CASSANDRA COTTON

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RESEARCH STATEMENT

I am a family demographer whose work primarily investigates the intersections between migration and family dynamics in sub-Saharan Africa. My current research examines the relationship between women’s migration, child fostering, and mother-child relationships in urban informal settlements in Nairobi, Kenya. My additional ongoing projects explore the influence of migration in adolescence on young migrant women’s maternal and reproductive health outcomes and the impact of mothers’ migration patterns on child residence and child well-being across sub-Saharan Africa. My other published work has looked at kin support for single mothers in Nairobi, Kenya, family relationships and father engagement in Cape Town, South Africa, and family structures, migration, and transitions to adulthood in Kisumu, Kenya. The overarching goal of my research aims to understand the role of migration in shaping the lives of women and their children throughout sub-Saharan Africa using both quantitative and qualitative methods.

EDUCATION

Sociology | McGill University
PhD, 2017
Advisor: Shelley Clark

International Relations | Mount Allison University
B.A., 2008

PREVIOUS POSITION

Trainee | McGill University
2013-2017
Centre on Population Dynamics. Advisor: Shelley Clark

PUBLICATIONS

