

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Education:

- 1/2000 Ph.D. in Psychology, Free University of Berlin, Germany
Doctoral dissertation: "Family Dynamics following Parental Loss"
(advisors: Drs. M. M. Baltes, P. B. Baltes, & J. Smith)
- 1/1997 M.A. in Psychology, University of Trier, Germany
Masters thesis: "The Grieving Process and Continuing Ties to the Deceased"
(advisors: Drs. J. Brandtstädter & C. B. Wortman)
- 9/1993 B.A. in Psychology, Christian Albrechts University to Kiel, Germany

Appointments and Professional Positions:

- 7/2008-present Associate Professor, Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY
- 10/2007-present Senior Research Scientist, Jewish Home Lifecare, Research Institute on Aging, New York, NY
- 5/2000-9/2007 Research Associate, Lighthouse International, A. R. Gordon Research Institute, New York, NY (*Senior Research Associate since 10/2006*)
- 2002-2003 Adjunct Professor, Department of Psychology, Hunter College, CUNY, New York, NY

Other Professional Experience and Training:

- Summer 1999 Graduate Research Assistant, Dept. of Psychology, University of Massachusetts at Boston, MA; *Research on the Transitions from Adolescence to Adulthood with Drs. R. S. Weiss & J. Liem*
- 1997-1999 Graduate Research Fellow, Dept. of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School
Research on Grief and Bereavement with Dr. P. R. Silverman
- 1996-1997 Graduate Research Assistant, Dept. of Psychology, University of Trier, Germany; *Research on Negative Emotions and Health with Dr. P. Schwenkmezger*
- 1995-1996 Graduate Research Fellow, Dept. of Psychology, SUNY Stony Brook, NY; *Research on Grief and Bereavement with Dr. C. B. Wortman*
- Summer 1994 Graduate Research Fellow, Dept. of Psychiatry, Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto, CA; *Research on Anxiety Disorders with Dr. Walton T. Roth*

Awards and Honors:

- 2009 Fellow, Gerontological Society of America (GSA)
- 2007 Fellow, Division 20, American Psychological Association (APA)
- 1999-2000 Scholarship, Free University Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- 1997-1998 Scholarship, Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD), Bonn, Germany
- 1993-1996 Scholarship, Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung, Bonn, Germany

Grants:

- “Depression, Disability & Coping in Midlife”; funded by NIMH (7R03MH076794-02; Principal Investigator; 1/07-12/09)
- “Driving Transitions and Mental Health in Disabled Elders”; funded by NIA (7R01AG020579-04; Co-Investigator; 5/04-4/10)
- “Control Strategies & Mental Health in Impaired Elders”; funded by NIMH (7R01MH644374-06; Co-Investigator & Project Director; 5/02-2/10)
- “Life Goals, Disability, and Rehabilitation in working-age adults with vision impairment”; funded by Mr. Edward Ferris (Principal Investigator; 5/05-5/06)
- “Vision Loss, Coping Tendencies, and Mental Health”; funded by NIMH (R03 MH65382; Principal Investigator; 12/01-12/02)

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications:

- Boerner, K., Brennan, M., Horowitz, A., & Reinhardt, J. P. (in press). Tackling vision-related disability in old age: An application of the life-span theory of control to narrative data. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*.
- Boerner, K. & Schulz, R. (in press). Caregiving, bereavement, and complicated grief. *Bereavement Care*.
- Boerner, K. & Wang, S. (in press). How it matters when it happens: Life changes related to functional loss in younger compared to older adults. *International Journal of Aging and Human Development*.
- Carr, D., & Boerner, K. (in press). Do spousal discrepancies in marital quality assessments affect psychological adjustment to widowhood? *Journal of Marriage and Family*.
- Mock, S. E., & Boerner, K. (in press). Sense Making and Benefit Finding among Patients with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and their Primary Caregivers. *Journal of Health Psychology*.
- Reinhardt, J. P., Boerner, K., & Horowitz, A. (2009). Personal and social resources and adaptation to chronic impairment over time. *Aging & Mental Health, 13*(3), 367-375.
- Wang, S. & Boerner, K. (2008). Staying connected: Re-establishing social relationships following vision loss. *Clinical Rehabilitation, 22*, 816–824.
- Schulz, R., Hebert, R. S., & Boerner, K. (2008). Bereavement after caregiving. *Geriatrics, 63*(1), 20-22.
- Boerner, K., & Jopp, D. (2007). Improvement/maintenance and reorientation as central features of coping with major life change and loss: Contributions of three life-span theories. *Human Development, 50*, 171-195.
- Bonanno, G. & Boerner, K. (2007). The stage theory of grief (Letter to the Editor). *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), 297*(24), p. 2693.
- Boerner, K., Reinhardt, J. P., & Horowitz, A. (2006). The effect of rehabilitation use on coping patterns over time among older adults with age-related vision loss. *Clinical Rehabilitation, 20*(6), 478-487.
- Boerner, K., Wang, S., & Cimarolli, V. R. (2006). The impact of functional loss: Nature and implications of life goals. *Journal of Loss & Trauma, 11*, 265-287.
- Cimarolli, V. R., Boerner, K., & Wang, S. (2006). Life goals in vision rehabilitation: Are they addressed and how? *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness, 100*(6), 343-352.
- Reinhardt, J. P., Boerner, K., & Horowitz, A. (2006). Good to have but not to use: Differential impact of perceived and received support on well-being. *Journal of Personal and Social Relationships, 23*(1), 117-129.

- Schulz, R., Boerner, K., Shear, K., Zhang, S., Gitlin, L. N. (2006). Predictors of complicated grief among dementia caregivers: A prospective study of bereavement. *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 14(8), 650-8.
- Boerner, K., & Cimarolli, V. (2005). Optimizing rehabilitation for adults with visual impairment: attention to life goals and their links to well-being. *Clinical Rehabilitation*, 19 (7), 790-798.
- Boerner, K., Wortman, C. B., & Bonanno, G. (2005). Resilient or at risk? A four-year study of older adults who initially showed high or low distress following conjugal loss. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*, 60B(2), P67-P73.
- Cimarolli, V. R., & Boerner, K. (2005). Social support and well being in adults with visual impairment. *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, 99(9), 521-534.
- Horowitz, A., Reinhardt, J. P., & Boerner, K. (2005). The effect of rehabilitation on depression among visually disabled older adults. *Aging & Mental Health*, 9(6), 563-570
- Boerner, K. (2004). Adaptation to disability among middle-aged and older adults: The role of assimilative and accommodative coping. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*, 59(1), P35-P42.
- Boerner, K., Reinhardt, J. P., Horowitz, A., & Raykov, T. (2004). Stability and change in social negativity in later life: Reducing received while maintaining initiated negativity. *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, 59(4), S230-S237.
- Boerner, K., Schulz, R., & Horowitz, A. (2004). Positive aspects of caregiving and adaptation to bereavement. *Psychology and Aging*, 19(4), 668-675.
- Travis, L. A., Boerner, K., Reinhardt, J. P., & Horowitz, A. (2004). Exploring functional disability in older adults with low vision. *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, 98(9), 534-545.
- Boerner, K., & Heckhausen, J. (2003). To have and have not: Adaptive bereavement by transforming mental ties to the deceased. *Death Studies*, 27(3/April), 199-226.
- Boerner, K., & Reinhardt, J. P. (2003). Giving while in need: Support provided by disabled older adults. *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, 58B(5), S297-S304.
- Horowitz, A., Reinhardt, J. P., Boerner, K., & Travis, L. (2003). The influence of health, social support quality, and rehabilitation on depression among disabled elders. *Aging & Mental Health*, 7(5), 342-350.
- Reinhardt, J. P., Boerner, K., & Benn, D. (2003). Predicting individual change in received support over time among chronically impaired older adults. *Psychology & Aging*, 18(4), 770-779.
- Horowitz, A., Boerner, K., & Reinhardt, J. P. (2002). Psychosocial aspects of driving transitions in elders with low vision. *Gerontechnology*, 1, 262-273.
- Silverman, P. R., Baker, J., Cait, C. A., & Boerner, K. (2002-2003). The effects of negative legacies on children's adjustment after parental death. *Omega: Journal of Death and Dying*, 64, 359-376.
- Boerner, K., & Silverman, P. R. (2001). Gender specific coping patterns in widowed parents with dependent children. *Omega: Journal of Death and Dying*, 43(3), 201-216.

Book chapters and other publications:

- Wortman, C. B., Boerner, K. (in press). Reactions to the death of a loved one: Myths of coping versus scientific evidence. In H. S. Friedman (Ed.), *Oxford Handbook of Health Psychology*. Oxford University Press.
- Boerner, K. & Jopp, D. (in press). Resilience in response to loss. In J. W. Reich, A. J. Zautra, & J. Hall. *Handbook of Adult Resilience: Concepts, Methods, and Applications*. Guilford Publications.

- Boerner, K. & Jopp, D. (2009). Paul and Margaret Baltes. In D. Carr (Ed.-in-Chief), *Encyclopedia of the Life Course and Human Development*. Macmillan Reference USA.
- Bonanno, G. A., Boerner, K., & Wortman, C. B. (2008). Trajectories of grieving. In M. Stroebe, Hansson, R., Schut, H., & Stroebe, W., *Handbook of bereavement research and practice: 21st century perspectives* (pp. 287-307). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association Press.
- Schulz, R., Boerner, K., & Hebert, R. S. (2008). Caregiving and bereavement. In M. Stroebe, Hansson, R., Schut, H., & Stroebe, W., *Handbook of bereavement research and practice: 21st century perspectives* (pp. 265-285). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association Press.
- Boerner, K., & Schulz, R. (2006). The role of positive aspects of caregiving in adaptation to bereavement. In B. Vellas, L. J. Fitten, H. Feldman, E. Giacobini, M. Grundman, B. Winblad, & A. Kurz (Eds.), *Research and practice in Alzheimer's disease and cognitive decline, Vol. 11* (pp. 332-335). Paris: Serdi Publisher.
- Wortman, C. B., Boerner, K. (2006). Reactions to the death of a loved one: Myths of coping versus scientific evidence. In H. S. Friedman, & R. C. Silver (Eds.), *Foundations of health psychology* (pp. 285-324). Oxford University Press.
- Boerner, K. (2005). Chronic disability in old age. In C. B. Fisher & R. M. Lerner (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of applied developmental science* (pp. 252-254). Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Boerner, K., Horowitz, A., Reinhardt, J. P., & Brennan, M. (2004). Coping behavior and mental health in elders with vision loss: Preliminary findings from a longitudinal study. *Maximizing Human Potential, 12*(2), pp. 3, 7.
- Boerner, K. (2003). Perspectives on Bereavement. In J. R. Miller, R. M. Lerner, L. B. Schiamberg, & P. M. Anderson (Eds.), *Human ecology: An encyclopedia of children, families, communities, and environments* (pp. 70-74). Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio.
- Boerner, K. (2003). The importance of compensatory strategies to maintain quality of life. *Aging & Vision, 15*(2), 4-5.
- Boerner, K., & Wortman, C. B. (2001). Bereavement. In N. J. Smelser & P. B. Baltes (Eds.-in-Chief), *International encyclopedia of the social and behavioral sciences* (pp. 1151-1155). Oxford: Elsevier Science.
- Boerner, K., & Wortman, C. B. (1998). Grief and loss. In H. Friedman (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of mental health* (pp. 289-300). New York: Academic Press.

Manuscripts under review and in preparation:

- Boerner, K., Brennan, M., Horowitz, A., & Reinhardt, J. P. (in preparation). *Coping with functional loss in later life: The role of compensatory strategy use for well-being*. Jewish Home Lifecare, New York.
- Brennan, M., Boerner, K., Reinhardt, J. P., & Horowitz, A. (in preparation). *Applying the life-span theory of control to the domain of vision loss: The development of the vision-specific OPS scale*. AIDS Community Research Initiative of America, New York.
- Horowitz, A., Boerner, K., Brennan, M., & Reinhardt, J. P. (under review). *Adaptation to age-related vision loss: Use of control strategies by visually impaired elders*. *Psychology and Aging*.
- Popivker, L., & Wang, S. W., & Boerner, K. (under review). Dealing with functional loss: Effects on life goals. *Clinical Rehabilitation*.
- Schilling, O., Wahl, H.W., Horowitz, A., Reinhardt, J., & Boerner, K. (under review). Learning about the adaptation dynamics of chronic functional limitations: What vision loss in old age can tell us. *Psychology and Aging*.

Stroebe, M., Schut, H., & Boerner, K. (under review). Continuing bonds in adaptation to bereavement: Toward theoretical integration. *Clinical Psychology Review*.

Presentations:

Boerner, K., & Silverman, P. R. (1998). *Finding ways of including the deceased in the new family life*. Paper presented at the Regional Convention of Division 39, American Psychological Association in Boston, MA.

Boerner, K., & Silverman, P. R. (1998). *Family grief following parental loss*. Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the Association for Death Education and Counseling (ADEC) in San Antonio, TX.

Boerner, K., & Silverman, P. R. (1999). *How gender roles affect family dynamics following the death of a parent*. Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in Boston, MA..

Boerner, K., & Reinhardt, J. P. (November, 2002). *Predicting support provision among impaired elders*. Paper presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.

Horowitz, A., Boerner, K., Reinhardt, J. P., & Brennan, M. (November, 2002). *Applying the Life-Span Theory of Control to research on adaptation to age-related vision loss*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.

Reinhardt, J. P., Boerner, K., & Benn, D. (November, 2002). *Predicting change in support over time in impaired elders*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.

Boerner, K. (November, 2003). *Disability and depression in mid- versus late adulthood: The benefits of assimilative and accommodative coping*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, San Diego, CA.

Boerner, K., Schulz, R., & Horowitz, A. (November, 2004). *The effect of positive aspects of caregiving on adaptation to bereavement*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC.

Boerner, K., Wortman, C., & Bonanno, G. (November, 2004). *Long-term consequences of conjugal loss: Resilience versus chronicity*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC.

Brennan, M., Boerner, K., Reinhardt, J. P., & Horowitz, A. (November, 2004). *Applying the Life-Span Theory of Control in adjustment to chronic illness: The development of the Vision-Specific OPS Scale*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC.

Horowitz, A., Boerner, K., Brennan, M., & Reinhardt, J. P. (November, 2004). *Successful aging within the context of disability: Use of control strategies by visually impaired elders*. Paper presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC.

Brennan, M., Boerner, K., Horowitz, A., & Reinhardt, J. P. (August, 2005). *Problem solving and adaptation to age-related vision loss*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The American Psychological Association. Washington, DC.

Brennan, M., & Boerner, K. (November, 2005) *Psychometric analysis of the TEN-FLEX coping scales: Evidence for 2nd-order factors and further psychometric development*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA.

Horowitz, A., Boerner, K., Brennan, M., & Reinhardt, J. P. (November, 2005). *Coping with age-related vision loss: The role of domain-specific control strategies as well as assimilative and accommodative coping for well-being*. In K. Boerner (Chair), *Coping with disability in later adulthood*. Symposium presented at the

- annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Orlando, FL.
- Boerner, K., Brennan, M., Horowitz, A., & Reinhardt, J. P. (February, 2006). The role of compensatory strategies for adaptation to late life chronic disability. In H. W. Wahl (Chair), *Psychological control, independence and well-being in aging*. Symposium presented at the International Conference on Aging, Disability and Independence, St. Petersburg, FL.
- Mock, S. E., & Boerner, K. (May, 2006). *Congruence of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis patient and caregiver meaning-making: Implications for depressive symptoms*. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention, New York, NY.
- Boerner, K., Wang, S., & Cimarolli, V. R. (August, 2006). Life changes related to functional loss: Their nature and implications. In P. B. Baltes (Chair), *Promoting growth and managing losses: Implications for well-being and health*. Symposium presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in New Orleans, LA.
- Boerner, K., Brennan, M., Horowitz, A., & Reinhardt, J. P. (November, 2006). Coping with functional loss in later life: Compensatory strategy use and well-being. In H. W. Wahl & K. Boerner (Chairs), *Adaptation under constraints: Chronic conditions and very old age*. Symposium presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Dallas TX.
- Boerner, K., & Carr, D. (2006). 'His' and 'hers' marriage? How spousal discrepancies in marital quality assessments affect psychological adjustment to widowhood. In D. Carr (Chair), *Psychosocial and economic adjustments to late-life spousal loss: New evidence from longitudinal studies*. Symposium presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, Dallas TX.
- Mock, S.E., & Boerner, K. (March, 2007). *Profiles of benefit finding among amyotrophic lateral sclerosis patients and their primary caregivers*. Poster presented at the annual symposium of the Society for Research on Adult Development, Boston, MA.
- Boerner, K., & Carr, D. (November 2007). *'His' and 'hers' marriage in later life: New directions in studying marital quality*. Symposium presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Boerner, K., Jopp, D., & Carr, D. (November 2007). What makes a good marriage? Exploring components of marital quality in later life. In K. Boerner & D. Carr (Chairs). *'His' and 'hers' marriage in later life: New directions in studying marital quality*. Symposium presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Brennan, M., Boerner, K., Horowitz, A., & Reinhardt, J. P. (November 2007). *Further development of the vision-specific OPS scale: Differentiating three dimensions of compensatory primary control*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Gibson, B. E., Horowitz, A., Reinhardt, J. P., & Boerner, K. (November 2007). *The importance of cognitive appraisals for understanding depressive symptoms among adults with physical disability*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Horowitz, A., Boerner, K., Brennan, M., & Reinhardt, J. P. (November 2007). Tackling late life challenges: Control strategy use as a function of disability. In H. W. Wahl (Chair), *Crossroads of psychological, social and physical function: Implications for disability research*. Symposium presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.

- Jopp, D., Boerner, K., & Leipold, B. (November 2007). *Resource perceptions, use of adaptive strategies, and well-being*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Reinhardt, J. P., Horowitz, A., Boerner, K., & Gibson, B. (November 2007). *A prospective study of driving cessation among vision disabled adults: Preliminary findings on psychological, behavioral, environment, and social factors*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, San Francisco, CA.
- Boerner, K. (August, 2008). *Heartaches and headaches in midlife: The impact of untimely stressors*. Symposium presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in Boston, MA.
- Boerner, K. & Popivker, L (August, 2008). Coping with functional loss in midlife. In K. Boerner (Chair), *Heartaches and headaches in midlife: The impact of untimely stressors*. Symposium presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in Boston, MA.
- Popivker, L. & Wang, SW, & Boerner, K. (August, 2008). *Dealing with functional loss: Effects on life goals*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in Boston, MA.
- Reinhardt, J. P., Boerner, K., Horowitz, A., & Brennan, M. (November, 2008). Control Strategy Use and Satisfaction with the Completion of Daily Living Tasks. . In H. W. Wahl (Chair), Symposium presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, National Harbor, MD.
- Gibson, B. E., Horowitz, A., Reinhardt, J. P., & Boerner, K. (November, 2008). *We need to talk: Conversations between family members and friends about driving with vision loss*. Poster presented at the annual scientific meeting of The Gerontological Society of America, National Harbor, MD.
- Boerner, K. (November, 2009). Coping with disability – Life philosophy versus handling concrete challenges. In D. Jopp (Chair), *Mechanisms underlying resilience: Examination of resources and psychological strengths*. Symposium to be presented at the Annual Convention of The Gerontological Society of America in Atlanta, GA.
- Boerner, K., Brennan, M., Horowitz, A., & Reinhardt, J. P. (November, 2009). Self-reported strategy use by disability level: An application of the life-span theory of control using narrative data. In H.W. Wahl & A. Horowitz (Chairs), *Adaptation to vision loss: A synthesis of recent empirical work*. Symposium to be presented at the Annual Convention of The Gerontological Society of America in Atlanta, GA.

Professional Membership and Service:

American Psychological Association (Fellow, Division 20, Adult Development and Aging)

Gerontological Society of America (Fellow)

Journal Advisory Board Member for Clinical Rehabilitation, Oxford, UK

Ad Hoc Reviewer for Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences, Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences, Psychology and Aging, Health Psychology, Death Studies, International Journal of Behavioral Development, Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology, JAMA; Anxiety, Stress, & Coping

Ad Hoc Reviewer of abstracts for annual scientific meetings of The Gerontological Society of America and American Psychological Association