

# MICHAELA E. BENSON-GOLDSMITH

Victimology & Victim Studies Research Lab  
Phone: (479) 295-0459  
michaelagoldsmith@unomaha.edu

UNO School of Criminology & Criminal Justice  
6001 Dodge Street., CPACS 218  
Omaha, NE 68182

## EDUCATION

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- 2025 **Ph.D.**, Criminology/Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE  
*Dissertation*: “Restorative Justice in U.S. School District Discipline Policies: Associations with School Discipline Outcomes.”
- 2021 **M.S.**, Criminology/Criminal Justice, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO  
*Thesis*: “Use of Force Under Scrutiny: Impacts of Body-Worn Cameras on Types of Force Used by Police”
- 2019 **B.S.**, Criminology and Psychology, *Summa Cum Laude*, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO
- Forensic Child Psychology Certificate

## EMPLOYMENT

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- 2025-present *Grants Program Manager*, School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 2024-2025 *Research Specialist*, Juvenile Justice Institute, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 2021-2023 *Graduate Research Assistant*, School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 2018-2022 *Program Monitoring & Data Coordinator*, Child Advocacy Center, Springfield, MO
- 2019-2021 *Graduate Research Assistant*, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

## AREAS OF INTEREST

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Policy Evaluation	Child Welfare & Juvenile Justice
Child Victimization	Violence/Trauma & Mental Health
Victim Services & Re-Traumatization	Data Management & Analytics

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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1. **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.**, Campbell, B., Richards, T., & Nix, J. (2024). ViCAP usage and viability for sexual assault investigations: Findings from a survey of SAKI sites. *Police Practice & Research*, 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15614263.2024.2414321>
2. Richards, T.N., Branscum, C., **Goldsmith, M.**, & Ali, A. (2024). Examining institutional-level factors and campus climate on sexual misconduct reporting to Title IX coordinators and in Annual Security Reports. *Victims & Offenders*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15564886.2024.2351008>

3. **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.**, Gildea, B., Richards, T.N., Roley-Roberts, M., Greenberg, P., & Hobbs, A. (2024). An exploratory analysis of domestic and intimate partner violence victimization among persons experiencing eviction. *Violence Against Women Online Publication*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10778012231225231>

#### TECHNICAL REPORTS & RESEARCH BRIEFS

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1. **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.**, Hobbs, A., & Hall, F. (2024). *Juvenile justice institute 2024 annual report: County and program-specific evaluations for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022*. Juvenile Justice Institute. Submitted to the Nebraska Crime Commission, June 28, 2024.
2. Richards, T.N., Branscum, C., Nix, J., Wright, E., **Goldsmith, M.E.**, & Campbell, B. (2023). *Minnesota sexual assault kit research project: Final report*. Submitted to Office of Justice Programs, Minnesota Department of Public Safety, December 22, 2023.
3. **Goldsmith, M.E.**, Richards, T.N., Roley-Roberts, M., Greenberg, P., Gildea, B., & Hobbs, A. (May 2023). *The prevalence and context of out of home care among children whose parents have experienced eviction: Preliminary findings*. Foster Care Review Office Quarterly Special Report.
4. **Goldsmith, M. E.**, Kulig, T. C., & Richards, T. N. (May 2023). *OPD-UNO collaboration for the prevention and intervention of human trafficking against children in Omaha*. University of Nebraska at Omaha. Final report submitted to Omaha Police Department's Special Victims Unit, May 12, 2023.
5. **Goldsmith, M.E.**, Gildea, B., Roley-Roberts, M., Greenberg, P., Richards, T.N., & Hobbs, A. (2022). *A descriptive analysis of domestic and intimate partner violence victimization and evictions in Omaha, Nebraska* [Research brief]. University of Nebraska at Omaha.
6. Richards, T.N., **Goldsmith, M.E.**, & Branscum, C.C. (2022). *Examining Biennial Data on Reports of Sexual Misconduct to Title IX Coordinators, Clery and VAWA Crime Reports, and Campus Climate Survey Data for Maryland Institutions of Higher Education: AY 2018-2020*. Submitted to the Maryland Higher Education Commission, April 25, 2022.
7. Richards, T.N., Branscum, C., Nix, J., Wright, E., **Goldsmith, M.E.**, & Campbell, B. (2022). *Minnesota Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Project interim report: A retrospective review of previously untested sexual assault kits in Anoka County, MN*. Submitted to Office of Justice Programs, Minnesota Department of Public Safety, January 13, 2022.

#### MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

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1. **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.**, Armstrong, T., Richards, T.N., Boisvert, D., Wells, J., & Lewis, R. (expected 2025). Negative emotionality and strain: A general strain theory approach to intimate partner violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

#### MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

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1. **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.**, Richards, T.N., Roley-Roberts, M., Greenberg, P., Gildea, B., & Hobbs, A. (expected 2025). Foster care experiences among children of evicted adults. Intended for *Child Maltreatment*.

2. Branscum, C., Milner, E., & **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.** (expected 2025). Nonconsensual pornography and the VAWA: Progress made and hurdles left to clear. Intended for *Violence Against Women*.
3. Richards, T.N., **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.**, Nix, J., Campbell, B., & Wright, E. (expected 2025). The Process of Victim Notification in the Minnesota Sexual Assault Kit Initiative and Predictors of Successful Notification and Victim Re-Engagement. Intended for *Policing: An International Journal*.
4. **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.**, Armstrong, T., Richards, T.N., Boisvert, D., Wells, J., & Lewis, R. (expected 2025). Gender-specific General Strain Theory Models for Intimate Partner Violence. Intended for *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.
5. **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.** (expected 2025). Restorative Justice in Discipline Policies: Results from a Content Analysis of U.S. School District Policies. Intended for *Criminology & Public Policy*.
6. **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.** (expected 2026). Restorative Justice in U.S. School District Discipline Policies: Associations with School Discipline Outcomes. Intended for *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*.

#### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE: EXTERNAL FUNDING

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2025-2027	<p>An Outcome Assessment of Seattle’s Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP)  <i>Role:</i> Grants Program Manager  <i>Funding Agency:</i> Office on Violence Against Women, 15JOVW-24-GG-01527-MUMU  <i>Amount:</i> \$499,646</p>
2025-2028	<p>A National Review of Multidisciplinary Teams addressing Child Sexual Exploitation  <i>Role:</i> Grants Program Manager  <i>Funding Agency:</i> National Institute of Justice, 15PNIJ-24-GG-01653-MUMU  <i>Amount:</i> \$1,499,977</p>
2024-2025	<p>Evidence-based Nebraska  <i>Role:</i> Co-Primary Investigator (PI, Dr. Anne Hobbs)  <i>Funding Agency:</i> Nebraska Crime Commission, pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute 43-2404.02, CC-25-742  <i>Amount:</i> \$289,900</p>
2024	<p>Evidence-based Nebraska  <i>Role:</i> Co-Investigator (PI, Dr. Anne Hobbs)  <i>Funding Agency:</i> Nebraska Crime Commission, pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute 43-2404.02, CC-24-737  <i>Amount:</i> \$289,900</p>
2023	<p>UNO Gender and Sexuality Resource Center project to support new programming and resources to prevent and serve student victims of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.  <i>Role:</i> Research Assistant (PI, Dr. Tara Richards)  <i>Funding Agency:</i> OVW Campus Grant</p>

- Minnesota Sexual Assault Kit Research Project  
*Role:* Research Assistant (PI, Dr. Tara Richards, Co-I, Drs. Justin Nix, Emily Wright, and Bradley Campbell)  
 2020-2023  
*Funding Agency:* National Institute of Justice, Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women: Sexual Assault, Intimate Partner Violence, Stalking, and Teen Dating Violence, NIJ 2019-MU-MU-0095  
*Amount:* \$657,488
- OPD-UNO Collaboration for the Prevention and Intervention of Human Trafficking against Children in Omaha  
*Role:* Project Coordinator (PI, Dr. Teresa Kulig; Co-I, Dr. Tara Richards)  
 2022-2023  
*Funding Agency:* Great Plains IDeA Community-Engaged Research Pilot Project Award, National Institutes of Health, General Medical Sciences, U54 GM115458  
*Amount:* \$35,637
- Examining the Intersection of Domestic Violence, Eviction, and Racial Disparities in Omaha: Toward Trauma-Informed Systems of Care  
*Role:* Research Assistant (PI, Dr. Anne Hobbs; Co-I, Dr. Tara Richards)  
 2020-2023  
*Funding Agency:* Great Plains IDeA-CTR Network, National Institutes of Health  
*Amount:* \$25,000

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#### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE: INTERNAL FUNDING

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- Restorative Justice Policies in School Districts: Impacts on the Use of Exclusionary Discipline in Schools  
*Role:* Principal Investigator (Faculty Mentor, Dr. Tara Richards)  
 2024-2025  
*Funding Agency:* University of Nebraska at Omaha Graduate Research and Creative Activity (GRACA)  
*Amount:* \$5,000
- Negative Emotionality and Strain: A GST Approach to Intimate Partner Violence  
*Role:* Principal Investigator (Faculty Mentors, Dr. Tara Richards, Dr. Todd Armstrong)  
 2022-2023  
*Funding Agency:* University of Nebraska at Omaha GRACA  
*Amount:* \$5,000

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#### OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- Reducing Evictions for Vulnerable Families Using a Novel Trauma-Informed Approach  
*Role:* Research Assistant (PI, Dr. Anne Hobbs; CO-I, Dr. Tara Richards)  
 2022-2023
- Use of Force Under Scrutiny: Impacts of Body-Worn Cameras on Types of Force Used by Police [Master's Thesis]  
*Role:* Principal Investigator (Faculty Mentor, Dr. Michael Kyle)  
*Location:* Missouri State University  
 2019-2021
- Impact of HAVEN Training on Victim Blaming in a Rape Scenario  
*Role:* Research Assistant (PI, Dr. David Zimmerman)  
*Location:* Missouri State University  
 2015-2019

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

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- 2025 **Benson-Goldsmith, M.** (2025, May). *Understanding School District Discipline Policies Incorporating Restorative Justice*. Presented to the Nebraska Restorative Practices Community of Practice.
- 2025 Whitehouse, E. & **Benson-Goldsmith, M.** (2025, March). *The Victimology and Victim Studies Research Lab*. Presented to the UNO School of Criminology and Criminal Justice Ph.D. Student Preview Visit.
- 2023 Bussey, T. & **Benson-Goldsmith, M.** (2023, December). *Youth Emergency Services: Breaking the Cycle to Reduce the Overrepresentation of Black & Minority Youths in the Juvenile Justice System*. Presented at Race, Crime, and Injustice Service-Learning Event.
- *This presentation won against 4 others, awarding Y.E.S. \$1,000 from the UNO Community Engagement office.*
- 2023 **Goldsmith, M.** (2023, March). *OPD and UNO Collaboration for the Prevention and Intervention of Human Trafficking against Children in Omaha*. Presented to the UNO School of Criminology & Criminal Justice Student Preview Visit.
- 2023 **Goldsmith, M.,** Kulig, T., & Richards, T. (2023, March). *OPD and UNO Collaboration for the Prevention and Intervention of Human Trafficking against Children in Omaha*. Results Presented to Collaboration Partners in the Omaha Police Department's Child Special Victims Unit.
- 2022 Greenberg, P., **Goldsmith, M.,** Gildea, B., Roley-Roberts, M., Richards, T., Hobbs, A., Timilsina, G., Martin, N., & Bradley, M. (2022, June). *Domestic Violence and Eviction Summit*. Presented at the Domestic Violence and Eviction Summit at the Highlander. Omaha, NE.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- 2025 **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.** (2025, November). *Restorative Justice in School District Discipline Policies Addressing Bullying and Harassment in Schools* [Panel]. To be presented at the 79<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Washington D.C.
- 2025 **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.** (2025, September). *Restorative Justice in Discipline Policies: Results from a Content Analysis of U.S. School District Policies* [Panel]. To be presented at the 2025 Midwestern Criminal Justice Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.
- 2024 **Benson-Goldsmith, M.E.** (2024, November). *Impacts of Restorative Justice Policies on the Use of Exclusionary Discipline in Schools* [Panel]. Presented at the 78<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, CA.
- 2024 **Goldsmith, M.E.,** Richards, T.N., Roley-Roberts, M., Greenberg, P., Gildea, B., & Hobbs, A. (2024, March). *Foster care experiences among children of evicted adults* [Panel]. Presented at the 61st annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. Chicago, IL.

- 2023 **Goldsmith, M.,** Richards, T., Campbell, B., Nix, J., & Wright, E. (2023, November). *ViCAP Usage and Viability for Sexual Assault Investigations: Findings from a Survey of SAKI Sites* [Panel]. Presented at the 77<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023 **Goldsmith, M.,** Kulig, T., & Richards, T. (2023, September). *OPD and UNO Collaboration for the Prevention and Intervention of Human Trafficking against Children in Omaha* [Poster]. Presented at the 2023 Midwestern Criminal Justice Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.
- *This poster was awarded MCJA's 2023 Graduate Student Poster Award*
- 2022 **Goldsmith, M.,** Armstrong, T., Richards, T., Boisvert, D., Wells, J., & Lewis, R. (2022, November). *Negative Emotionality, Strain, and Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration: A General Strain Theory Approach to IPV* [Panel]. Presented at the 76th annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA.
- 2022 Richards, T., **Goldsmith, M.,** Branscum, C., Wright, E., Nix, J., Campbell, B. (2022, November). *Assessing the Impact and Feasibility of the SAKI and ViCAP Partnership* [Panel]. Presented at the 76th annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA.
- 2021 **Goldsmith, M.,** Kyle, M., White, D., Schafer, J. (2021, November). *Exploring the Force Continuum Through a New Lens: The Impact of BWCs* [Panel]. Presented at the 75th annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Chicago, IL.
- 2018 **Goldsmith, M.,** Dickey, J., Lehman, P., & Zimmerman, D. (2018, May). *The Impact of Haven Training on Victim Blaming in a Rape Scenario* [Poster]. Presented at the Missouri State College of Health and Human Services Annual Research Symposium.
- 2017 Oberdeick, K., Zimmerman, D., & **Goldsmith, M.** (2017, May). *Examining the Impact of the Haven Training on Perceptions of Rape* [Poster]. Presented at the Missouri State College of Health and Human Services Annual Research Symposium.

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

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- 2024 Graduate Studies Student Conference Presentation Travel Funding (Award for \$500)
- 2024 Association of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) Victimology Section 2024 Outstanding Graduate Student (Award for \$150)
- 2024-2025 Office of Research and Creative Activity (ORCA) Graduate Research and Creative Activity (GRACA) (Grant Award for \$5,000)
- 2023 Midwest Criminal Justice Association (MCJA) 2023 Graduate Student Poster Award Winner (Award for \$150)
- 2023 Graduate Studies Student Conference Presentation Travel Funding (Award for \$500)
- 2023 ORCA Student Conference Travel Funding (Award for \$500)
- 2022 Graduate Studies Student Conference Presentation Travel Funding (Award for \$500)
- 2022-2023 Office of Research and Creative Activity (ORCA) Graduate Research and Creative Activity (GRACA) (Grant Award for \$5,000)
- 2021 Graduate Studies Student Conference Presentation Travel Funding (Award for \$500)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### *Adjunct Professor, School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha/Lincoln (2025 – present)*

UNO CRCJ 3350-001 Criminology (undergraduate, in person) Fall 2025

UNO CRCJ 8080 Seminar in Juvenile Justice (graduate, online program tune up) Summer 2025

UNO CRCJ 4410 Victimology (undergraduate, online class tune up) Summer 2025

UNL CRIM 440-800 Domestic Violence (undergraduate, online) Summer 2025

### *Per Course Faculty, School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, Missouri State University (2023 – Present)*

MSU CRM 220-897/899 Criminology (undergraduate, online) Spring 2024

MSU CRM 220-898 Criminology (undergraduate, online) Fall 2023

### *Graduate Assistant, School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha (2021 – 2023)*

UNL CRIM 442-700 Child Abuse and Neglect (undergraduate, online) Summer 2023

### *Teaching Assistant, Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice, Missouri State University (2019 – 2021)*

MSU CRM 250 Policing (undergraduate, online) [TA]

MSU CRM 314 Forensic Science (undergraduate, online) [TA]

## INVITED GUEST LECTURES

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2025 **Benson-Goldsmith, M.** (2025, April). *Victimology and Gender-based Violence*. Baylee Allen-Flores' Criminology Class (in person). University of Nebraska Omaha

2022 **Goldsmith, M.** (2022, February). *Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking*. Teresa Kulig's Victimology Class (in person). University of Nebraska Omaha

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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May 2025 Student Marshall, Graduate College, Spring 2025 Commencement, University of Nebraska at Omaha, NE

March 2025 Representative, Victimology & Victim Studies Research Lab and Juvenile Justice Institute at the UNO School of Criminology & Criminal Justice prospective graduate students event, Omaha, NE

Feb. 2025 Peer Reviewer, Violence Against Women

2024-present Board Member, Heartland Juvenile Services Association, Omaha, NE

August 2024 Peer Reviewer, Violence Against Women

March 2024 Representative, Juvenile Justice Institute at the UNO School of Criminology & Criminal Justice prospective graduate students event, Omaha, NE

Sept. 2023 Representative, Victimology and Victim Studies Research Lab at the UNO School of Criminology & Criminal Justice Freshman Open House, Omaha, NE

June 2023 Peer Reviewer, Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment

March 2023 Host, Nebraska Victim Advocacy Forum. Nebraska Board of Parole and UNO School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, Omaha, NE

2022-2023 Graduate Student Mentor, Department of Criminology/Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska Omaha, Omaha, NE

2019-2021 Co-Editor, Department of Criminology/Criminal Justice Annual Newsletter, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CERTIFICATIONS**

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April-Nov 24 Evergreen Data Visualization Academy [online course]; Evergreen Data

Nov 23-Feb 24 Foundations of Teaching Online, 4e [online course]; UNO Office of Digital Learning

Aug-Dec 23 Multi-Level Modeling and Time Series Analysis Course [audited course]; UNO School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, Dr. Hamilton

May-Sept 21 Google Data Analytics Specialization [online course]; Coursera - Credential ID: RG8VJFDUNCJN

May 2024 Social and Behavioral Research Course [training]; CITI Program - Credential ID: *Expires May 27* 61418977

Aug-Oct 21 LC101 JavaScript & Java Web Development Course [online course]; Launch Code - Certificate of Achievement

May-Aug 18 Child Advocate Internship; Child Advocacy Center, Springfield, MO

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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2023-*Present* Midwestern Criminal Justice Association

2019-*Present* American Society of Criminology (ASC)  
*Member*, Division of Development/Life-Course Criminology  
*Member*, Division of Critical Criminology & Social Justice  
*Member*, Division of Victimology

2019-*Present* American Criminal Justice Society (ACJS)  
*Member*, Victimology Section  
*Member*, Restorative and Community Justice  
*Member*, Juvenile Justice Section  
*Member*, Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship