Paternal Incarceration and Teachers’ Expectations of Students

In this talk, Dr. Wildeman will show that paternal imprisonment is sufficiently common for US children that it could have macro-level implications for health disparities both within the US and between the US and other developed democracies. Second, he will show that the lion’s share of existing research on the consequences of paternal incarceration suggests deleterious effects of this event for children’s health and well-being. Finally, he will present results from a new study in which he experimentally varied paternal incarceration in order to provide an uncontaminated estimate of how having a father incarcerated (as opposed to being listed as “out of the picture”) affects the teacher’s expectations of a hypothetical student.