
COLLEEN WARNER COLANER

212 Switzler Hall
Department of Communication
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211
(573) 882-3522
colanerc@missouri.edu

EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** **University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE** 2011
Department of Communication Studies
Dissertation Title: *Communicatively Forming Developed Adoptive Identity:
Explicating the Association between Parental Communication, Developed
Adoptive Identity, and Well-being*
Advisor: Jordan Soliz
- M.A.** **Wake Forest University** 2007
Department of Communication
Thesis Title: *The Effects of Evangelical Christian Gender Beliefs on Family
Communication and Typology*
Advisor: Marina Krmar
- B.A.** **Cedarville University** 2004
Department of Communication Arts
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- University of Missouri (2011-present)
Assistant Professor - Department of Communication
- University of Nebraska (2007-2011)
Graduate Teaching Assistant - Department of Communication Studies
- Wake Forest University (2005-2007)
Graduate Teaching Assistant - Department of Communication
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RESEARCH

Journal Articles

Colaner, C. W., Halliwell, D., & Guignon, P. (in press). "What do you say to your mother when your mother's standing beside you?" Birth and adoptive family contributions to adoptive

identity via relational identity and relational-relational identity gaps. *Communication Monographs*. doi: 10.1080/03637751.2014.955808

Colaner, C.W., Soliz, J., & Nelson, L. R. (in press). Communicatively managing religious identity difference in parent-child relationships: The role of accommodative and non-accommodative communication. *Journal of Family Communication*. doi: 10.1080/15267431.2014.945700

Colaner, C. W., & Rittenour, C. E. (in press). "Feminism begins at home": The influence of mother gender socialization on daughter career and motherhood aspirations as channeled through daughter feminist identification. *Communication Quarterly*.

Colaner, C. W. (2014). Measuring adoptive identity: Validation of the Adoptive Identity Work Scale. *Adoption Quarterly*, 17, 1-24. doi: 10.1080/10926755.2014.891546

Rittenour, C. E., **Colaner, C. W.**, & Odenweller, K. G. (2014). Mothers' identities and gender socialization of daughters. *Southern Communication Journal*, 79, 215-234. doi: 10.1080/1041794X.2014.895408

Rittenour, C. E. & **Colaner, C. W.** (2012). Finding female fulfillment: Intersecting role-based and morality-based identities of motherhood, feminism, and generativity as predictors of women's self satisfaction and life satisfaction. *Sex Roles*, 67, 351-362. doi: 10.1007/s11199-012-0186-7

Colaner, C. W. & Kranstuber, H. (2010). "Forever kind of wondering": Communicatively managing uncertainty in adoptive families. *Journal of Family Communication*, 10, 236-255.

Colaner, C. W. (2009). Exploring the communication of Evangelical families: The impact of Evangelical gender role ideology on family communication patterns. *Communication Studies*, 60, 97-113.

Colaner, C. W., & Giles, S.M. (2008). The baby blanket or the briefcase: The impact of Evangelical gender role ideologies on career and mothering aspirations of female Evangelical college students. *Sex Roles*, 58, 526-534.

Colaner, C. W. & Warner, S.C. (2005). The effect of egalitarian and complementarian gender role attitudes on career aspirations in female undergraduate college students. *Journal of Psychology and Theology*, 33, 225-229.

Book and Handbook Chapters

Warner, B. & Colaner, C. W. (forthcoming). Talking politics at the dinner table: The effects of family communication styles on young citizens' normative political attitudes. In E. Thorson, M. McKinney, & D. Shaw (eds.), *Political Socialization in a Media Saturated World*. New York: Peter Lang Publishing.

Soliz, J. & Colaner, C. W. (2015). Familial solidarity and religious identity: Communication and Interfaith Families. In L. Turner & R. West (Eds.), *The Sage Handbook of Family Communication*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Galvin, K. & Colaner, C. (2013). Created through law and language: Communicative complexities of adoptive families. In K. Floyd & M. Morman (Eds.), *Widening the family circle* (2nd ed., 191-209). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Other Publications

Galvin, K. & Colaner, C. W. (forthcoming). Communication in adoptive families. In C. Berger & M. Roloff (Eds.), *International Encyclopedia of Interpersonal Communication*. Hoboken, NJ: WileyBlackwell

Colaner, C. W., Poynter, D., Nelson, L. (forthcoming). Second parent adoption (stepparents). In L. Ganong & M. Coleman (Eds.), *Social History of American Families: An Encyclopedia*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Braithwaite, D. O., Breshears, D., & Colaner, C. W. (2009). Weddings. In H. T. Reis & S. Sprecher (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Human Relationships* (Vol. 3, pp. 1687-1688). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Manuscripts In Progress

Colaner, C. W. & Soliz, J. (under review). Adoptive parent communication and adoptive identity development. *Communication Research*.

Colaner, C. W. (under review). Adoptive identity typologies and adoptee well-being. *Identity*.

Colaner, C. W., Horstman, H. K., & Rittenour, C. E. (under review). Adult adoptee family identification with birth and adoptive families: An application of the Common Ingroup Identity Model. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*.

Horstman, H. K., Colaner, C. W., & Rittenour, C. E. (preparing manuscript for journal submission). Patterning openness: Expanding Family Communication Patterns Theory. *Journal of Communication*.

Colaner, C. W. & Scharp, K. (currently analyzing data). Systematic openness: Understanding the challenges and opportunities of open adoption relationships via Family Systems Theory. *Journal of Applied Communication*.

Rittenour, C. E. & Colaner, C. W. (currently analyzing data). Transmission of mother, feminist, and generativity identities in mother/daughter dyads.

Warner, B. & Colaner, C. W. (currently analyzing data). Connection and difference of political identification in parent-child dyads.

Colaner, C. W., Horstman, H. K., Hayes, A., & Nelson, L. (currently analyzing data). Adoptive parent perspectives on open adoption communication with and about birth parents.

Grants and Fellowships

University of Arkansas SEC Visiting Faculty Travel Grant. (2013). "Online Communication in Adoption Relationships." With Webb, L. M., Amason, P., & Hesse, C. Funded, \$2500.

National Institutes of Health. (2012). "An Assessment Tool and Model to Improve Military Family Deployment Communication." With Houston, B. Requested \$196,891. Project not funded.

University of Missouri Richard Wallace Alumni Grant. (2012). "Adoptive Parent Communication in Open Adoption Relationships." Funded, \$3000.

University of Missouri Summer Research Fellowship. (2012). "Assessing Agency Perspectives on Open Adoption Communication in Adoptive and Birth Family Relationships." Funded, \$7000.

University of Missouri Research Council Grant. (2012). "Assessing Agency Perspectives on Open Adoption Communication in Adoptive and Birth Family Relationships." Funded, \$4489.

University of Missouri Arts and Science Alumni Organization Faculty Incentive Grant. (2012). "Exploring the Formation of a Developed Adoptive Identity with Adult Adoptee Focus Groups." Funded, \$1500.

Organization for Research on Women and Communication Research Development Grant. (2009). "Mother/Daughter Communication of Interwoven Identities: Transmission of Mother, Feminist, and Generativity Identities" with Rittenour, C. E. Funded, \$1000.

Competitive Papers and Conference Presentations

Horstman, H. K., Colaner, C. W., & Rittenour, C. E. (2014, May). Patterning openness: Expanding family communication patterns to enhance adult adoptee dual family identities and self-esteem. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Communication Association, Seattle, WA.

Colaner, C. W., Poynter, D., & Guignon, P. (2013, November). Residence, reunion, and recognition: Adoptive and birth family relationships converging and conflicting to inform adoptive identity. Paper presented the meeting of the National Communication Association, Washington D.C.

Rittenour, C. E. & Colaner, C. W. (2013, April). Communicating gendered values: Women's motherhood, feminism, and generativity identities as predictors of gender socialization of Daughters. Paper presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Kansas City, MO.

Colaner, C. W. (2012, November). Communicatively constructing adoption: Exploring the association between parental communication, developed adoptive identity, and adoptee adjustment. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Orlando, FL.

Colaner, C. W. (2012, November). Religious identity and family communication – Current findings and future directions. Panel discussion at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Orlando, FL.

Colaner, C.W. & Nelson, L. R. (2012, April). Communicatively managing religious identity difference in parent-child relationships: The role of accommodative and non-accommodative communication. Paper presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Cleveland, OH.

Colaner, C. W. & Rittenour, C. E. (2011, November). Feminism begins at home: The influence of mother gender socialization on daughter's motherhood and career aspirations as channeled through daughter feminist identification. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.

Rittenour, C. E. & Colaner, C. W. (2011, February). Women's intersecting identities, female fulfillment, and gender guidance: The links between women's mothering, feminist, and generativity identities, mother's well-being, and gender socialization of daughters. Paper presented at the meeting of the Western States Communication Association, Monterey, CA.

Colaner, C. W., McQuillan, J., Shreffler, K., Greil, A. L. (2010, November). Perception of fertility problems as a shared couple stressor and consequences for fertility specific distress. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

Colaner, C. W. (2010, April). Engaging the dark side. Panel presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Cincinnati, OH.

Colaner, C. W. (2010, April). How close is too close? Examining teachers' self-disclosure and student engagement. Panel presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Cincinnati, OH. *Top panel for the Communication Education division.*

Colaner, C. W. & Kranstuber, H. (2009, November). "Forever kind of wondering": Communicatively managing uncertainty in adoptive families. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL. *Top student paper for the Family Communication Division.*

Colaner, C. W. (2009, June). Engaging adoptees in current and future scholarship: A proposal to investigate the formation of an integrated adoptive identity. Paper presented at the Doctoral Honors Seminar, Morgantown, WV.

Colaner, C. W. (2008, November). Turning points in the co-construction of religious identity in Evangelical homes. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, San Diego, CA.

Colaner, C. W. (2008, April). 'Tell me again how you found me': A proposal to explore associations between adopted children's entrance stories, child well-being, and family health. Paper presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Madison, WI. (Interpersonal Young Scholars Masters Class with Steve Duck.)

Colaner, C. W. (2008, April). Exploring the communication of Evangelical families: The impact of Evangelical gender role ideology on family communication patterns. Paper presented at the meeting of the Central States Communication Association, Madison, WI. *Top student paper for Interpersonal and Small Group Division.*

Colaner, C. W. & Giles, S. M. (2007, November). Predicting adolescent body esteem and weight control behaviors from direct and indirect parent norms. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Communication Association, Chicago, IL.

Colaner, C. W. (2006, November). Complementarianism: Conservative religious gender discourse as technical knowledge. Paper presented at the 2006 National Communication Association Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Colaner, C. W. (2006, April). Side by side or one step behind: The effects of Evangelical Christian gender beliefs on family typology. Poster session presented at the Wake Forest University Graduate Research Day.

Colaner, C. W. (2004, May). The effect of egalitarianism and complementarian sex role attitudes on career and home aspirations in female undergraduate college students. Paper presented at the meeting of the DePauw University Undergraduate Honors Conference.

Invited Research Presentations

Origins, belonging, and the adopted individual: Measuring and predicting adoptive identity.
Psychology department colloquium (October 2012).

TEACHING

Graduate Seminars

Communication in Discourse Dependent and Understudied Families (University of Missouri)
Interpersonal Communication (University of Missouri)

Undergraduate Courses

Family Communication (University of Missouri)
Relational Communication (University of Missouri)

Research Methods (University of Missouri ; University of Nebraska)
Interpersonal Communication (University of Nebraska)
Business and Professional Communication (University of Nebraska)
Small Group (University of Nebraska)
Introduction to Public Speaking (Wake Forest University)
Introduction to Interpersonal Communication (Wake Forest University)
Cultural Anthropology (Cedarville University)
Family and Society (Cedarville University)

Current Advisees

Danielle Poynter (PhD expected May 2015)
Leslie Nelson (PhD expected May 2017; completed MA April, 2014)
Alexie Hays (PhD, expected May 2017)

Completed Advisees

Elaine Davies (PhD, December 2013). Co-Advisor. Instructor, Chapman University, non-tenure track.
Noah Franken (PhD, July, 2014). Assistant Teaching Professor, West Texas A&M University, non-tenure track.
Kristina Wenzel (PhD, July 2014). Co-Advisor. Assistant Professor, Eckerd College, tenure track.

Committees Completed

Emily Rauscher (PhD, Department of Communication, May 2012)
Tamara Coon (PhD, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, May 2012)
Loni Danise (MA, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, May 2012)
Candy Noltensmeyer (PhD, Department of Communication, July 2014)

Current Committees

Brandon Miller (PhD, Department of Communication, May 2016)
Jenny Lewallen (PhD, Department of Communication, May 2016)
Ashton Chapman (MA, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, May 2015)

Undergraduate Mentoring

Ashlee Reece, selected for the Undergraduate Research Mentorship Program (Summer 2012)

Invited Lectures

COMMUN 3561 Relational Communication: *Communicative Approaches to Family Definitions and Identity*, July 19, 2013 – University of Missouri

GN_HON 2243H Human Sciences Sequence I – Personal Identity: *Communication Approaches to Personal Identity*, September 24, 2012

COMMUN 4412 Gender, Language, and Communication: *Feminist Identity Development and Gender Socialization*, February 8, 2012 – University of Missouri

COMM 370 Family Communication: *Religiosity and the Family*, Fall 2008 – University of
Nebraska-Lincoln

SERVICE

Disciplinary Service

2014	<i>Western Journal of Communication</i> , Editorial Board
2014	<i>Journal of Family Communication</i> , Editorial Board
2012-present	<i>Adoption Quarterly</i> , Invited Reviewer
2012-present	<i>Journal of Applied Communication Research</i> , Invited Reviewer
2011-2013	New professional and graduate student representative, Family Communication Division, National Communication Association
2011-present	Human Communication Research, Invited Reviewer
2011-present	<i>Journal of Family Communication</i> , Invited Reviewer
2011-present	<i>Sex Roles</i> , Invited Reviewer
2012	Reviewer, 2 nd Vice President Panels, National Communication Association
2011	Faculty Consultant, Adoptive Parent Communication Project, CC160 Interpersonal Communication, Emerson University
2011	Organization for Research on Women and Communication Research, Grant Reviewer Development
2011	Family Communication Division, National Communication Association, Paper reviewer
2010	Small Group and Interpersonal Division, Central States Communication Association, Paper Reviewer
2010	Scholar to Scholar, National Communication Association, Session organizer
2008-2010	Assistant to Dawn Braithwaite, NCA President

2008 Small Group and Interpersonal Division, Central States Communication Association, Program Chair,

University Service

2011-present Faculty Fellow, Center for Family Policy and Research

2013 Co-Facilitator, Freshman Interest Group

2012-2013 Planning Committee Member, Life Science Symposium

2012 Judge, Undergraduate Research Fair

Departmental Service

2014 Course Mentor, COMMUN 4520 Family Communication, Danielle Poynter

2013-2014 Research Committee member

2013-2014 Faculty Awards Committee member

2013-2014 Loren Reid Lecture Planning Committee member

2013 Course Mentor, COMMUN 4520 Family Communication, Kristina Wenzel

2012-2013 Research Committee member

2012-2013 Graduate Admissions Committee member

2012 Presenter for Department Colloquium “The Job Interview Process” with Dr. Mitchell McKinney

2012 Course Mentor, COMMUN 3571 Group Decision Making Processes, Elaine Davies

2012 Course Mentor, COMMUN 3651 Relational Communication, Candy Noltensmeyer

2011-2012 Graduate Admissions Committee member

2011 Presenter for Department Colloquium “The Job Interview Process” with Dr. Mitchell McKinney

Professional Memberships

National Communication Association
Central States Communication Association
Organization for Research on Women and Communication
International Association for Relationship Research

AWARDS AND HONORS

Top panel, Interpersonal and Small Group Communication Division, Central States
Communication Association, 2014
Obstacles and Opportunities: Family Communication, Life-Cycle Transitions, and Turbulence

University of Missouri Summer Research Fellowship 2012
**fellowship granted by the University to professors to contribute to research, selected by the
University*

Lambda Pi Eta Honorary Membership, University of Missouri, 2012
Selected by undergraduate students in recognition of teaching

Sandra Petronio Family Communication Dissertation Award (Nominated), National
Communication Association, 2012

Recipient of the University of Nebraska Graduate Fellowship 2010
Top fellowship granted by the University to doctoral students, selected by the University

Top panel, Communication Education Division, Central States Communication Association,
2010
How close is too close? Examining teachers' self-disclosure and student engagement

Top student paper (with Haley Kranstuber), Family Communication Division, National
Communication Association, 2009
"Forever kind of wondering": Communicatively managing uncertainty in adoptive families

Outstanding Graduate Assistant Research Award (Nominated by the Communication Studies
Department and Received Honorable Mention), University of Nebraska, 2009

New Scholar Workshop selectee, International Association for Relationship Research, 2009

Doctoral Honors Seminar selectee, National Communication Association, 2009
*Engaging adoptees in current and future scholarship: A proposal to investigate the formation of
an integrated adoptive identity."*

Young Scholars' Masters Class selectee, Central States Communication Association, 2009
*'Tell me again how you found me': A proposal to explore associations between adopted children's
entrance stories, child well-being, and family health"*

Top student paper in the Interpersonal and Small Group Division of the Central States
Communication Association, Madison, WI, 2008.

*Exploring the communication of Evangelical families: The impact of Evangelical gender role
ideology on family communication patterns*

Recipient of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Centennial Fellowship 2007

*Top fellowship granted by the Communication Studies Department to incoming graduate
students, selected by the Communication Studies Department*

DePauw University Undergraduate Honors Conference selectee, 2000

*The effect of egalitarianism and complementarian sex role attitudes on career and home
aspirations in female undergraduate college students*

Updated August 2014