



# THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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## COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

**SSWR Director-At-Large Nomination**  
**Joyce Y. Lee, PhD, MSW, LCSW**  
**The Ohio State University College of Social Work**

### **Biography**

Dr. Joyce Y. Lee, is a Child Welfare and Family Strengthening Scholar. She is currently an Assistant Professor and Director of the Child and Family Wellbeing Laboratory at The Ohio State University College of Social Work.

Dr. Lee's work is deeply informed by nearly a decade of direct social work practice experience with children and families in community-based settings. Overall, her research program aims to promote child wellbeing and strengthen families, particularly those facing socioeconomic disadvantages (e.g., poverty, child maltreatment, racism and discrimination). Her research program has three interrelated themes: (1) preventing child maltreatment through identifying family processes (e.g., parenting quality) that contribute to or disrupt the risk of child abuse and neglect; (2) supporting positive parenting quality of fathers through encouraging early involvement in their children's lives both in the family and child welfare system contexts; and (3) fostering the well-being of children impacted by the child welfare system through striving to achieve equity in child health outcomes.

Importantly, Dr. Lee's contributions to the field include identifying dynamic family and interparental processes that support positive parenting in the context of poverty and child maltreatment; uplifting the voices and lived experiences of fathers with marginalized identities; and discovering ways child welfare systems can eliminate racial disparities and promote equity in child health. Her work has been cited more than 900 times and covered in news outlets such as the *Washington Post*, *National Public Radio*, *U.S. News & World Report*, and *The Conversation*. She has used her work to inform child welfare and family programs and policies at multiple levels (i.e., local, state, national, and international). Her leadership is also evident in her role as a mentor of emerging social work scholars and practitioners, as well as the Co-Chair of the Fatherhood Special Interest Group (SIG) at the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR).

Dr. Lee obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Social Work (BASW) at Rutgers University, Master's in Social Work (MSW) at Columbia University, and a Joint PhD in Social Work and Psychology at the University of Michigan.



### **Vision Statement**

I am honored and excited to be nominated and considered for the Director-at-Large (DAL) position as part of the SSWR Board of Directors. As articulated in my biography, my work aligns well with SSWR's mission to advance social work research. In my role as DAL, my vision would advance SSWR's 2024-2028 Strategic Plan and its goals in the following four ways:

- 1) I would contribute to improving SSWR's operational excellence (Goal 1) by developing and promoting opportunities for doctoral students, early career scholars, and international scholars to engage in leadership at SSWR.
- 2) I would strengthen and diversify SSWR membership composition, benefits, engagement, and conference experience (Goal 2) by leveraging my connections with social work and interdisciplinary scholars within the U.S. and abroad to increase SSWR's global reputation and presence.
- 3) I would advance the research capacity and skills of individuals and schools to inform solutions to complex social problems (Goal 3) by lending my expertise in antiracist and anti-oppressive research methodology (e.g., QuantCrit, community-based participatory research) in social work and supporting SSWR in connecting with policy advocates and service decision-makers, especially those in Ohio.
- 4) I would enhance SSWR's communications and publications (Goal 4) by using my extensive experience successfully working with multiple news outlets and multimedia channels (including various social media platforms), to elevate research by SSWR members and thus increase SSWR's media presence.

Overall, my vision reflects a deep understanding of and commitment to SSWR's goal to address complex social issues through research. I am deeply committed to building SSWR up as a DAL and thus enhancing the social work profession. This nomination reflects my growing involvement and leadership in social work scholarship. As DAL, I will take SSWR's vision to the next level, and therefore, advance, disseminate, and translate research that addresses issues of social work practice and policy and promotes a diverse, just, and equitable society.