



Kristina M. Scharp (Ph.D, University of Iowa) is an Associate Professor in the School of Communication and Information at Rutgers University and a Director of the Family Communication and Relationships Lab. Her work meets at the intersection of interpersonal, family, and health communication and focuses on the process of marginalization and the ways people cope with the major disruptions to their lives. Specifically, Scharp's research programmatically advances communication theory and method with the aim of (a) exposing

institutionalized structures of oppression, (b) understanding the populations those structures marginalize, and (c) illuminating communication processes marginalized populations enact to cope with the inequities they experience. To date, she has over 90 publications in outlets such as the *Journal of Communication*, *Human Communication Research*, *Communication Monographs*, and *Communication Research* as well as three co-authored textbooks. In the last few years, she was awarded the International Communication Association's Early Career Award, NCA Family Communication Division's Distinguished Article Award, and the Leslie A. Baxter Early Career Award in Family Communication. Her work on family estrangement, in particular, has garnered attention from numerous media outlets such as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Conversation*, and *NPR*.