

CURRICULUM VITAE

Rifat Akhter

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Professional Experience

Professor, Department of Sociology, Criminology, Anthropology. University of Central Arkansas. July 2023—to present
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Central Arkansas, June 2012—June 2023
Director, Gender Studies Program, University of Central Arkansas, Aug 2006 –August 2013
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Central Arkansas August, 2006-May, 2012.

Publications

Refereed Publication

- Akhter Rifat. 2022. Denying the Daughters: A Cross-National Study of Factors that Impact Women's Right to Inheritance. Paper is accepted for publication at the Interdisciplinary Journal Of Social Science and Community Studies.
- Akhter, Rifat, Janet K. Wilson, Syed Emdadul Hoque, Naim Ahamed. 2020. Like a Caged Bird: The Coping Strategies of Economically Empowered Women Who are Victims of Intimate Partner Violence in Bangladesh. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, Pp1–26. DOI: 10.1177/0886260520978177. journals.sagepub.com/home/jiv. Impact Factor: 6.14 (2022)
- Akhter, Rifat., Janet K. Wilson, 2019. "Using an Ecological Framework to Understand Men's Reasons for Spousal Abuse: An Investigation of the Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey 2007." *Journal of Family Violence*. Doi:10.1007/s10896-015-9741-7.
- Akhter Rifat, 2014 "Women's Status and Fertility Differential In the World-System: A Cross-National Analysis" *Perspective on Global Development and Technology/ Vol 13. Issue 1-2.*
- Akhter Rifat 2014 "Population Chapter" in *Introduction To Sociology; A Collaborative Approach* 4th edition. (Peer Reviewed chapter. Reviewed by Mary C. Waters, M.E. Zukerman Professor of Sociology, Harvard University and Stephanie A. Bohon, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, The University of Tennessee.)
- Akhter, Rifat, 2011 "Impact of Foreign Investment, Development, Sex Ratio on Women's Status". *The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social Science*, Vol 6, Issue 5. Pp 107-126
- Akhter, Rifat 2011 "Attitude towards Physical Abuse among Women and Men of Bangladesh: An Empirical Investigation of Demographic Health Survey 2007" *Journal of US-China Public Administration*, Vol. 8, Number 10, Pp 1156-1164
- Akhter, Rifat. 2009 "Impacts of Global Economy on Women's Labor Force Participation in the Developing Nations". *Global Studies Journal*, Vol 2, Issue 4, pp . 81-101.

Book Chapters

- Akhter Rifat. 2020. "Adolescent Fertility, Internet Usage, and Cyber Feminism: Cross National Study Using Bio-Ecological Framework". In *Handbook on Child and Adolescent Behavior and Health*. Pp Edited by Antonio Araujo Gonclaves. Nova Medicine and Health. New York.

- Akhter Rifat. 2016. "Population Chapter" in Introduction to Sociology; A Collaborative Approach" 4th edition. Ashbury Publishing.
- Akhter, Rifat. 2014. "Globalization, Employment, and Women's Empowerment: A Conceptual Framework" in *Bangladesh: Population Environment, and Economy* Edited by Mohammed A. Mabud. Asiatic Civil Military Press. Dhaka. Bangladesh.
- Akhter, Rifat and Kathryn B. Ward. 2009. "Globalization and Gender Equality: A Critical Analysis of Women's Empowerment in the Global Economy" *Advances in Gender Research: Perceiving Gender, Locally, Globally, and Intersectionally* Edited by Vasilikie Demos and Marcia Texler Segal. Volume 13, July 2009 Emerald Publication.
- Mabud, M.A. and Rifat Akhter. 2003. "Recent Shift in Bangladesh's Population Policy and Program Strategies: Prospects and Risks." PP 69- 91 in *Demographic Dynamics in Bangladesh: Looking at the Larger Picture*, edited by *Center for Policy Dialogue and UNFPA program on Population and Sustainable Development*.

Review Paper

- Akhter Rifat 2013. Bangladesh Labor Movement and Garments Industry: **A review of Labor Unions and Labor Movements in the Readymade Garment Industry in Bangladesh in the Era of Globalization (1980-2009)**, by **Zia Rahman in Dissertation Reviews**.
<http://dissertationreviews.org/archives/4555>

Research Reports

- Akhter, Rifat, Saiful Islam, and Kathryn B. Ward. 2005. Assessment of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Domestic Violence Against Women in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Funded by ALO and USAID.
- Akhter, Rifat. 1998. "Impact of Pricing of Method on Contraceptive Use: Regional Variation" Masters Dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Masters in Science (MSc) in Medical Demography, University of London.
- Akhter, Rifat. 1990. "Differential Determinants of Fertility and Contraception: An Empirical Study on Mymensingh District". Masters Thesis submitted to the Department of Sociology, Dhaka University, September 1990.

Conference Presentations

- Akhter, Rifat. 2023. "E-Business on Facebook: Paving the way for women's empowerment through e-entrepreneurship in Bangladesh." Paper presented at the Southwest Social Science Association Annual Meeting, March 18-20, Fort Worth, TX.
- Akhter, Rifat. 2022. "Unintended Consequences of Women's Inheritance Rights on adolescent marriage and fertility: A Cross National Analysis." Paper presented at the Southwest Social Science Association Annual Meeting, April 20-22, San Antonio, TX.
- Powers, Edward and Rifat Akhter. 2022. "Violence in a Strained World: Globalization, Inequality, and Homicide." Paper presented at the Southwest Social Science Association Annual Meeting, April 20-22, San Antonio, TX.
- Akhter, Rifat and Edward Powers. 2021. "The Ecology of Homicide: A Cross-National Analysis." Paper presented at the Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association Meeting, November 12, Conway, AR.
- Akhter Rifat. 2020. "Understanding Palliative and Hospice Care from Cross-Cultural Context" Paper presented at the "International Conference Series on World Palliative Day" organized by World Child Cancer, October 8-10. Virtual Session (Conway, AR).
- Akhter, Rifat. 2019. "Globalization, Internet, and Women's Empowerment in the Digital Era : A Cross National Study." Paper Session presented at Southwest Social Science Association Annual

Meeting, April 20-22, San Diego, CA.

- Akhter, Rifat and Edward Powers. 2018. "Mind The Gap: The Tension Between Private and Public Status as a Correlate to female Homicide Victimization." Paper presented at the 2018 Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association Meeting, November 9. Conway, AR.
- Akhter, Rifat, Janet K. Wilson, and Syed Emdadul Hoque. 2017. "Coping Strategies of Economically Empowered Women who are Victims of Intimate Partner Abuse in Bangladesh." Paper presented at the Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Associations, November 10, Conway, AR.
- Akhter, Rifat, Shahinur Kabir, and Sazia Afrin. 2017. "Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Transmitted Disease in Bangladesh: Does economic empowerment of women make any differences?" Paper presented at the Southwestern Social Science Association, April 12-15. Austin, TX.
- Akhter, Rifat and Janet K. Wilson. 2015. "Where do Physically Abused Bangladeshi Wives Turn? Retributive Justice, Restorative Justice, and No Justice". Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology, November 18-21. Washington, DC.
- Akhter, Rifat and Janet K. Wilson. 2015. "Using an Ecological Framework to Understand Men's Reasons for Spousal Abuse: An Investigation of the Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey 2007". Paper presented at the Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Associations, November 9. Russellville, AR.
- Akhter, Rifat. 2013. "Women's Status and Fertility Differential in The World- System: A Cross National Analysis." Paper presented at the Global Studies Association, North America 2013 Conference, June 7-9. Mary Mount College, Palo Verdes, CA.
- Akhter, Rifat. 2013. "The Impacts of Dimensions of Patriarchy and Social Globalization on Fertility in Periphery Nations: Testing Three Theories". Paper presented in the Southwestern Social Science Association. March 27-30, New Orleans, LA
- Akhter, Rifat 2013. "Women's Status and Fertility Differential in The World- System: A Cross National Analysis." Paper presented at the Global Studies Association, North America 2013 Conference at Mary Mount College, Palo Verdes Campus in June 7-9, 2013.
- Akhter, Rifat 2013. "The Impacts of Dimensions of Patriarchy and Social Globalization on Fertility in Periphery Nations: Testing Three Theories". Paper presented in the Southwestern Social Science Association at New Orleans in March 27-30, 2013.
- Akhter, Rifat 2012. "Fertility, Dimensions of Patriarchy, and Development: A Cross National Analysis" Paper presented at the Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association Conference at the Arkansas Tech. University, Russellville in November 2012.
- Akhter, Rifat 2011 "Factors Associated with Attitudes towards Wife-Beating and It's Prevention among Bangladeshi Men: An Empirical Investigation of Demographic Health Survey Data 2007. Paper presented at the Sixth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences at The University of New Orleans, New Orleans in July 11-13, 2011.
- Akhter, Rifat 2011 "Attitude towards Physical Abuse among Women and Men of Bangladesh: An Empirical Investigation of Demographic Health Survey 2007" paper presented in the Southwestern Social Science Association at Las Vegas in March 16-19, 2011
- Akhter, Rifat 2010 "Impact of Global economy and Gender Empowerment on Domestic Violence," Paper presented at Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association at University of Central Arkansas in November 12, 2010.
- Akhter, Rifat 2010 "Foreign Investment, Development, Sex Ratio, and Women's Participation in the Labor Force" Paper presented in the Southwestern Social Science Association at Houston in April 1-3, 2010.
- Akhter, Rifat 2010. "Impacts of Foreign Investment and Sex Ratio on Women's Status. "Virtual presentation (peer reviewed) in the Fifth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences at Cambridge, UK in August 2-5, 2010.

- Akhter, Rifat. 2009. "Development, Investment Dependency, and Gender Inequality in the labor Market in the Third World" Presented (peer reviewed presentation -Virtual) in the International Global Studies Conference at Dubai May 28-30, 2009.
- Akhter, Rifat, Ed Power, and Eric Cheny . 2009. "Critical Analysis of Impacts of Investment and Debt Dependency on Infant Mortality Rates" Paper presented in the Southwestern Social Science Association at Denver, Colorado in April 7-11, 2009.
- Akhter, Rifat 2008. "Impacts of Global Economy and Women's Employment in the Informal Economy on Family Violence: A Neglected Issue." Paper presented at Global Studies Conference at Chicago on May 16-18, 2008.
- Akhter, Rifat. 2007. "Methodological Constraints of using Gender Empowerment and Gender Development Measurements: A critical Analysis of Women's Empowerment in the Global Economy" paper presented at Midwest Sociological Society's Conference at Chicago on April 2007.
- Akhter, Rifat. 2006. "Globalization and Gender Equality: A critical Analysis of Women's Empowerment in the Global Economy" paper presented at Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association, Monticello, Arkansas on November 2006.
- Akhter, Rifat. 2005. "Global Economy, Gender Inequality, and Domestic Violence: A Cross-National Study" paper presented at American Society of Criminology, Toronto, Canada, November 2005.
- Akhter, Rifat, Saiful Islam, and Kathryn B. Ward. 2005. "Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices on Domestic Violence Against Women in Bangladesh." Paper presented at American Sociological Association, Philadelphia on August 2005.
- Akhter, Rifat and Kathryn B. Ward. 2005. "Putting Gender Inequality in Labor Force and Maternal Mortality in Globalization Debate", paper presented at Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis on April, 2005.
- Akhter, Rifat, Saiful Islam, and Kathryn B. Ward. 2005 Assessment of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Domestic Violence Against Women in Dhaka, Bangladesh: Quantitative and Qualitative Perspective. Paper presented at Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis MN on April 2005.
- Akhter, Rifat and Kathryn B. Ward. 2004. Knowledge, Attitude and Practice towards Domestic Violence: Listening to Bangladeshi Women's Voices, paper presented at American Sociological Association, San Francisco on August 2004.
- Akhter, Rifat. 2002. "Methodological Constraints in doing Research on Sexuality in Bangladesh" paper presented in a panel discussion organized by Caucus on Research on Gender and Sexuality in International Contexts in American Sociological Association, Chicago on August 2002.
- Akhter, Rifat. 2002 "Impact of Physical and Sexual Violence on Reproductive Morbidity: An Empirical Study on Sex workers in Bangladesh" Paper presented at Midwest Sociological Society, Milwaukee on April 2002.

Work in Progress

- Akhter Rifat and Kathryn Ward. Globalization, Gender Inequality and Domestic Violence.
- Akhter Rifat. Unintended Consequences of Women's Inheritance Rights on adolescent marriage and fertility: A Cross National Analysis.
- Edward Powers and Rifat Akhter 2022. Violence in a Strained World: Globalization, Inequality, and Homicide.
- Rifat Akhter and Edward Powers. Mind the Gap: The Tension Between Private and Public Status as a Correlate to Female Homicide Victimization.

University, College and Department Service

Committee Services at the Department of Sociology, Criminology, Anthropology

- Member, Faculty Search Committee 2006-2021
- Member, Tenure and Promotion Committee, 2012-
- Curriculum Assessment Committee 2006- present

Committee Services at the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

- College Curriculum Committee 2014-2016 & 2022-
- Education for Global Engagement Committee (EDGE) 2009-2016
- College Research Committee 2007-2013.
- Director, Gender Studies Minor Program 2010-2013

Committee Services at the University level

- Member, Bachelor of General Studies Committee 2015-Present
- Member, University Sexual Harassment Committee. 2007- 2016.
- Member, Sabbatical Leave Review Committee. 2015-2017
- Member, Global Leadership Scholarship Committee, 2018-Present
- Member, University Admissions Committee, 2016-2021
- Member, Faculty Handbook Committee, 2021-Present

Community Services

- Service Committee Chair, Conway Morning Rotary Club 2020-2022
- Member, Conway Morning Rotary Club, 2014 to Present
- President, Hospice Palliative Care Foundation (Palliative Care Service Charity Organization in Bangladesh).

Professional Memberships

- American Society of Criminology, member 2005 -2015
- Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association 2006-to till date
- Alpha Kappa Delta, member since 2005
- Southwestern Social Science Association, Member since 2007 to Present
- Midwest Sociological Society, Member since 2001.
- Midwest Sociologists for Women in Society, Member 2005 -2016
- Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) since 2004.-2007
- Midwest Sociologists for Women in Society, Member 2005 -2016
- American Sociological Association, Member 2001 -2014

Offices Held in Professional Organizations

- President, , International Studies Program, Southwest Social Science Association 2023-2024
- Program Chair, International Studies Program, Southwest Social Science Association 2022-2023
- Member, Nomination Committee, Southwest Social Science Association 2021-2023
- Member, Resolution Committee, Southwest Social Science Association, 2021-2023.
- President, Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association 2017-2018.
- Vice President, Arkansas Sociological and Anthropological Association 2016-2017.

- Editorial Advisory Board, “*Globalization and its impact on violence against vulnerable groups.*” Edited by Milica Bošković. IGI Global. PA. USA. 2019
- Associate Editor, The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social Science 2010-2022
- Associate Editor, The Global Studies Journal. 2008-2010.
- Associate Editor, Sustainability. 2018-2019.

Professional Services

- Organized lecture series on “Doing Gender” at UCA from 2007-2012.
- Manuscript Reviews: Violence Against Woman (2006, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014), The Global Studies Journal (2008 and 2009), The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social Science (2010 and 2011), International Migration (2011 and 2013), The International Journal of the Humanities (2011, 2014), and Journal of Women, Politics, & Policy (2013), The Journal of Social Science (2014, 2015), Social Development Issues (2015), Sustainability (2015),

Panel Discussant

- Presented and discussed paper UCA’s International Studies Club Palliative care in Bangladesh. 2017
- Panel Discussant on “Care Ethics and End of Life Care: Building Community in Bangladesh and Beyond”, Gender Studies Lecture Series, PhiRe Club, STEM Residential College, the Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Anthropology, Gender Studies, and the Department of Philosophy and Religion. UCA.
- Presented and discussed paper on “Feel like a Caged Bird: Coping Strategies of domestic violence victims in Bangladesh” at UCA Asian Studies Tea & Talk Series. March 27, 2018.
- Panelists in the discussion session on the documentary, *Not My Life* which was part of the lecture series of 2018 “Breaking the Chains: A Critical Examination of the Global Supply Chain.” Honors College, UCA.
- Panel discussant at “Faculty Talk Back” Panel for the film Makala at UCA’s French Film Festival on April 9, 2019.
- Panelist of the session “Seasons of Life and Care”. Organized by Women’s Leadership Network at UCA on February 7, 2020
- Panel Discussant on “Volunteer: The Heart of Palliative Care” organized by World Child Cancer and Hospice Bangladesh [World Hospice Palliative Care Day 2020 - YouTube](#)
- Participated in a Policy Dialogue on "Efforts for Attaining The Zero Population Growth in Bangladesh" Organized by Planning Commission Bangladesh and The United Nations Population Funds on December 20, 2010.

Fellowship, Grant, and Award

- Rotary of the Year. Conway Morning Rotary Club.
- Volunteer of the Year. 2019. Hospice Bangladesh and World Child Cancer
- University Research Grant Council, 2017. Research Grant for data collection for the project on Coping Mechanism of intimate partner violence victims.
- University Research Grant Council, 2015. Summer Research Grant for the project on Intimate Partner Violence
- University of Arkansas Medical School. 2009. Grant for the project Medicaid Women’s Health Waiver Evaluation (WHWE).
- University Research Grant Council, 2007. Summer Research Grant for the project The Impacts of Globalization on Income Inequality and Homicide Rates.
- Doctoral Research Award, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 2005-2006.

- Research Institute for the Study of Man (RISM)/Landes Supervised Fieldwork Grant for conducting research and field study in Bangladesh on Domestic Violence. December 2002-January 2003. I have conducted in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, visited female victims' and street children's shelter homes and reviewed documents on domestic violence issues.
- United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) graduate fellowship, 1997-98.