

# ATHENA TAPALES

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## ACADEMIC HISTORY

**Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health**, Baltimore, MD  
Ph.D., Social Demography, May 2002

**University of Minnesota, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs**, Minneapolis, MN  
M.A., Policy Analysis and Social Policy, May 1995

**University of Illinois, Urbana, IL**  
B.A., Economics, May 1990

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Gutmacher Institute** – New York, NY January 2016 – Present  
*Senior Research Scientist*, Research Division

- Studying immigrant women in the United States and their use of sexual and reproductive health services.
- Analyzed primary data collected in Ghana examining why contraceptive use is low among women who want to limit their fertility.

**Gutmacher Institute** – New York, NY November 2010 – December 2016  
*Consultant*, Research Division

- Facilitated questionnaire development, field testing and field work in Ghana examining the reasons for low contraceptive use.
- Primary author on a paper that employed a decomposition approach examining the trends in unintended pregnancy using multiple waves of a national survey of American women.
- Co-authored papers analyzing longitudinal data that examined consistent contraceptive use among American women.

**New York University** - New York, NY January 2013 – May 2013  
*Adjunct Faculty*, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development  
Global Institute of Public Health, Department of Nutrition, Food Studies and Public Health

**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** – New York, NY August 2010 – October 2010  
*Consultant*, Policy and Evidence Unit, Health Section

- Developed a conceptual framework for examining the determinants of coverage for maternal child health and nutrition interventions.
- Compiled data sources and analytical tools that involved interviewing staff from Headquarters and regional offices to understand the tools utilized for situation and equity analysis.

**Johns Hopkins University** – Baltimore, MD August 2005 – August 2009  
Bloomberg School of Public Health, Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health  
*Co-Investigator*, National Institutes of Health, R01 Grant

- Analyzed a nationally representative longitudinal sample of children beginning in middle school until early adulthood utilizing new methods and measures to examine school environment and policy.
- Assessed how school resources can mitigate the effect of individual and family risk factors on academic achievement and earnings in early adulthood.

**United Nations Statistics Division**— New York, NY  
*Consultant, Demographic and Statistics Branch*

July 2009 – August 2009

- Analyzed data from multiple sources to examine gender disparities among children and youth, specifically under nutrition, vaccination rates, pneumonia and diarrhea care, fertility and HIV rates, HIV knowledge and prevention, tobacco and alcohol abuse, and sexual behavior.
- Analysis of children and youth included in the 2010 World's Women publication.

**Guttmacher Institute** – New York, NY  
*Consultant, Research Division*

May 2005 – Jan 2006

- Analyzed national data on American women, conducting sensitivity analyses of reproductive health options under multiple scenarios.
- Co-authored published paper demonstrated the cost-effectiveness of publicly-funded family planning services, calculating that services averted 1.4 million unintended pregnancies, resulting in a net public sector savings of \$4.3 billion.

**Center for Social Organization of Schools & Department of Sociology**  
*Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University - Baltimore, MD*

Sept 2002 – May 2004

**Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health**- Chicago, IL  
*Project Associate, Communities Reducing Adolescent Pregnancies Project, CDC-funded Health Policy Analyst (Time split with CDC project from August 1995 to June 1996)*

July 1995 - July 1997

**Jones Lang LaSalle** - Chicago, IL  
*Financial Analyst, Investment Management Division*

July 1990 - July 1993

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

Tapales, A. and L. Finer. 2015. "Unintended pregnancy and the changing demography of American women, 1987-2008." *Demographic Research*. 33 (45) 1257–1270

Jones R.K. et al. 2015. "Using longitudinal data to understand changes in consistent contraceptive use." *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*. 47(3):131-139.

Sonfield, A. et al. 2014. "Impact of the federal contraceptive coverage guarantee on out-of-pocket payments for contraceptives: 2014 update." *Contraception*. 91(1):44-48.

Department of Economic and Social Affairs. 2010. *The World's Women 2010: Trends and Statistics*. United Nations, New York.

Schmidt, M. et al. 2008. "Chapter 8: Exit Exams and Organizational Change in a Vocational High School" (B. Fuller, M. Henne and E. Hannum, Eds.) In *Research in Sociology of Education, Volume 16: Strong States, Weak Schools: The Benefits and Dilemmas of Centralized Accountability*. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing.

Frost, J., L. Finer, and A. Tapales. 2008. "The Impact of Publicly Funded Family Planning Clinic Services on Unintended Pregnancies and Government Cost Savings." *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*. 19: 778-796.

Bishai, D., D. Mercer and A. Tapales. 2005. "Can Government Policies Help Adolescents Avoid Risky Behavior?" *Preventive Medicine*. 40: 197-202.