

SAJIA DARWISH



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sajia-darwish



SajiaDarwish



sajdarwish@berkeley.edu

EDUCATION

- University of California, Berkeley**, Berkeley, CA Expected May 2023
Master of Public Health | Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Stanford University**, Stanford, CA July 2021
Master of Arts | International Education Policy Analysis
Focus: Quantitative methods and data analysis
- Mount Holyoke College**, South Hadley, MA May 2018
Bachelor of Arts | International Relations

HONORS & AWARDS

- Dean's Fellow**, Stanford University September 2020-July 2021
- GATHER Fellow**, Seeds of Peace March-December 2020
- Graduated Cum Laude**, Mount Holyoke College May 2018

SKILLS

- Programming Languages:** R (proficient), Python (basic), C (basic)
- Languages:** Farsi (native), English (fluent), Spanish (intermediate), Arabic (intermediate), Urdu (intermediate)

EXPERIENCE

- Graduate Student Researcher**, Center for Targeted Machine Learning, UC Berkeley, CA May 2022-Present
Supervisor: Alan Hubbard, PhD
- Harmonize data and apply statistical methods and machine learning techniques to analyze the relationships between maternal milk composition and child growth and development
- Quantitative Intern**, Mujeres Unidas y Activas (MUA), San Francisco, CA May 2022-Present
Supervisor: Alison Cohen, PhD
- Process data from MUA members' survey, perform analyses, write a report and present findings to stakeholders
- Graduate Student Researcher**, The American Medical Association & D-Lab, UC Berkeley, CA October 2021-Present
Supervisor: Chris Kennedy, PhD
- Perform unsupervised topic modeling using the latent Dirichlet allocation technique to identify racism-related narratives in a select number of papers in the medical literature
 - Present findings to collaborators through written reports
- Consultant**, D-Lab, UC Berkeley, CA September 2021-May 2022
- Assist graduate students in understanding their data and statistical methods relevant to their research questions
 - Offer guidance and support in performing statistical analyses and writing/debugging code
- Graduate Student Researcher**, Risk Resilience Research, UC Berkeley, CA August-December 2021
Supervisor: Jennifer Skeem, PhD
- Clean, prepare, and analyze data from a randomized control trial among justice-involved people with mental illness using tests and methods such as zero-inflated Poisson regression and survival analysis

- Data Consultant**, MUA San Francisco, CA July-September 2021
- Cleaned, managed, translated from Spanish to English, and analyzed data from MUA's 2020 survey
- Intern**, Data Core, Stanford Center for Population Health Sciences (PHS), Stanford, CA July-September 2021
- Assisted in the development of a dataset consisting of publication metrics for studies using PHS databases
- Founder and Director**, Baale Parwaz Library, Kabul, Afghanistan May 2016-June 2020
- Founded and ran school-based library and resource centers that promote access to education for at-risk girls
 - Developed a curriculum including health education, digital literacy, and self-defense serving 500+ women annually
 - Recruited and managed both teachers/staff, initiated partnerships with other organizations such as Imagine Asia
 - Profiled in [The Boston Globe](#), [HuffPost](#), [MHC Alumnae Association](#) and [Quartz](#) among other publication venues
- Research Assistant**, The Relationships and Social Cognition Lab, UC Berkeley, CA June-December 2019
- Recruited participants and ran experiments to study emotion development and regulation in children
 - Conducted comprehensive literature reviews and analyzed data collected through experiments
- Project Manager**, Afghan Girls Financial Assistance Fund, Madison, NJ January-June 2019
- Managed and oversaw the design and implementation of educational and social impact projects (e.g., STEM camps)
 - Advised students on the building and operation of libraries and resource centers
- Monitoring & Evaluation Intern**, Relief International (RI), Washington, DC June 2018-March 2019
- Used statistical software to analyze data and provide visualizations of results
 - Designed marketing documents for each of RI's Middle East country programs

PUBLICATIONS

- **Darwish, S.** & Wotipka, C. The effect of armed conflict on student achievement and access to higher education in Afghanistan. Working paper.
- Nichols, C. R., Hoyt, L. T., **Darwish, S.**, & Cohen, A. K. Gendered differences in responsibilities among a national sample of college students during the COVID-19 pandemic. Working paper.

TALKS

- The effect of armed conflict on access to higher education in Afghanistan. Factors Affecting Student Outcomes: Language, Curricula, Social Stratification, Armed Conflict, and Teachers. Comparative & International Education Society Conference. April 28, 2021.
- Grassroots Social Justice Programs. Social Justice Lacuna. The Ethel Walker High School. April 12, 2021.

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

- AZM Fellowship**, GATHER, Seeds of Peace, New York, NY March-December 2020
- Provided mentorship and microgrants for innovative youth projects
 - Built analytical thinking in youth, enabling them to create positive and sustainable change in their communities
- The Knitting Project**, Baale Parwaz Library, Kabul, Afghanistan April-December 2020
- Provided an income opportunity for women outside the labor force by leveraging their knitting skills
 - Planned delivery of knitted winter clothes for hundreds of the most vulnerable and at-risk street children
- Children's Book Project**, Baale Parwaz Library, Kabul, Afghanistan January-June 2019
- Collaborated with American publishers and teachers to translate 15 children's books into Farsi
 - Organized a cultural immersion workshop for children in Kabul
- Millennial Blogger**, The Global Search for Education, CMRubinWorld January 2017-July 2018
- Published monthly blogs on social trends and challenges relevant to millennials

REFERENCES

Prashant Loyalka, PhD

Associate Professor
Graduate School of Education, Stanford University

Jennifer Skeem, PhD

Professor
Public Policy and Social Welfare, UC Berkeley

Alison Cohen, PhD

Assistant Professor, Epidemiology & Biostatistics,
School of Medicine, UC San Francisco

Christine Min Wotipka, PhD

Associate Professor
Graduate School of Education, Stanford University