Professor Linda Waite is the Lucy Flower Professor in Sociology at the University of Chicago and Senior Fellow at NORC. She directs NORC’s Center on Demography and Economics of Aging, which provides support to more than 30 researchers working in the areas of social relationships, living arrangements, and family; the social context of aging; health care research; and biobehavioral pathways. The Center is supported by a grant from the National Institute on Aging. She also serves as Co-Director of the University of Chicago's MD/PhD Program in Medicine, the Social Sciences, and Aging; and chairs the Committee on Demographic Training at the University of Chicago. Among her many awards, in 2008, Waite received a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) award. MERIT awards are among the most selective research grants given by the NIH, with less than 5 percent of NIH-funded investigators selected as recipients. Waite's other work on biomarkers and pharmaceutical data on population-based aging research has yielded groundbreaking knowledge about the sexual behavior of older Americans.