

## News from the CFS RDRC

### CFS RDRC Launches Podcast, Spotlight on Racial Wealth Disparities Research, Webinar Registration Opens

#### *CFS Launches New Financial Findings Podcast Series*



The [Financial Findings Podcast](#) is a series developed by the Center for Financial Security that features interviews with researchers about household finance, financial security, and retirement and disability research and the implications for policy, practice, and relevance for the general public. The podcast series is hosted by [Jonathon Ferguson](#).

- [Episode 1: Interview with Dr. Cliff Robb | Spring 2023](#): In this episode, discussion centers on Dr. Cliff Robb's research project, [Enhancing Trust in the Social Security Administration and E-Government Among People Targeted by Fraud](#). Dr. Robb is the chair for the department of consumer science at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and a professor in the School of Human Ecology. Dr. Robb studies consumer financial decision-making, with an emphasis on financial knowledge and capability.
- [Episode 2: Interview with Jill Hoiting | Spring 2023](#): In this episode, Jonathon talks with [Jill Hoiting](#). Jill is a PHD student in the Social Welfare program at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. The discussion focuses on Jill's research project titled [I Don't Like all of Those Fees—Pragmatism about Financial Services Among Low-Income Parents](#).

### Spotlight on Research: Racial Disparities in Wealth

*The Implications of Child Incarceration for Racial Disparities in Women's Wealth and Labor Force Attachment*



Brielle Bryan  
Rice University



Hira Farooqi  
Rice University

More than one-in-five Americans aged 50 or older have ever had a child incarcerated at some point in their lives. Among American women of all ages, 21 percent of black women have ever experienced child incarceration compared to just 13 percent of white women. Qualitative work suggests that mothers often shoulder substantial in-kind and direct financial costs to support their currently or formerly incarcerated children. This project uses nationally representative data to test the possibility that adult children's incarceration may detrimentally impact women's (1) labor supply and (2) wealth in midlife. Given stark racial disparities in incarceration rates, the study will also examine whether racial disparities in adult child incarceration contribute to racial disparities in these two outcomes, both of which are of crucial importance for determining one's Social Security benefit level as well as one's likelihood of requiring Supplemental Security Income (SSI) assistance in old age.



Amir Kermani  
University of  
California-Berkeley

### *The Impacts of Racial Differences in Economic Challenges on Housing, Wealth, and Economic Security Among OASI Beneficiaries*

Housing wealth comprises 40% of the net wealth of retirement-age Americans, 43% of whom have not yet paid off their mortgage. This study analyzes two research questions. First, to what extent do Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) benefits promote economic security and racial equity among homeowners? The study uses novel administrative data linkage to compare measures of economic well-being before and after homeowners become eligible for OASI benefits. Measures of well-being include foreclosure, housing stability, and realized housing returns. A second research question examines how racial differences in job losses during working age contribute to racial differences in economic security at retirement through exposure to foreclosures. Use of confidential taxpayer microdata allows for simultaneous measurement of



Kate Pennington  
US Census Bureau



Francis Wong  
Ludwig-Maximilians  
University

racial differences in the incidence of job loss, foreclosure, and wealth destroyed by foreclosure. The study will compare the relative contributions of racial differences in income stability to wealth at retirement through a direct channel (i.e. savings) and an indirect channel (i.e. wealth lost due to foreclosures).

## Welcome to our New CFS Colleague: Katie Jajtner!

Katie Jajtner joins CFS as a Research Scientist although she has worked with the CFS RDRC for years as a PI on several projects. Katie is interested in better understanding how health, work, and social policy can shape opportunity and equity for individuals and their families through aging and intergenerational lenses. In recent research, Katie has been investigating the role social policy plays in shaping work disability and whether disability insurance is linked with intergenerational economic mobility.



Katie is a Wisconsin native, returning to the Badger State after living in Indiana, Nebraska, New York, Mauritania, and the Dominican Republic. Outside of research, she enjoys running, camping, hiking, and traveling with her family.

## Publications & Resources

### Webinars:

- **Webinar: The Child Tax Credit Expansion's Impact on Income and Poverty** Register today for our April 11, 12-1pm CT, webinar that will highlight the work of WI22-05 and WI23-03, which looks at the topic of child tax credits and other child-driven income support programs and social security beneficiaries.
- A recording of last month's webinar titled **Health, Health Insurance and Financial Security** is available here. This webinar explores the research of WI22-12, with researchers Katie



Fitzpatrick, Associate Professor & MPP Program Director at Biden School of Public Policy & Administration at the University of Delaware, and Keisha Solomon, Research Scientist in the Department of Economics at Howard University. Webinar discussants include Kabir Dasgupta, Senior Economist at the Federal Reserve, and Caroline Gomez-Tom, Outreach Specialist with Covering Wisconsin.

**Publications:**

- [CFS RDRC Working Papers](#)
- [CFS RDRC Research Briefs](#)

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