

# **Karen Melton, Ph.D.**

**Assistant Professor, Child and Family Studies at Baylor University**

Waco, TX, US

Her research focuses on positive family leisure experiences that enhance child development and family relations.

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## **Biography**

Karen Melton, Ph.D., serves as Assistant Professor of Child and Family Studies in Baylor University's Robbins College of Health and Human Services. Her research is focused on fostering positive family leisure experiences in order to enhance child development and family relations. The simple prevention of adverse experiences cannot itself foster normal child development nor family relationships. Thus, her research examines methods for promoting nurturing, supportive relationships through safe, stable environments. Dr. Melton serves as director of the H.O.P.E. Research Lab and the Baylor-Compassion Initiative.

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Program Effectiveness, Intentional Family, Family Finances, Decision-making, Family Time, Oxytocin, Positive Youth Development, Adolescent Development, Family Relations, Family Activities?rituals, routines, recreation, and religion, Family Ecology, Family Identity, Resource Management, Family Life Education

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## **Education**

**Texas A&M University**

Ph.D.

**Texas A&M University**

M.S.

**University of South Alabama**

B.S.

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