

Mary Elizabeth Rauktis
University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work
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Education

Ph.D. Social Work, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (1993)
M.Ed. Psychology in Education/Counseling Education, University of Pittsburgh, (1985)
B.S.N. Nursing, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (1981)

Academic Employment

Research Assistant Professor:

School of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA. 2007-present.

Adjunct Faculty:

School of Business, Nonprofit Management Program. Robert Morris University. 2006-2008

Adjunct Faculty:

School of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA. 1995-2001; 2006

Guest Faculty:

University of Porto, FPCE Faculty Psychology and Education of Children. Fall 2017

Guest Faculty:

University of Minho, Braga, Child Studies Institute. 2004; 2006-2007

Nonprofit Employment

Director:

Evaluation and Research

Pressley Ridge, (2001–2007)

Evaluation Coordinator:

Community Connections for Families, Allegheny County

Department of Human Services (Child and Adolescent Division), (1999–2001)

Evaluation Specialist:

Allegheny County Planning, Information & Evaluation Division, (1993–1998)

Health Care Employment

Research Associate:

Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic. (1987–1993)

Community Outreach Nurse:

Northern Communities MHMR, (1985–1987)

Registered Nurse:

Magee Women's Hospital, (1981–1985)

National Awards

Core Fulbright Scholar: Research and Teaching

Fall 2017

Portugal, University of Porto.

Measuring the restrictiveness of living environment in out-of-home care for children and youth in Portugal. Guest lectured at the University of Lisbon, MCI in Austria, and the University of Kassel. Taught: Human rights/child abuse, residential care, and United States Child Welfare Policies.

Research Projects and Grants

Animal Ownership in Food-insecure Households:

2016-2018

Is there a relationship between human and animal food insecurity.

Research funded by the Florence Stier Endowment, University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work: to evaluate the impact of pet food in food pantries/banks and the impact of companion animals on low-income owners and their well-being. Award total was \$15,000.

5-year Research Project for the Pennsylvania Child Welfare Demonstration

2013-2018

Research funded by the Administration for Children and Families, Pennsylvania Office of Human Services to evaluate the effectiveness of a statewide intervention to improve outcomes for children who have been maltreated.

Co-Principal Investigator (with Marlo Perry)

Evaluation of the Pennsylvania Family Group Decision-Making Model

Research conducted by the Child Welfare Education and Research Programs. Responsible for collaborating in developing a performance dashboard for participating counties.

Co-Principal Investigator

Evaluation of Seminar Model for BSW Students

Evaluation of a leadership and professional development seminar for BSW students in child welfare practice. *Co-Principal Investigator*

Experiences of White Mothers Raising White/African-American Children

2013-2014

Research funded by the Center on Race and Social Problems, University of Pittsburgh.

Co-Principal Investigator (with Rachel A Fusco)

An Evaluation of an Innovative Program for Youth with Substance Abuse and Mental Health Problems Aging out of Foster Care 2009-2011

Research funded by the Venango County Children and Youth Services, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Funding award \$70,000 for two years.
Co-Principal Investigator (with Rachel A. Fusco)

An Evaluation of Youth Perception of the Restriction of Living Environments 2009-2011

Research funded by Casey Family Programs/Pressley Ridge and Boystown National Research Hospital. Collaborated with Boystown and Casey Family in addition to Georgetown University to develop a measure of restriction of living environment.
Co-Principal Investigator (with Jon Huefner)

Racial Disparity and Service Pathways for Youth in Allegheny County 2007-2009

Research funded by Center on Race and Social Problems, University of Pittsburgh.
Co-Principal Investigator (with Julie McCrae). Award \$15,000

Peer-Reviewed Publications

In Press: **Rauktis, M.E.**, Rangel, M., Durchane, A., Cruze, O., Lemos, M.

Measuring the restrictiveness of Portuguese residential care for children and youth.
International Journal of Social Welfare

Serra, F. H., Carvalho, M. I., Pinto, C., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2019). Social Work Practices for Children, Youth and Families in Portugal: Challenges and Approaches. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*. doi: 10.1007/s10560-019-00620-z

Rauktis, M. E., Rose, L., Chen, Q., Martone, R., & Martello, A. (2016). Their pets are loved members of their family: Animal ownership, food insecurity and the value of having pet food available in food banks. *Anthrozoos* 30(4). <https://doi.org/10.1080/08927936.2017.1370225>

Tang, F., Jang, H., **Rauktis, M.**, & Musa, D. (2017). The race paradox in subjective wellbeing among older Americans. *Ageing & Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0144686X17001064> Published online: 10 October, 2017.

Jang, H., Tang, F., & **M. Rauktis**. (2016). The effects of social relations on changes in psychological well-being among grandparent caregivers. *The Gerontologist*, 56, 722.

Siordia, C., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2016). Demographic profile, geographic distribution, disability prevalence, and likelihood of being in-poverty amongst grandparents responsible for grandchildren. *GrandFamilies: The Contemporary Journal of Research, Practice and Policy*, 3(1). Available at: <http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/grandfamilies/vol3/iss1/5>

Rauktis, M. E., Fusco, R. A., Goodkind, S., & Bradley-King, C. (2016). Motherhood in liminal spaces: White mothers' parenting Black/White children. *Affilia: Journal of Women and Social Work*. Published online before print February 8, 2016, doi:10.1177/0886109916630581

Rauktis, M. E. (2015). When you first get there, you wear red: Youth perceptions of point and level systems in group home care. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 33(1), 91-102.

- Friedline, T., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2014). Young people are the front lines of financial inclusion: A review of forty-five years of research. *Journal of Consumer Affairs*, 48, 535-602.
- Bishop-Fitzpatrick, L. B., Jung, N., Nam, I., Trunzo, A., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2014). Outcomes of an agency-developed treatment foster care model for adolescents. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*. Published online before print April 16, 2014, doi:10.1177/1063426614530470
- Rauktis, M. E.**, Fitzpatrick, L. B., Jung, N., & Pennell, J. (2013). Family group decision making: Measuring fidelity to practice principles in public child welfare. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 35(2), 287-295.
- Fusco, R. A., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2012). Transracial mothering and maternal risk: Are mothers of biracial children different? *Child Welfare*, 91(1), 55-78.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, Huefner, J., & Cahalane, H. (2011). Perceptions of fidelity to family group decision making principles: Examining the impact of race, gender and relationship. *Child Welfare*, 90(4), 41-59.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, Fusco, R. A., Cahalane, H., Bennett, I., & Reinhart, S. M. (2011). Try to make it seem like we're regular kids. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 33, 1224-1233.
- Manso, A & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2011). What is therapeutic alliance and why does it matter? *Reclaiming Children and Youth*, 19(4), 45-50.
- Fusco, R. A., **Rauktis, M. E.**, McCrae, J. S., Cunningham, M. A., & Bradley-King, C. R. (2010). Aren't they just Black kids? Biracial children in the child welfare system. *Child & Family Social Work*, 15, 441-451.
- McCrae, J., Barth, R., Lee, B., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2010) Comparing three years of well-being outcomes for youth in group care and non-kinship foster care. *Child Welfare*, 89(2), 229-49.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, McCarthy, S., Krackhardt, D., & Cahalane, H. G. (2010). Innovation in child welfare: The adoption and implementation of family group decision making in Pennsylvania. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 32(5), 732-739.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, Huefner, J., O'Brien, K., Pecora, P., Doucette, A. & Thompson, R. (2009). Measuring restrictiveness of living environments for children and youth: Reconceptualizing restriction. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, 17(3), 147-163.
- Manso, A., **Rauktis, M. E.**, & Boyd, A. S. (2008). Youth expectations about therapeutic alliance in a residential setting. *Residential Treatment for Children and Youth*, 25(1), 55-72.
- Sarmiento, P., Almeida, K., **Rauktis, M. E.**, & Bernardo S. (2008). Promoting social competence and inclusion for at-risk African-Portuguese youth: Taking "alternative paths" ("Trilhos Alternativos") Reclaiming. *Children and Youth*, 16(4), 47-54.
- Boyd, A. S., Einbinder, S. D., **Rauktis, M. E.**, Portwood, S. G. (2007). Building research capacity in residential treatment centers: An approach for empirical studies. *Child and Youth Care Forum* 36(1), 43-58.

- Rauktis, M. E.**, Andrade, A. R., Doucette, A., McDonough, L., & Reinhart, S. (2005). Treatment foster care and relationships: Understanding the role of therapeutic alliance between youth and treatment parent. *International Journal of Child & Family Welfare*, 4, 146-163.
- Boyd, A. S., **Rauktis, M. B.**, Kurnot-Moore, J. & Rumberger, D. (2004). Conducting applied research in therapeutic wilderness camp settings: The research, administrative and clinical perspectives. *The Journal of Therapeutic Wilderness Camping*, 4(1), 8-17.
- Bickman, L., Vides de Andrade, A. R., Lambert, E. W., Doucette, A., Sapyta, J., Boyd, A. S., with Rumberger, D. T., Moore-Kurnot, J. L., McDonough, L. C., & **Rauktis, M. B.** (2004). Youth therapeutic alliance in intensive treatment settings. *Journal of Behavioral Health and Services Research*, 31(2), 134-148.
- Rauktis, M. E.** (2001). The impact of deinstitutionalization on the elderly persistently mentally ill. *The Journal of Mental Health and Aging*, 7, 335-348.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, Feidler, K., & Wood, J. (1998). Focus groups and the mentally ill: A case study. *Journal of Health and Social Policy*, 10(2), 75-92.
- Koeske, G., Koeske, R., Kirk, S., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (1994). Measuring the Monday blues: Validation of a job satisfaction scale for the human services. *Social Work Research and Abstracts*, 18(1), 27-35.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, Koeske, G. F., & Tereshko, O. (1995). Negative social interactions, distress, and depression among individuals caring for a seriously and persistently mentally ill relative. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 23(2), 279-299.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, & Koeske, G. (1994). Maintaining social worker morale: When supervisor support is not enough. *Social Work Administration*, 18(1), 39-60.

Invited Book Chapters

- Allen, H., **Rauktis, M. E.**, Pennell, J., Merkel-Holguin, L., & Crampton, D. "Family meetings as a system reform to address disproportionality and disparities". In Dettlaff, A. J. *Racial Disproportionality and Disparities in the Child Welfare System*. Series: Child Maltreatment: Contemporary Issues in Research and Policy. Springer Press. To be published January 2020.
- Perry, M. A., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2017). Fostering "belonging-ness": The role of private foster care agencies with foster parents and youth. In E. Trejos & N. Trevino (Eds.), *Handbook of Foster Youth*. (pp. 427-443). Abingdon, UK. Routledge/Taylor & Francis.
- Fusco, R. A., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2013). "They brought me in like I was their own kid": Youth and caregiver perceptions of out of home care. In H. Cahalane, (Ed.), *Contemporary Issues in Child Welfare Practice*, Springer Press.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, Kerman, B., & Philips, C. M. (2013). Transitioning into adulthood: Promoting youth engagement, empowerment, and interdependence through teaming practices. In H. Cahalane, (Ed.), *Contemporary Issues in Child Welfare Practice*, Springer Press.

Rauktis, M. E., & Thomas, T. (2013). Reflective Practices in Supervision: Why thinking and reflecting are as important as doing. In H. Cahalane (Ed.), *Contemporary Issues in Child Welfare Practice*, Springer Press.

Rauktis, M. E., Andrade, A. R., & Doucette, A. (2010). Therapeutic Alliance and Re-ED: Research on building positive relationships with youth. In A. Tomas De Almeida & N. Fernandes (Eds.), *Intervencao com Crianças, Jovens e Familias. Estudos e Practicas*. Universidade do Minho: Coimbra, Portugal: Almedina

Dollard, N., **Rauktis, M.B.**, Vergon, K. S., & Sliefert, D. (2009). Quality assurance using the CANS and the Service Process Adherence to Needs and Strengths (SPANS). In J. S. Lyons & D. Weiner (Eds.), *Behavioral Health Care Strategies: Total Clinical Outcomes Management*. Kingston, NJ: Civic Research Institute, Inc.

Rauktis, M. E. (2008). Para alem das nossas fronteiras: A historia da Pressley Ridge na Europa. In K. Almedia, (Ed.), *Apprender a RE-Educar. 1988-2008:20 Anos De Pressley Ridge Em Portugal*. Fundaco Luso-Americana.

Sarmiento, P., Almeida, K., Bernardo, S., & **Rauktis, M.E.** (2008). Por Trilhos Alternativos. In K. Almedia (Ed.), *Apprender a RE-Educar. 1988-2008:20 Anos De Pressley Ridge Em Portugal*. Fundaco Luso-Americana.

Rauktis, M. E., Andrade, A. R., & Doucette, A. (2008). Therapeutic Alliance and Re-ED: Research on building positive relationships with youth. In R. P. Cantrell, & M. L. Cantrell (Eds.), *Helping Troubled and Troubling Children: Continuing Evidence for Re-ED's Ecological Approach* (Book 2 in the Troubled and Troubling Child series). Published by the American Re-Education Association, Cleveland OH.

Selected/Juried Paper Presentations and Posters

Rauktis, M.E., et al., (June 2019). *Social work in transition in different countries: similarities, differences and the future of the profession: Educating child welfare social workers in the USA to promote leadership, reduce trauma and improve resilience.* Paper presented at the European Association for Social Work, Madrid.

Rauktis, M.E. & Greeno K. (June 2019). *Teaching research methods: An interactive workshop.* Paper presented at the European Association for Social Work, Madrid.

Orlando, R., Winters, R., **Rauktis, M. E.**, Eicher, A. (April 2019). *Perfecting case planning: Utilizing structured assessments to analyze and improve the family service plans.* Presented at the 21st National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Washington D.C.

Rauktis, M.E., Lee, H., Bickel, L., & Cahalane, G. (April 2019). *How do human and companion animal food needs intersect in low-income households?* Presentation at the International Association of Human-Animal Interaction Organizations Triannual Conference. Green Chimneys New York.

- Lee, H., **Rauktis, M.E.** et al., (March, 2019). *“He gets half my tuna sandwich”*: How human and companion animal food needs intersect in low income households. Community Engaged Scholarship Forum, University of Pittsburgh.
- Bickel, L., Lee, H., Giovengo, H., Nagel, Q., Chen, Q., & **Rauktis, M.E.** (December, 2018). *Impacts of companion animals on food security for older adults*. Annual Aging Institute Research Day, The Aging Institute of UPMC Senior Services and the University of Pittsburgh Schools of the Health Science.
- Perry, M. A. & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2018, April). Innovations in assessing fidelity to different family engagement models. Presentation at the Pennsylvania 2018 Conference on Family Group Decision Making (FGDM): Growing FGDM through Leadership. Hershey, PA.
- Rauktis, M. E.** (2018, March). *Acolhimento: What does out-of-home care for children and youth in Portugal look like?* Cultures of the Lusosphere. Paper presented to the 2018 Conference. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Tucker, L. P., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2018, March). *Evaluating child welfare practice model fidelity and support practice and system change through assessment*. Paper presented to the 31st annual research and policy conference, child, adolescent, and young adult behavioral health. Tampa, FL.
- Perry, M. A., **Rauktis, M. E.**, Cahalane, H., & Zhu, X. (2018, March). Factors related to short-term outcomes of family engagement meetings in child welfare: Returning home, preventing a move, and restriction of living environment. Poster presentation at the 31st Annual Research and Policy Conference on Child, Adolescent, and Young Adult Behavioral Health. Tampa, FL.
- Perry, M. A., & **Rauktis, M. E.** (2016, November). *How engaged are families in various family engagement models? Fidelity and early findings from Pennsylvania’s Title IV-E Waiver*. Presentation at International Conference on Innovations in Family Engagement. Fort Worth, TX.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, & Fusco, R.A. (2013, October). *The experiences of White mothers parenting Black/White children: Personal, social and community factors in child welfare involvement*. Paper presented to the Fourth Annual Rita M. McGinley Symposium, Duquesne University School of Nursing. Pittsburgh, PA.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, & Fusco, R.A. (2013, September). *Transracial mothering and child maltreatment risk*. Paper presented to the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, European Regional Conference. Dublin, Ireland.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, Pennell, J., Buford, G., & Crampton, D. (June, 2012,). *Measuring fidelity of various family engagement approaches: Past, present future*. Paper presented to the American Humane Association, Family Engagement Conference. Orlando, Florida.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, & Nobles, C. (2011). *Tell them to treat us like we’re regular kids: Youth perceptions of restrictiveness in out-of-home care*. Paper presented to the 24th Annual Research Conference, A System of Care. Tampa, Florida.
- Rauktis, M. E.**, McCarthy, S., & Krackhardt, D. (2011). *Innovation in child welfare: Factors which influence the adoption and sustainability of family group Decision making*. Paper presented to

the Society for Social Work Research. Tampa, Florida.

Rauktis, M. E., & Fusco, R. (2011). *Aren't they just black kids? Biracial children in the child welfare system.* Paper presented to the Society for Social Work Research. Tampa, Florida.

Rauktis, M. E., & Huefner, J. (2009). *Measuring restriction of living environments for children and youth.* Paper presented to the Society for Social Work Research. New Orleans, LA.

Rauktis, M. E. (2008). *Therapeutic alliance: Enabling and empowering youth and families by building relationships.* Keynote Speaker for the Luso-Americana Foundacao "Aprender A Re-EDucar: Quando formar nao chega!." Lisbon, Portugal.

Sarmiento, P., Almeida, K., & **Rauktis, M. E. (2007).** *Taking alternative Paths.* Paper presented to the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect. European Regional Conference, Dublin, Ireland.

Rauktis, M. E. (2007). *Mechanisms of change in evidence-based home and community services.* Paper presented to the First International Congress, Intervention with children, youth, and families. University of Minho, Braga, Portugal.

Published Instruments

Huefner, J., **Rauktis, M.**, Doucette, A., Pecora, P., Thompson, R., & O'Brien, K. (2006). *REM-Y; REM-S Restrictiveness of Living Environment Measure for Youth.*

Courses Taught

- Foundations of Social Work Research (BSW and MSW, University of Pittsburgh)
- Research in the Community (MSW, University of Pittsburgh)
- Human Behavior and the Social Environment (BSW, University of Pittsburgh)
- Qualitative Research (University of Porto)
- Evaluation for Non-Profit Management (Robert Morris University, University of Minho, University of Porto)
- Single Subject Research (MSW, University of Pittsburgh)
- American Social Policy (University of Porto)

Dissertation and Thesis Committee and Student Mentoring

Appointment in the Graduate Faculty of the University of Pittsburgh

- Chereese M. Phillips (Social Work: completed 2015). Co-Chair
- Lisa Schelbe (Social Work: completed 2013).
- Terri Friedline (Social Work: completed 2012).
- Thistle Elias (Graduate School of Public Health: completed 2012).
- Andrea Gruber (Graduate School of Public and International Affairs: completed 2011).
- Mentoring of Graduate Student Assistants: Chereese Phillips, Allison Little
- Mentoring of two Malmberg Fellowship, early career students from Lesotho, University Center for International studies, University of Pittsburgh

Editor and Editorial Reviewer

- *Child and Adolescent Social Work*, Editorial Board
- *Child Welfare*, Reviewer
- *Children and Youth Services Review*, Reviewer
- *Residential Treatment for Children and Youth*, Editorial Board
- *Youth Care Forum*, Reviewer
- *Child and Family Social Work*, Reviewer
- *Journal of Race and Social Problems*, Reviewer
- *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*, Editorial Board
- *Child Abuse and Neglect* Ad Hoc

Co-Editor of two special editions:

- 1) With E. Farmer, *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders* 2017
- 2) With Fernando Serra on *Innovations in Portuguese Social Work Practice for Child and Adolescent Social Work*. June 2019

University Continuing Education

- Diversity in Teaching Seminar, Fall 2016, Center for Teaching and Learning
- Human Centered Design Basic Proficiency. Luma Institute, May 2019.
- “Humanizing the Global”-- Humanities Seminar for Faculty, Fall and Spring 2015-2016, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences

University Service and Community Service

- *University Faculty Senate Subcommittees Student Affairs and Library (elected positions)*, University of Pittsburgh (2012-present; two consecutive terms).
- *Provost’s Advisory Committee on Women’s Issues (appointed by the Provost)*, University of Pittsburgh (2012-2015).
- Animal Friends Volunteer (2010-present).
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Western Pennsylvania, Mentor (2015-2018).
- Homeless Cat Management Team of Western Pennsylvania (2017-present).