

Curriculum Vitae  
**RYON J. COBB, PH.D.**

Department of Sociology  
 University of Georgia  
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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2020 – **Tenure-Track**, Assistant Professor of Sociology  
 University of Georgia
- 2018 – 2020 **Tenure-Track**, Assistant Professor of Social Work  
 University of Texas at Arlington

### EDUCATION

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- 2013 **Ph.D.**, Sociology  
 Florida State University
- 2003 **B.A.**, Secondary Education  
 Indiana University, Bloomington

### TRAINING

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- 2021 – **KL2 Scholar**, Clinical and Translational Research Scholars Program  
 Georgia Clinical and Translational Science Association
- 2015 – 2018 **Postdoctoral Trainee**, Center of Biodemography and Social Biology  
 University of Southern California
- 2013 – 2015 **Postdoctoral Scholar**, Roybal Institute on Aging  
 University of Southern California

### AREAS OF RESEARCH AND TEACHING

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Science of Health Disparities	Aging & the Life Course	Minority Health	Religion
Medical Sociology	Race & Ethnic Relations	Biodemography of Aging	Skin Tone Stratification

### PUBLICATIONS

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H-Index: 9; Number of times cited: 284; \*Indicates current or student/postdoc collaborator at the time of publication

#### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. **Cobb, R.J.**, Sheehan, C.M., Louie, P., & Erving, C.L. (Accepted) Multiple Reasons for Perceived Everyday Discrimination and Mortality Risk Among Older Black Adults. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series A*
2. Assari, S., Boyce, S., Bazargan, M., Thomas, A., **Cobb, R.J.**, Hudson, D., Curry, T.J., Nicholson, H.L., Cuevas, A.G., Mistry, R., Chavous, T.M., Caldwell, C.H., & Zimmerman, M.A. (2021). Parental Educational Attainment, the Superior Temporal Cortical Surface Area, and Reading Ability among American Children: A Test of Marginalization-Related Diminished Returns. *Children*, 8(5), 412. DOI: 10.3390/children8050412
3. **Cobb, R.J.**, Erving, C.L., & Byrd, C.W. (2021). Perceived COVID-19 health threat increases psychological distress among Black Americans. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 44(5), 806–818. DOI: 10.1080/01419870.2021.1867216
4. Erving, C.L., & **Cobb, R.J.** (2021). Neighborhood Social Group Participation and Depressive Symptoms Among Mid-to-Late Life Black Americans: Does the Association Differ by Ethnicity? *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, 23(3), 478–486. DOI: 10.1007/s10903-020-01070-x
5. Assari, S., Boyce, S., Bazargan, M., Thomas, A., **Cobb, R.J.**, Hudson, D., Curry, T.J., Nicholson, H.L., Cuevas, A.G., Mistry, R., Chavous, T.M., Caldwell, C.H., & Zimmerman, M.A. (2021). Parental Educational Attainment, the Superior

- Temporal Cortical Surface Area, and Reading Ability among American Children: A Test of Marginalization-Related Diminished Returns. *Children*, 8(5), 412. DOI: 10.3390/children8050412
6. **Cobb, R.J.**, Thorpe, R.J., & Norris, K.C. (2020). Everyday Discrimination and Kidney Function Among Older Adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series A*, 75(3), 517–521. DOI: 10.1093/gerona/glz294
  7. Stewart, Q.T., **Cobb, R.J.**, & Keith, V.M. (2020). The color of death: race, observed skin tone, and all-cause mortality in the United States. *Ethnicity & Health*, 25(7), 1018–1040. DOI: 10.1080/13557858.2018.1469735
  8. Thorpe, R.J., **Cobb, R.J.**, King, K., Bruce, M.A., Archibald, P., Jones, H.P., Norris, K.C., Whitfield, K.E., & Hudson, D. (2020). The Association Between Depressive Symptoms and Accumulation of Stress Among Black Men in the Health and Retirement Study. *Innovation in Aging*, 4(5), igaa047. DOI: 10.1093/geroni/igaa047
  9. **Cobb, R.J.**, Parker, L.J., & Thorpe, R.J. (2020). Self-reported Instances of Major Discrimination, Race/Ethnicity, and Inflammation Among Older Adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series A*, 75(2), 291–296. DOI: 10.1093/gerona/gly267 Editor's Choice
  10. Nguyen, A.W., Hamler, T.C., \* & **Cobb, R.J.** (2018). Discrimination and Chronic Kidney Disease among Caribbean Blacks: The Effects of Immigration and Social Status. *Race and Social Problems*, 10(3), 248–258. DOI: 10.1007/s12552-018-9234-4
  11. Shelton, J.E., & **Cobb, R.J.** (2017). Black Reltrad: Measuring Religious Diversity and Commonality Among African Americans: *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 56(4), 737–764. DOI: 10.1111/jssr.12378
  12. **Cobb, R.J.**, Üsküp, D.K., \* & Jefferson, S.T. \* (2017). Congregational Composition and Explanations for Racial Inequality Among Black Religious Affiliates. *Race and Social Problems*, 9(2), 163–169. DOI: 10.1007/s12552-017-9208-y
  13. Thorpe, R.J., Parker, L.J. \* **Cobb, R.J.**, Dillard, F., & Bowie, J. (2017). Association between discrimination and obesity in African-American men. *Biodemography and Social Biology*, 63(3), 253–261. DOI: 10.1080/19485565.2017.1353406
  14. **Cobb, R.J.**, Thomas, C.S., Laster Pirtle, W.N., & Darity, W.A. (2016). Self-identified race socially assigned skin tone, and adult physiological dysregulation: Assessing multiple dimensions of “race” in health disparities research. *SSM - Population Health*, 2, 595–602. DOI: 10.1016/j.ssmph.2016.06.007
  15. **Cobb, R.J.**, Dougherty, K., Park, J., & Perry, S. \* (2015). Congregational Size and Attitudes towards Racial Inequality among Church Attendees in America. *Religions*, 6(3), 781- 793. DOI: 10.3390/rel6030781
  16. Park, J.Z., Martinez, B.C., \* **Cobb, R.J.**, Park, J.J., & Wong, E.R. (2015). Exceptional Outgroup Stereotypes and White Racial Inequality Attitudes toward Asian Americans. *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 78(4), 399–411. DOI: 10.1177/0190272515606433
  17. **Cobb, R.J.**, Perry, S.L., & Dougherty, K.D. (2015). United by Faith? Race/Ethnicity, Congregational Diversity, and Explanations of Racial Inequality. *Sociology of Religion*, 76(2), 177-198. DOI: 10.1093/socrel/sru067
  18. Tope, D., Pickett, J.T., **Cobb, R.J.**, & Dirlam, J. (2014). Othering Obama: Racial Attitudes and Dubious Beliefs about the Nation's First Black President. *Sociological Perspectives*, 57(4), 450–469. DOI: 10.1177/0731121414536140

### **Revise and Resubmit**

– Available on Request

### **Other Publications**

1. **Cobb, R.J.** (2013). Still Divided by Faith? Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America, 1977–2010. In J. R. Hawkins (Ed.), *Christians and the Color Line* (pp. 128–139). Oxford University Press. DOI: 10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199329502.003.0006
2. **Cobb, R.J.**, (2013). The Commercial Church: Black Churches and the New Religious Marketplace in America. *Black Theology*. DOI: 10.5860/CHOICE.49-2613
3. **Cobb, R.J.** (2013). American Religion: Contemporary Trends. By Mark Chaves. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2011. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 52(3), 648–649. DOI: 10.1111/jssr.12054
4. Hill, T.D., & **Cobb, R.J.** (2011). Religious Involvement and Religious Struggles. In *Toward a sociological theory of religion and health* (pp. 239-260). Brill. DOI: 10.1163/ej.9789004205970.i-277.68
5. **Cobb, R.J.** (2010). Watch This! The Ethics and Aesthetics of Black Televangelism by Jonathan L. Walton. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 49(4), 772–774. DOI: 10.1111/j.1468-5906.2010.01546\_2.x

## EXTRAMURAL FUNDING

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### Ongoing Research Support

Dates:	August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2021 – present
Investigator:	PI: <b>Cobb, R.J.</b>
Title:	Gene-Environment Interaction in Renal Aging Among Older Blacks and Whites
Agency:	Georgia Clinical and Translational Science Association
Amount:	\$294,217
Dates:	July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2021 – present
Investigator:	PI: Thumma, S.; <b>Cobb, R.J.</b> (Regional Advisor)
Title:	Exploring the Pandemic Impact on Congregations
Agency:	The Lilly Endowment
Amount:	\$5,400,000
Dates:	July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2021 – present
Investigator:	PI: <b>Cobb, R.J.</b>
Title:	Early Life Adversity, Perceived Control, and Renal Aging Among Older Blacks
Agency:	Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research
Amount:	\$27,000
Dates:	November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2020 – present
Investigator:	PI: <b>Cobb, R.J.</b>
Title:	Childhood stressors, cardiometabolic risk, and kidney function decline among older Whites, Blacks, and Latinos
Agency:	Program to Increase Diversity in Behavioral Medicine and Sleep Disorders Research
Amount:	\$10,400

### Completed Projects

Dates:	August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2019 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2021
Investigator:	PI: <b>Cobb, R.J.</b>
Title:	Race/Ethnicity, SES, and Age-Related Kidney Function Decline in Late Life
Agency:	Division of Loan Repayment; National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities
Amount:	\$70,000
Dates:	August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014 – July 13 <sup>st</sup> , 2015
Investigator:	PI: <b>Cobb, R.J.</b>
Title:	Health Shocks and Health Behavior Change
Agency:	USC Minority Aging Health Economics Research Center
Amount:	\$20,000

## AWARDS, HONORS, AND RECOGNITION

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2020	Editor's Choice Designation, <i>Journals of Gerontology: Series A</i>
2018 – 2020	Early Career Fellow, Congruent Mentorship to Reach Academic Diversity in Neuroscience Research Program, New York University
2016 – 2018	Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research Postdoctoral Fellowship, National Institute on Aging
2015 – 2016	Post-doctoral Fellowship, National Institute on Aging T32 Multidisciplinary Research Training in Gerontology Program, Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California
2013	Diversity Scholar Citation, National Center for Institutional Diversity at the University of Michigan
2012	Dissertation Fellow, Louisville Institute
2012	Alternate, Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship

- 2012 Graduate Student Teaching Award, Florida State University  
 2011 Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research Dissertation Award, National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities  
 2011 Summer Research Fellow, John Templeton Foundation  
 2010 Summer Research Fellow, Eli Lilly Foundation  
 2008 – 2011 Predoctoral Fellow, Ford Foundation Fellowship

### PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

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- 2016 Butler-Williams Scholars Program, National Institute on Aging  
 2016 Structural Equation Modeling Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research  
 University of Michigan  
 2016 Grantwriting Uncovered: Maximizing Strategies, Help, Opportunity, Experience Program, National Research Mentoring Network  
 2015 New Connections Symposium, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
 2014 University of Michigan  
 2013 Summer Institute on Aging, RAND Corporation  
 2012 Summer Research Workshop on Spirituality and Health, Duke University  
 2012/6 Summer Training Workshop, African American Aging Research, Program for Research on Black Americans, and Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research  
 2011 Summer Training Workshop, Congregations and Social Change Calvin College  
 2010 Summer Training Workshop, The Power of Race in American Religion, Calvin College  
 2009 Summer Training Workshop, Hierarchical Linear Modeling Scientific Software Institute

### SELECTED CONFERENCES

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- 2019 Nguyen, A.W., Hamler, T.C.,\* & **Cobb, R.J.** Discrimination and Chronic Kidney Disease among Caribbean Blacks: The Effects of Immigration and Social Status, *Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Work and Research*  
 2019 **Cobb, R.J.**, Thorpe Jr, R.J., and Norris, K.C. Race, Age, and Kidney Function Decline: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study, *Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America*  
 2019 **Cobb, R.J.**, Sheehan, C.M., Louie, P., & Erving, C.L. Perceived Mistreatment and All-Cause Mortality Among Older Adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study, *Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America*  
 2017 **Cobb, R.J.**, Thorpe Jr, Everyday Discrimination and Blood Pressure Among Older Hypertensive Adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study." *International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics*  
 2016 **Cobb, R.J.**, Ailshire, J.A., and Crimmins, E.M. Education and Smoking Cessation Among Survivors of a Recent Health Shock in Middle and Later Life: The Moderating Effect of Race/Ethnicity. *Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America*  
 2016 **Cobb, R.J.** Perceived Skin Tone and Skin Tone Discrimination Among African Americans: Evidence from the National Survey of American Life." *International Stress Conference*  
 2016 **Cobb, R.J.**, Ailshire, J.A., and Crimmins, E.M. Race/Ethnicity & Smoking Cessation Among Survivors of a Recent Health Shock in Middle and Later Life: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. *Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America*  
 2015 **Cobb, R.J.**, Perry, S.L., & Dougherty, K.D. Race, Religion, and Understanding Racial Inequality in the United States." *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association*  
 2014 **Cobb, R.J.**, Perry, S.L., & Dougherty, K.D. United by Faith? Race/Ethnicity, Congregational Diversity, and Explanations of Racial Inequality." *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association*  
 2013 **Cobb, R.J.**, Dougherty, K., Park, J., & Perry, S. Congregational Size and Attitudes towards Racial Inequality among Church Attendees in America." *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association*

### INVITED TALKS AND SYMPOSIA

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2019	Panelist, Funding Opportunities for Early-Career Scholars in the Social Sciences, Annual Conference of Ford Fellows
2019	Panelist, Perceived Discrimination and Health Among Older Adults, Annual Meeting for the Gerontological Society of America
2018	Religion and Racial Inequality Among Black Millennials, gOD-Talk: A Black Millennials and Faith Conversation, Smithsonian Institute
2016	Unpacking Racial Health Disparities: Towards a Biopsychosocial Model of Health Disparities.” Program for Research on Black Americans, University of Michigan
2016	Psychosocial Stressors, Race/Ethnicity, and Biological Risk: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. Department of Sociology, University of Houston
2011	Divided by Faith: Race, Evangelicalism, and Beliefs about Racial Inequality, Department of Sociology, Baylor University

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### University of Georgia

SOCI 34580: Topics in African American Sociology and Health  
 SOCI 4650: Sociology of Aging

### University of Texas at Arlington

SOCW 2302: Lifespan Development and Human Behavior  
 SOCW 4335: Aging in the American Society

### University of Southern California

SOC S225: Sociology of Health on the Body  
 SOC S475: Medical Sociology  
 GERO 585: The Aging Family

### The Florida State University

SYD 4700: Race and Minority Relations  
 SYA 4300: Methods of Social Research

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

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### **Editorial Boards**

2020 –	Review for Religious Research
2020 –	Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences
2018 – 2021	Social Problems

### **Service to the Discipline**

2019	Conference Co-Organizer, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
2019	Invited Panelist, Finding and Getting the Most Out of Your Postdoctoral Fellowship Experience, Gerontological Society of America
2015	Member, Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, Section on Racial & Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association
2014	Member, Distinguished Article Award Committee, Section on Religion, American Sociological Association
2013	Member, Membership Committee, Association for the Sociology of Religion
2013	Member, Nominations Committee, Section on Racial & Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association
2013	Student Representative, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Membership and Outreach Committee
2013	Student Representative, Membership and Outreach Committee, Society for the Study of Social Problems
2013	Member, James E. Blackwell Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, Section on Race and Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association
2012	Member, Committee on Committees, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association
2012	Member, Founder's Award for Scholarship & Service Committee, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, American Sociological Association

- 2011 Invited Panelist, Academic Networking for Underrepresented Scholars/Scholars of Color, Ford Foundation and National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
- 2010 Invited Panelist, Honors Program Roundtable Discussions, American Sociological Association
- 2010 Conference Advisor, Divided by Faith: A Retrospective Conference, Indiana Wesleyan University

### REVIEWING ACTIVITIES

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American Sociological Review	Journal of Gerontology: Medical Science
Ethnic and Racial Studies	Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences
Innovation on Aging	Social Forces
Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion	Social Problems
Journal of Affective Disorders	Sociological Forum
Journal of Community Psychology	Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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American Sociological Association  
*Sections: Aging & Life Course, Racial & Ethnic Minorities, Religion, Medical Sociology*

Association of Black Sociologists

Gerontological Society of America

Population Association of America

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

Society for the Study of Social Problems

Society for Social Work Research