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**Deconstructing Disadvantage: Single Motherhood and
Mental Health in the United States**

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This study examines sources of poor mental health among single mothers in the United States. I use latent class analysis to identify constellations of risk factors for social disadvantage and poor mental health among unmarried mothers. I next examine predictors of the resulting classes and explore their associations with mental health, heavy alcohol use, and parenting satisfaction. This study has three specific aims: 1) Identify common constellations of social and economic risk factors among single mothers in the U.S.; 2) predict membership in these risk factor groups with family background measures and sociodemographic characteristics; and 3) evaluate associations between risk factor groups and a) depressed mood; b) suicide ideation; c) heavy alcohol use, and d) parenting satisfaction.