 40(1): 134-157. Impact Factor: .692
27. Banford, A., **Wickrama, T.**, & Ketrings, S.A (2014). Physical Health Problem Intrusion Linking Religious Attributions to Marital Satisfaction in Survivors of the 2004 Tsunami. *Journal of Geography and Natural Disasters*, 4(1):118-126. Impact Factor: .80 DOI: 10.4172/2167-0587.1000118
28. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M., & Wickrama, K.A.S. (2012). Early community influence on young adult physical health: Racial/ethnic and gender differences. *Journal of Advances in Life Course Research*, 36(6):834-48. Impact Factor: 1.373
29. de Zoysa, P. & **Wickrama, T.** (2012). Mental health and the role of cultural and religious support in the assistance of disabled veterans in Sri Lanka. *Journal of Military and Veterans Health*, 19(3):4-12.
30. **Wickrama, T.** & Ketrings, S.A. (2012). Change in the health of tsunami-exposed mothers three years after the natural disaster in Sri Lanka. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 58(3):278-88. Impact Factor: 1.1447

31. **Wickrama, T.** & Bryant, C. M. (2012). The association between Body Mass Index and depressive symptoms of African American married couples: Mediating and Moderating Roles of couples' behavioral closeness. *Journal of Family Issues*, 35:384-410. Impact: 1.264

32. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M., & Wickrama, K.A.S. (2012). Linking Early Socioeconomic Conditions to Young Adult Sexual Health: The Role of Adolescent Development Processes. *American Journal of Health Behavior*, 36(6): 834-848. Impact Factor: 1.64

33. **Wickrama, T.** & Vazsonyi, A. (2011). School contextual experiences and longitudinal changes in depressive symptoms from adolescence to young adulthood. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 39(5): 566-575. Impact Factor: .797

34. Banford, A., **Wickrama, T.**, Brown, M., & Ketring, S. (2011). The relationship between physical health problems and couple violence & conflict in survivors of the 2004 tsunami: Mediation by marital satisfaction. *International Journal of Mass Emergencies & Disasters*, 29(2):149-170. Impact Factor: .60

35. Wickrama, K.A.S. & **Wickrama, T.** (2010). Perceived community participation in Tsunami-recovery efforts and the mental health of Tsunami-affected mothers: Findings from a study in rural Sri Lanka. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 57(5):518-527. Impact Factor:1.144

36. **Wickrama, T.**, Wickrama, K.A.S., & Baltimore, D. L. (2010). Adolescent precocious development and young adult health outcomes. *Journal of Advances in Life Course Research*. 15(4),121-131. Impact Factor: 1.373

37. Wickrama, K.A.S, Bryant, C.M, **Wickrama, T.** & Bryant, B. (2010). Perceived Community Disorder, Hostile marital Interactions, and Health of African American Couples. *Personal Relationships*, 17(4): 515-531. 2009 Impact Factor: 1.413

38. **Wickrama, T.** & Wickrama, K.A.S. (2010). Heterogeneity in adolescent depressive symptom trajectories: Implications for young adults' risky lifestyle. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 47(4): 407-413. Impact Factor: 3.612

39. Wickrama, K.A.S., **Wickrama, T.**, & Lott, R. (2009). Heterogeneity in youth depressive symptom trajectories: Social stratification and implications for young adult physical health. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 45(4), 335-343. Impact Factor: 3.612

40. Wickrama, K.A.S. & **Wickrama, T.** (2008). Family Context of Mental Health Risk in Tsunami Affected Mothers: Findings from a Pilot Study in Sri Lanka. *Journal of Social Science & Medicine*, 66(4): 994-1007.

41. **Wickrama, T.**, Wickrama, K. A. S., & Bryant, C. M. (2006). The influence of community poverty on adolescent obesity: Race/ethnicity moderating effects. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 35(4), 641-651. 2009 Impact Factor: 2.777

42. **Wickrama, T.**, Wickrama, K. A. S., & Romas, J. A. (2005). The relationship of individual, family, and community characteristics with physical health: An adult study in 27 rural Minnesota counties. *Journal of Rural Health*, 21(4), 378-382. 2009 Impact Factor: 1.453
43. **Wickrama, T.**, Nandy, B. K., & Wickrama, K. A. S. (2003). The influence of women's status, economic development, and dependency on infant mortality: Ceiling and moderating effects of the level of economic development. *International Journal of Contemporary Sociology*, 40(2), 239-254

Manuscripts under review/in process

1. Terrell, A., Merten, M. J., & **Wickrama, T.** (under review). Transitioning to adulthood during macroeconomic downturns: A critical developmental turning point. *Journal of Social Science and Medicine*.
2. Terrell, A., Merten, M. J., & **Wickrama, T.** Long-term mental health consequences of adverse childhood experiences: The role of human agency during adolescence.
3. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M. J., Witting, B. A., Lambert, J., & Terrell, A. (under review). Global health of Tsunami exposed and war experienced widows: Moderation by family strengths. *Disasters*.
4. Merten, M. J., & **Wickrama, T.** (under review). Parent adolescent relationship and depressive symptoms of Latino adolescents: Behavioral and academic pathways, and moderation by rurality. To be submitted to *The Journal of Rural Health*.

Manuscripts in preparation:

1. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M. J., Witting, B.A., The impact of society, family, and community experiences on mental health among Covid experienced married couples.
2. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M.J., & Terrell, A. Adverse Childhood Experience, Health Behaviors and Physical Illness: Mediation by Depressive Symptom Trajectories.
3. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M.J., & Terrell, A. Adolescent community adversity and cardio-metabolic outcomes.
4. Terrell, A., **Wickrama, T.**, & Merten, M. J. The kids are not alright: Adverse childhood experiences among two generations of women.

Conference Presentations:

1. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M.J., Terrell, A., & Perera, N. (2025). Adverse Childhood Experience, Health Behaviors and Physical Illness: Mediation by Depressive Symptom Trajectories. NCFR. Baltimore.
2. Terrell, A., Merten, M.J., **Wickrama, T.** (2025). Adverse Childhood Experiences and Longitudinal Depressive Symptoms: Examining Intensity, Type, and Demographic Differences” has been accepted as a Poster. NCFR. Baltimore.
3. Merten, M. J., & **Wickrama, T.** (2024). *Biomarker data and pesticide exposure of adolescent Latinx agricultural workers: Recruitment and adherence*. Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence. Chicago, IL.

4. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M. J., Perera, N., Terrell, A., Banford Witting, A., & Lambert, J. (2024). Tsunami exposure and general health: Mediation by quality of life. Paper to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence. Chicago, IL.
5. Terrell, A., Merten, M.J., **Wickrama, T.** (2024). Young Adult Children's Student Loans and Parents' Mental, Physical, and Behavioral Health. NCFR. Seattle, WA.
6. Terrell, A., **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M.J. (2024). Adverse Childhood Experiences, Positive Adult Relationships, and Attitudes Toward Police. NCFR. Seattle, WA.
7. NCFR Symposium. (2024). Seattle, WA. Early Family Socioeconomic Adversities and Health Problems: Dynamic Roles of Stress and Resilience Processes
 - a. Adolescent Cumulative Adversity and Cardiometabolic Risk: Mediation by Depressive Symptoms Trajectories, Thulitha Wickrama, Michael J. Merten, K.A.S. Wickrama, Tae Kyoung Lee, Seo Woo Lee
 - b. Resilience Processes in the Effects of Family Economic Pressure on BMI in Young Adulthood, Tae Kyoung Lee, Seo Woo Lee, K.A.S. Wickrama, Thulitha Wickrama, Michael J. Merten
 - c. The Enduring Impact of Intergenerational Solidarity in Mother-Child Dyads over the Years, Seonhwa Lee, Merrill Silverstein, Tae Kyoung Lee, K.A.S. Wickrama
 - d. Parent-Adolescent Obesity in the Context of Family Socioeconomic Disadvantages: Mediating Roles of Family and Individual Level Stressors, Seo Woo Lee, Tae Kyoung Lee, K.A.S. Wickrama, **Thulitha Wickrama**, Michael J. Merten

Discussant: Tricia K. Neppl Moderator: Seonhwa Lee Chair: Tae Kyoung Lee Organizer: Seo Woo Lee
8. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M. J., & Terrell, A. L., (2023). *Adolescent cumulative adversity, race/ethnicity, and young adult sexual health: Mediating roles of self-esteem, stressful life events, and depressive symptoms trajectories*. Poster to be presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL. November 2023.
9. Merten, M. J., Terrell, A. L., **Wickrama, T.**, & (2023). *Adverse child experience, impaired youth development, and physical illness: Interplay with depressive symptoms trajectories*. Poster to be presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL. November 2023.
10. Terrell, A. L., **Wickrama, T.**, & Merten, M. J. (2023). *Long-term mental health consequences of adverse childhood experiences: The role of human agency during adolescence*. Poster to be presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL. November 2023.
11. **Wickrama, T.**, & Merten, M. J., Wickrama, K. A. S., & Terrell, A. L. (2023). *Exposure to natural disasters and mental health of adolescents in developing countries: Moderating role of cultural coping strategies*. Poster to be presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL. November 2023.
12. Bradley, B., Terrell, A., **Wickrama, T.**, & Merten, M. J., & (accepted). Is sexual activity similar between 18-year-olds with and without a learning disability? Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence. Chicago, IL. April 2024.
13. Parra, G.R., Williams, N.A., Xu, W., Pillai, S., Wickrama, T., & Merten, M. (2022). Estrangement between adult children and their parents during middle adulthood. NCFR, Minneapolis.
14. Terrell, A., Merten, M., & **Wickrama, T.** (2022). Association Between Parent Closeness and Attitudes Toward the Poor and Discriminated: Mediation by Negative Affect and Agency. NCFR, Minneapolis.
15. Terrell, A., **Wickrama, T.** & Merten, M. (2022). The kids are not alright: Adverse childhood experience among two generations of women. NCFR, Minneapolis.

16. **Wickrama, T.**, Merten, M., & Terrell, A. (2022). Adolescent Social Connectedness and Young Adult Achievement: Linking and Moderating Role of Self-Esteem Trajectories. SRA, New Orleans.
17. Terrell, A., **Wickrama, T.**, & Merten, M. (2022). Adolescents' Adverse Family Context and Intimate Partner Violence Mediating Role of Social Media Experience. SRA, New Orleans.
18. Merten, M.J., **Wickrama, T.**, & Leow, C. (2022). Parent Adolescent Relationship and Depressive Symptoms of Latino Adolescents: Behavioral and Academic Pathways, and Moderation by Rurality. SRA, New Orleans.
19. **Wickrama, T.**, Whiteman, S.D., Kelly, B.C., Maggs, J.L., & Mustillo, S.A. (2021). COVID-19-related Parental Stress and Mental Health Consequences for Parents and Adolescents: A Family Stress and Relational Mediation Model. SRCD. Winner- Best Poster for-Interdisciplinary Research Award.
20. **Wickrama, T.**, Wickrama, K.A.S., Thanigaseelan, S., & Wickramaratne, W. (2017). Community experiences, health behaviors, and mental health among widows in the post war Mulathivu district, Sri Lanka. NCFR, Orlando.
21. Banford, J., Lambert, A., **Wickrama, T.**, et. al. (2016). Baseline findings of mental health among trauma exposed women heading households in Batticoloa. International Association of Traumatic Stress. Chicago, Illinois.
22. **Wickrama, T.**, Thanigaseelan, S., Gunasingam, S., & Sathiyavasan, S. (2016). Environmental influence on Dengue Contraction: Ethnic, Contextual, and Psychological Differences. Faculty of Agriculture Research Conference, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka.
23. Wickrama, K.A.S., **Wickrama, T.**, Thanigaseelan, S., Gunasingam, S., & Sathiyavasan, S. (2015). Conference on Dissemination of Knowledge on Environmental Influences on Dengue Contraction. Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research Institute, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
24. **Wickrama, T.** & Ponnampereuma, L. (2014, August). Therapy for Trauma Exposed Vulnerable Women in Kilinochchi. Clinical Psychology Conference. Dhaka, Bangladesh.
25. **Wickrama, T.** (2013, November and December). Needs Among Single Women Headed Households in the Kilinochchi District. Stake Holders Conferences, Kilinochchi and Colombo, Sri Lanka.
26. **Wickrama, T.** (2013, November). Bridging the Gap between Supply and Demand of Labour in the Local and International Markets. Stake Holder Conference. Colombo, Sri Lanka.
27. **Wickrama, T.** (2013, November). Developing Career Guidance for Youth. Stake Holder Conference, Colombo Sri Lanka.
28. **Wickrama, T.** (2013, November). Challenges Facing Skill Development and School Retention among Youth. Stake Holder Conference. Colombo, Sri Lanka.

29. **Wickrama, T.** (2013, November). Grievances among Graduate Trainees in the Government Sector. Stake Holder Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
30. **Wickrama, T.** & Wijayaratne, B. (2012, December). Disaster Recovery through Community Participation. Asia Pacific Conference on Public Administration. Colombo.
31. Banford, A, Ivey, D., **Wickrama, T.**, Fischer, J., Prouty, A. & Smith, D. (2012). The Role of Natural Disaster in Individual and Relational Adjustment. IFTA Congress.
32. **Wickrama, T.** & Bryant, C.M. (2011). Racial discrimination and mental and physical health of African American couples: Mediating role of family economic hardship. NCFR.
33. Bryant, C.M., Burwell, S.R., & **Wickrama, T.** (2011). Marital quality and health among married African American couples. NCFR.
34. Banford, A. & **Wickrama, T.** (2010). Mediating role of Karma in the association between Tsunami exposure and mothers' health. NCFR.
35. Tuggle, F. & **Wickrama, T.** (2010). Racial identity and couple activities among African American couples. NCFR.
36. Banford, A., **Wickrama, T.**, & Ketring, S. (2010). Physical illness following the Tsunami, religious participation, and marital satisfaction. AAMFT.
37. **Wickrama, T.** & Wickrama, K.A.S. (2010). Depressive symptoms and poor physical health in Tsunami exposed mothers. NCFR.
38. **Wickrama, T.** & Wickrama, K.A.S. (2010). Progression of depressive symptoms and poor physical health in Tsunami exposed mothers. Psychocultural Research Conference. Foundation for Psychocultural Research. UCLA.
39. **Wickrama, T.** & Wickrama, K.A.S. (2010). Childhood community contexts and young adult Metabolic Syndrome. ASA.
40. **Wickrama, T.** & Wickrama, K.A.S. (2010). Linking community, family and race/ethnicity to young adult sexual health: An investigation of mediating developmental processes during early life course. ASA.
41. **Wickrama, T.** (2009). Adolescent Context and Young Adult Mental and Physical Health Outcomes. Conference on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology. Roehampton University, London.
42. **Wickrama, T.** & Bryant, C.M. (2009). Racial discrimination and depressive symptoms among African American Couples: Role of Marital Behavior. NCFR. San Francisco.
43. Wickrama, K.A.S., **Wickrama, T.**, & Bryant, C.M. (2009). Racial Discrimination and Mental and Physical Health of African American Couples: Mediational Role of Family Economic Hardship. San Francisco. NCFR.

44. Wickrama, K.A.S., **Wickrama, T.**, & Lott, R. (2009). Heterogeneity in adolescent depressive symptom trajectories: Social stratification and implications for young adult physical health. Session: Early life predictors of health through the life course. ASA. San Francisco.
45. **Wickrama, T.** & Bryant, C.M. (2008). Paper. The association between body mass index and depressive symptoms of African American husbands and wives: The mediating and moderating role of marital closeness. NCFR. Pittsburg.
46. Wickrama, K.A.S. & **Wickrama, T.** (2008). Paper. Community and family collectivist orientation and mental health of Tsunami affected mothers: findings from a study in Sri Lanka. NCFR.
47. **Wickrama, T.**, K.A.S. Wickrama, & Chalandra Bryant. (2007). Paper. Mental health of Tsunami affected mothers and adolescents. NCFR. Minneapolis.
48. B. Bryant, C.M. Bryant, K.A.S. Wickrama, & **T. Wickrama.** (2007). Paper. Roles of social networks and counseling on African American newlyweds. NCFR. Minneapolis.
49. C.M. Bryant & **T. Wickrama.** (2007). Paper. Roles of discrimination & depression on African American marital quality. NCFR. Minneapolis.
50. **Wickrama, T.**, C.M. Bryant, J.M. Bolland, S.Thames, & L.Wilson. (2007). Paper. The emotional well-being of married African Americans affected by hurricane Katrina. NCFR. Minnesota.
51. K.A.S Wickrama, Chalandra M. Bryant, **T. Wickrama,** & J.M. Bolland. (2007). Paper. Community violence, marriage and health among African American couples. NCFR. Minnesota.
52. C.M. Bryant, B. M. Bryant, & **T. Wickrama.** (2007). Poster. Social ties across generations and reports of marital quality: An examination of newlywed spouses. SSHD (Society for the study of human development). State College, PA.
53. **Wickrama, T.**, Bryant, C., & Ellis, S. (2006). Poster. Community of origin influence on depression and its mediation by partner violence. NCFR. Phoenix.
54. Ellis, S., **Wickrama, T.**, & Bryant, C.M. (2006). Poster. Predictors of intensity in adolescent romantic relationships. IARR. Crete.
55. Paper Symposium: Family and community influences on adolescents in high-risk environments. (2006). SRA. San Francisco.
 - **Wickrama, T.**, Bryant, C. M., & Bolland, J. M. Perceived community support, parental monitoring and youth expectations
 - Bryant, C. M., Bolland, J. M., & **Wickrama, T.**, Wickrama, K. A. S. Community and family influence on youth relationship expectations: mediation by optimism
 - Bolland, J. M., Bryant, C. M., & **Wickrama, T.** Maternal and paternal figures as protective factors in reducing youth risk behavior: One size does NOT fit all

56. **Wickrama, T.**, Bryant, C.M., & Wickrama, K.A.S. (2005). Poster. Romantic relationship involvement: An analysis of African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, and European Americans (how depression mediates the direct impact of parent-adolescent relationship on later relationship stability and sexual behavior). NCFR. MD.
57. **Wickrama, T.** (2004). Round Table. The influence of community poverty on adolescent obesity: Race/ethnicity moderating effects. ASA. San Francisco.
58. Bryant, C. M., Burton, L., & **Wickrama, T.** (2004). Paper. Unmarried with children: The impact of family and friends on the intimate relationships of low income mothers. IARR. Madison, WI.
59. Wickrama, K. A. S., **Wickrama, T.**, & Bryant, C. M. (2004). Poster. The influence of community poverty on adolescent obesity: Race/ethnicity moderating effects. SRA. San Francisco
60. **Wickrama, T.**, Wickrama, K. A. S., & Bryant, C. M. (2003). Poster. Factors influencing adolescent use of school health counseling services: Moderating effect of minority status. ASA. San Francisco.
61. **Wickrama, T.** (2002). Paper. Influence of family and individual factors on eating behavior: Ethnic / racial differences. Pan-African Student Leadership Conference. Mankato, MN.

Selection of Ad Hoc Reviewer for the following journals:

- *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*
- *Obesity: A Research Journal*
- *American Journal of Public Health*
- *The Journal of Pediatrics*
- *Journal of Adolescence*
- *Journal of Adolescent Health*
- *The Journal of Early Adolescence*
- *Journal of Health and Place*
- *Journal of Child and Family Studies*
- *International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*

Editorial Board/Coordinator:

South Asian Journal of Applied Psychology, 2014
 Journal of Clinical, Counseling, and Health Psychology, ISSN, 2020-Present
 Eagan Journal of Contemporary Research, ISSN, 2020-Present
 International Journal of Prevention & Treatment of Substance Abuse Disorders, 2015-2017

University and Departmental Service

- Main Supervisor, PhD Dissertation, 2022-Present, University of Colombo
- MPhil Thesis Proposal Review Committee, 2012-2018, University of Colombo
- Main Supervisor, PhD Dissertation, 2025-Present, University of Peradeniya (in progress)
- PhD Admissions Committee, University of Nebraska, Dept of CYFS, 2021-Present
- International Program Development, Dean's Committee, University of Nebraska, 2023
- US National Institute of Health (NIH) Grant Reviewer, 2022
- Faculty Search Committee, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Dept of CYFS, 2022
- International Committee, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Dept of CYFS, 2022

- Chaired and served as member of 24 PhD and Masters committees, Auburn University
- Outstanding Graduate Students Scholarship Committee, 2007-2011, Auburn University
- Qualifying Exam Revision Committee, 2007-2012, Auburn University
- International Quality of Life Award Faculty Representative at UN, 2011, Auburn University
- Graduate Admission Committee, 2007-2012, Auburn University
- Advisor to Undergraduate Student Research Projects, 2007-2012, Auburn University
- Graduate Scholars Judge, 2010-2012, Auburn University