Golden Parachutes: Premigration Socioeconomic Status, Mobility, and the Varying Educational Experiences of DACAmented Student

Description of Talk: An important body of research shows that the undocumented population in the U.S. is socioeconomically disadvantaged. So, how is it possible that Latinos who are subjected to an undocumented status, who experience economic hardships, and who are racially minoritized manage to attend college, including selective institutions with steep tuition costs? In this talk, I present a partial answer to this puzzle. To understand how some undocumented students make it to these educational institutions, I highlight the role of "contexts of exit," especially premigration social class. In doing so, I reveal socioeconomic variation in the undocumented population and explore how socioeconomic status-related resources tethered to premigration background shape intragenerational mobility trajectories subsequent to migration and related educational experiences for DACAmented children of immigrants. I offer the concept of the "Golden Parachute" to describe one mechanism through which advantaged premigration background shapes mobility trajectories and related educational experiences of children of immigrants.