

Global Need for Formal Child Care

One-day conference

Friday, August 11, 2017

[Website](#) & [Registration](#)

The need for formal child care is becoming a pressing global challenge. Dramatic economic changes have seen unprecedented rates of women participating in paid market work across the world. However, this fundamental transition in how women organize their lives has not been met by an equally dramatic transition in how children are cared for. Consequently, women across the globe are faced with tough choices regarding the trade-offs between work, personally caring for their children and using often substandard alternative child care arrangements. With much effort focused on improving work opportunities for women, policy efforts regarding child care have lagged.

This one-day conference is bringing together stakeholders and scholars to focus on the tensions between women's work and child care, particularly as they relate to formal child care and women's outcomes. The event will highlight policy implications of research findings and will be relevant for academics as well as policy-makers and practitioners at local and international levels.

The conference is organized by [Shelley Clark](#), Director, [Centre on Population Dynamics](#) and James McGill Professor, [Sociology](#), McGill University and [Sarah Brauner-Otto](#), Associate Professor, Sociology, McGill University. This conference is part of the GrOW project [Improving childcare options to create better economic opportunities for women in Nairobi slums](#) led by Shelley Clark and co-led by [Caroline Kabiru](#), Research Scientist, African Population and Health Research Center ([APHRC](#)), Nairobi, Kenya.

GROWTH AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN (GrOW). Women around the world increasingly participate in economic activities, but they continue to face significant challenges in pursuing better-paid, productive jobs, and in accumulating assets. There is a lack of knowledge about how best to overcome many of these challenges. The [Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women \(GrOW\)](#) program aims to fill the gap, providing evidence that can inform social and economic policies to improve poor women's lives, while promoting economic growth. GrOW is a partnered initiative funded by the [International Development Research Centre \(IDRC\)](#), [UK Department for International Development \(DFID\)](#) and the [William and Flora Hewlett Foundation](#).

PROJECT PARTNERS



PROJECT FUNDERS



Global Need for Formal Child Care

McGill University
Ballroom (3rd floor), [Thomson House](#),
3650 McTavish Street
Montreal, Québec, H3A 1Y2

All [blue text](#) is hyperlinked to an associated website

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and refreshments

9:00 – 9:30 Welcome and opening remarks

- Welcome: [Shelley Clark](#), McGill University
- Opening remarks: [Nancy Folbre](#), Professor Emerita of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst

9:30 – 10:30 **PANEL 1: The use of day care and other child care arrangements**

Moderator: [Milka Njeri](#), African Population and Health Research Center

1. *Formal daycare use among mothers in a Nairobi informal settlement: Evidence from an intervention of subsidised and quality enhanced daycare*
 - Presenter: [Stella Muthuri](#), African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), Nairobi, Kenya (Co-authors: [Martin Mutua](#), APHRC; Milka Wanjohi, APHRC; [Caroline Kabiru](#), APHRC; [Shelley Clark](#), McGill University; [Sonia Laszlo](#), Economics and Director, Institute for the Study of International Development, McGill University)
2. *Formal vs informal child care among Indigenous Canadians*
 - Presenter: [Simona Bignami](#), Demography, Université de Montréal (Co-author: Virginie Boulet, Demography, Université de Montréal)
3. *New Evidence on How Universal Child Care Influenced Child Care Decisions and Child Development in Canada*
 - Presenter: [Steven Lehrer](#), School of Policy Studies and Economics, Queen's University (Co-authors: [Weili Ding](#), NYU-Shanghai and Queen's University; [Michael Kottelenberg](#), Huron University College)

10:30 – 10:45 Refreshments and Photovoice Exhibit

PhotoVoice exhibit and conference poster on *Picturing Change* from the GrOW project *Improving childcare options to create better economic opportunities for women in Nairobi slums*.

10:45 – 12:00

PANEL 2: **Child care and women's labour force participation**

Moderator: [Sonia Laszlo](#), McGill University

1. *The Impact of Affordable Day Care on Maternal Labor in a Slum Settlement of Nairobi*
 - Presenter: [Caroline Kabiru](#), APHRC, Kenya; (Co-authors: [Shelley Clark](#), McGill University; [Sonia Laszlo](#), McGill University; and Stella Muthuri, APHRC)
2. *How Do Childcare Costs Affect the Labor Force Participation and Childcare Utilization of Migrant and Local Mothers in Urban China?*
 - Presenter: **Yueping Song**, Center for Population and Development Studies, [Renmin University of China](#) (Co-author: [Xiao-Yuan Dong](#), Economics, University of Winnipeg)
3. *The Impact of Full-day Kindergarten on Maternal Labor Supply*
 - Presenter: [Jessie Lamontagne](#), Economics, University of Toronto (Co-authors: [Tingting Zhang](#), Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources and [Elizabeth Dhuey](#), Management, University of Toronto, Scarborough)
4. *U.S. State Variation in Childcare and School Provisions and Mothers' Domestic and Employment Time*
 - Presenter: [Leah Ruppanner](#), Sociology, University of Melbourne (Co-authors: [Liana Sayer](#), Sociology University of Maryland and [Stephanie Moller](#), Sociology, University of North Carolina at Charlotte)

12:00 – 13:00

LUNCH (on-site)

13:00 – 14:15

PANEL 3: **Child care, maternal and child well-being**

Moderator: [Sarah Brauner-Otto](#), McGill University

1. *Impacts of a Universal Child Care Program on Behavioral Development: The Case of Regulated High-Quality Child Care in Quebec*
 - Presenter: [Seungmi Yang](#), Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupation Health (EBOH), McGill University (Co-authors: [Thomas Charters](#), EBOH, McGill University; [Daniel Weinstock](#), Institute for Social and Health Policy (IHSP), McGill University; [Arijit Nandi](#), IHSP and EBOH, McGill University)
2. *The Link between Maternal Employment during First Year of Child's Life and Child Development at the Age of 8-Years: Evidence from India*
 - Presenter: **Ashish Upadhyay**, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, India
3. *The Influence of Affordable Daycare on Women's Empowerment in India*
 - Presenter: [Arijit Nandi](#), IHSP and EBOH, McGill University (Co-author: [Sam Harper](#), EBOH, McGill University)
4. *Quality of Care and Early Childhood Development in Nepal: A Multilevel Analysis*
 - Presenter: **Rayhan SK**, Jawaharlal Nehru University (Co-author, [Anuradha Banerjee](#), Jawaharlal Nehru University)

14:15 – 14:30 Refreshments

14:30 – 15:50 **PANEL 4: Bringing child care into the spotlight – issues and perspectives on moving the child care agenda forward**

Moderator: [Philip Oxhorn](#), Associate Provost (International) and Political Science, McGill University

- **Martha Melesse**, Senior Program Specialist, Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women (GrOW), [International Development Research Centre](#) (IDRC)
- **Tracey Evans**, Program Officer, [Aga Khan Foundation Canada](#)
- **Jeni Klugman**, Managing Director of the [Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security](#), and Fellow, [Women in Public Policy Program, Harvard Kennedy School](#)
- **Dominique LaRochelle**, Senior Gender Equality Advisor, [Save the Children Canada](#)
- **Kerry McCuaig**, [Atkinson Fellow \(OISE/UT\)](#), Atkinson Fellow (OISE/UT) and Advisor the [Early Child Development Funders Working Group](#)

15:50 CLOSING REMARKS Shelley Clark, McGill University

Biographies – presenters and moderators

Sarah Brauner-Otto is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology, McGill University and collaborator on the GrOW project *Improving childcare options to create better economic opportunities for women in Nairobi slums*.

Shelley Clark is the James McGill Professor of Sociology and the Director of the Centre on Population Dynamics, McGill University. She is the principal investigator of the GrOW project *Improving childcare options to create better economic opportunities for women in Nairobi slums*.

Simona Bignami is an Associate Professor in the Department of Demography at l'Université de Montréal and Director of the Research Group on Aboriginal Demography/Groupe d'Étude sur la Démographie Autochtone.

Weili Ding is an Associate Professor of Economics at Queen's University (on leave) and NYU Shanghai. She is also a Project 985 Visiting Scholar at the Institute of Economics of Education, Beijing Normal University.

Tracey Evans is a Program Officer at the Aga Khan Foundation Canada.

Nancy Folbre is a Professor Emerita of Economics and the Director of the Program on Gender and Care Work at the Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is also a Senior Fellow of the Levy Economics Institute at Bard College.

Sam Harper is an Associate Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics & Occupational Health at McGill University. He is co-investigator of the GrOW project *Affordable Daycare to Empower Indian Women*.

Caroline Kabiru is a research scientist with the Population Dynamics and Reproductive Health program at the African Population and Health Research Center (Nairobi, Kenya). She is the co-investigator in the GrOW project *Improving childcare options to create better economic opportunities for women in Nairobi slums*.

Jeni Klugman is the Managing Director of the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security. She is also a fellow at the Kennedy School of Government's Women in Public Policy Program.

Jessie Lamontagne is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Economics, University of Toronto.

Dominique LaRochelle is the Senior Gender Equality Advisor with Save the Children Canada.

Sonia Laszlo is an Associate Professor of Economics and the Director of the Institute for the Study of International Development, McGill University. She is a collaborator on the GrOW project *Improving childcare options to create better economic opportunities for women in Nairobi slums*.

Steven Lehrer is an Associate Professor at the School of Policy Studies and Department of Economics at Queen's University, an Associate Professor of Economics, NYU–Shanghai and a Global Network Professor, Department of Economics, New York University.

Kerry McCuaig is an Atkinson Fellow with the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto and an advisor to the Early Child Development Funders Working Group.

Martha Melesse is a Senior Program Specialist with the Inclusive Economic program at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and oversees a number of research projects supported under the Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women (GrOW) initiative, among others.

Stella Muthuri is an Associate Research Scientist at the African Population and Health Research Center (Nairobi, Kenya). She is a collaborator on the GrOW project *Improving childcare options to create better economic opportunities for women in Nairobi slums*.

Arijit Nandi is also an Associate Professor jointly appointed at the Institute for Health and Social Policy and the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Occupational Health at McGill University. He also holds a Canada Research Chair in the Political Economy of Global Health. He is the principal investigator of the GrOW project *Affordable Daycare to Empower Indian Women*.

Milka Njeri is a Research Assistant at the African Population and Health Research Center (Nairobi, Kenya). She is a project manager on the GrOW project *Improving childcare options to create better economic opportunities for women in Nairobi slums*.

Philip Oxhorn is the Associate Provost (International) and Professor in the Department of Political Science, McGill University. He was the founding director for the Institute for the Study of International Development, McGill University.

Leah Ruppner is senior lecturer in the Department of Sociology at the University of Melbourne.

Rayhan SK is a PhD candidate at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.

Yueping Song is an Associate Professor with the Center for Population and Development Studies at the Renmin University of China.

Ashish Upadhyay is a Research Scholar with the International Institute for Population Sciences in Mumbai, India.

Seungmi Yang is an Assistant Professor with the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupation Health (EBOH) at McGill University.