Stanford



Daphne O. Martschenko

Assistant Professor (Research) of Pediatrics (Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics)

Pediatrics - Center for Biomedical Ethics

Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

Dr. Daphne Oluwaseun Martschenko is an Assistant Professor at the Laurie J. Girand Center for Biomedical Ethics at Stanford. Her scholarship identifies novel ways to examine and enhance the ethical and socially responsible conduct, translation, and interpretation of human genetic research.

Dr. Martschenko is passionate about fostering public and community engagement with controversial scientific research. She has appeared in the New York Times and on numerous podcasts including Freakonomics Radio. Dr. Martschenko's work is published in publicly accessible media outlets such as Scientific American and The Conversation. In 2023, she was named one of 10 Scientists to Watch by ScienceNews.

Dr. Martschenko is author of the book What We Inherit: How New Technologies and Old Myths Are Shaping Our Genomic Future, which she wrote with friend and colleague Sam Trejo, a sociologist at Princeton University. Over the past decade, the field of human genetics has rapidly produced a wide range of never-before-seen genomic tools; together, they debate and discuss a range of social, ethical, and policy issues raised by this so-called DNA revolution. Though there's plenty the two disagree about, they share a firm belief that—in order to successfully navigate the transition to a society where genetic prediction is increasingly accurate and available—it is vital that society take seriously the impact both of DNA and of pernicious genetic myths.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor-Research, Pediatrics - Center for Biomedical Ethics
- Member, Maternal & Child Health Research Institute (MCHRI)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- SN Top-10 Scientists to Watch, ScienceNews (June 20, 2023)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- External Advisory Board Member, Undiagnosed Diseases Network (2023 - 2026)
- Steering Committee Member, Stanford Medicine Teaching & Mentoring Academy (2025 - present)
- External Advisory Board Member, Leadership in the Equitable and Ethical Design of STEMM Research (2023 - present)
- Member, ClinGen Ancestry and Diversity Working Group (2021 - present)
- Board of Directors Member, Blueprint Schools Network (2021 - present)
- Steering Committee Member, Wrestling with Social and Behavioral Genomics: Risk, Potential Benefit, and Ethical Responsibility (2020 - 2022)
- Advisory Committee Member, Enhancing diversity of clinical trials in Duchenne (2022 - 2023)
- Member, American Society for Bioethics and the Humanities (2020 - present)

- Member, American Society for Human Genetics (2021 - present)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- B.A., Stanford University , Slavic Languages and Literature (2014)
- B.A., Stanford University , Anthropology (Medical) (2014)
- M.Phil., University of Cambridge , Politics, Development, and Democratic Education (2016)
- Ph.D., University of Cambridge , Education (2019)

LINKS

- ORCID: http://orcid.org/0000-0002-9046-5893
- Website: daphnemartschenko.com
- Center for Biomedical Ethics: https://med.stanford.edu/bioethics.html

Research & Scholarship

PROJECTS

- 1K01HG013352-01 - National Human Genome Research Institute (2/6/2024)

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Introduction to Genetics, Ethics, and Society: GENE 220 (Spr)
- Just Biotech: Who Benefits and Who Is Left Behind in Global Biotechnologies: COLLEGE 117 (Spr)

2025-26

- Introduction to Genetics, Ethics, and Society: GENE 220 (Spr)
- Just Biotech: Who Benefits and Who Is Left Behind in Global Biotechnologies: COLLEGE 117 (Spr)

2024-25

- Introduction to Genetics, Ethics, and Society: GENE 220 (Spr)
- Justice in Biotechnologies: Who Benefits and Who Is Left Behind: COLLEGE 117 (Spr)
- The Promises and Perils of Social and Behavioral Genomics: OSPOXFRD 84 (Win)

2023-24

- Introduction to Genetics, Ethics, and Society: GENE 220 (Spr)
- The Responsible Conduct of Research: MED 255 (Aut, Win, Sum)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Martin Blue

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **A qualitative interview study of medical genetics and genomics residents' perspectives on race, ethnicity, and racism in clinical settings and their related gaps in knowledge: "It's just taboo. Nobody talks about it.".** *Journal of genetic counseling*
  Gomez-Stafford, J. L., Vaunado, J., Campion, M. W., Clark, C., Murray, B. C., Niehaus, A. D., Stevenson, D. A., Tise, C. G., Martschenko, D. O.
  2026; 35 (3): e70216

- **A Qualitative Study of the Roles and Responsibilities of Academic and Journalistic Publishing in Social and Behavioral Genomics.** *Behavior genetics*
  Martschenko, D. O., Giri, A.
  2025
- **Increasing equity in science requires better ethics training: A course by trainees, for trainees.** *Cell genomics*
  Patel, R. A., Ungar, R. A., Pyke, A. L., Adimoelja, A., Chakraborty, M., Cotter, D. J., Freund, M., Goddard, P., Gomez-Stafford, J., Greenwald, E., Higgs, E., Hunter, N., MacKenzie, et al
  2024: 100554
- **Including multiracial individuals is crucial for race, ethnicity and ancestry frameworks in genetics and genomics.** *Nature genetics*
  Martschenko, D. O., Wand, H., Young, J. L., Wojcik, G. L.
  2023
- **The Value of Intersectionality for Genomic Research on Human Behavior.** *Genetics in medicine : official journal of the American College of Medical Genetics*
  Matthews, L. J., Martschenko, D. O., Sabatello, M.
  2023: 100860
- **Wrestling with Public Input on an Ethical Analysis of Scientific Research.** *The Hastings Center report*
  Martschenko, D. O., Callier, S. L., Garrison, N. A., Lee, S. S., Turley, P., Meyer, M. N., Parens, E.
  2023; 53 Suppl 1: S50-S65
- **Data sharing and community-engaged research.** *Science (New York, N.Y.)*
  Sabatello, M., Martschenko, D. O., Cho, M. K., Brothers, K. B.
  2022; 378 (6616): 141-143
- **FoGS provides a public FAQ repository for social and behavioral genomic discoveries.** *Nature genetics*
  Martschenko, D. O., Domingue, B. W., Matthews, L. J., Trejo, S.
  2021; 53 (9): 1272-1274
- **What Does It Mean to Be Black? Experimental Evidence on the Situational Deployment of Racial Schemas** *SOCIOLOGY OF RACE AND ETHNICITY*
  Thompson, M. E., Alvero, A. J., Trejo, S., Martschenko, D. O.
  2026
- **Multiracial individuals' perspectives on participating in genetics research.** *Journal of community genetics*
  Chiriboga, E., Hoell, C., Martschenko, D. O., Wojcik, G. L., Wand, H., Young, J. L.
  2026; 17 (3)
- **Clinical genetic counselors' perspectives on preimplantation genetic testing for monogenic conditions with reduced penetrance: A mixed methods study** *JOURNAL OF GENETIC COUNSELING*
  Ortiz, E., Martschenko, D., Bombalicki, M., Horan, S., Llorin, H.
  2026; 35 (2)
- **Policing the Boundaries of Blackness: How Black and White Americans Evaluate Racial Self-Identifications¹** *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SOCIOLOGY*
  Thompson, M. E., Trejo, S., Alvero, A. J., Martschenko, D. O.
  2026; 131 (5): 1147-1181
- **Genetic exceptionalism and genomic contextualism among Asian Americans: a qualitative study.** *Journal of community genetics*
  Huang, S. D., Martschenko, D., Scherer, C. R., Chiang, K. F., Chang, K., Naik, H.
  2025; 17 (1): 2
- **"Nobody listened to us for years": Parents' experiences of provider communication in the diagnostic odyssey.** *Molecular genetics and metabolism*
  Nguyen, M. M., Mahfoozi, S., Bonner, D., Martschenko, D. O., Giri, A., Tang, C., Bernstein, J. A., Wheeler, M. T., Halley, M. C.
  2025; 146 (4): 109283
- **Social and Behavioral Genomics: On the Ethics of the Research and Its Downstream Applications.** *Annual review of genomics and human genetics*

Martschenko, D. O., Lee, S. S., Meyer, M. N., Parens, E.
2025

- **Intersectionality in a Sociogenomic World: How do Race, Disability, Socioeconomic Status, and Polygenic Prediction Interact to Impact Perceptions of Educational Trajectories?** *Genetics in medicine : official journal of the American College of Medical Genetics*
  Matthews, L. J., Martschenko, D. O., V, C. L., Sabatello, M.
  2025: 101368

- **Design and implementation of an action plan for justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion within the Clinical Genome Resource.** *American journal of human genetics*
  Popejoy, A. B., Ritter, D. I., Azzariti, D., Berg, J. S., Bulkley, J. E., Cho, M., Gonzaga-Jauregui, C., Klein, T. E., Martschenko, D. O., Oni-Orisan, A., Ramos, E. M., Rehm, H. L., Riggs, et al
  2025

- **Ethics of genomic research on occupational status.** *Nature human behaviour*
  Martschenko, D. O.
  2024

- **Considering the Risks, Potential Benefits, and Ethical Responsibilities of Social and Behavioral Genomics**
  Martschenko, D. O.
  SPRINGER.2024: 590

- **Incorporating multiracial and multiethnic experiences into genetic counseling practice and research: A necessary opportunity.** *Journal of genetic counseling*
  Lowe, C., Gomez-Stafford, J., Martschenko, D. O.
  2024

- **The methodological and ethical concerns of genetic studies of same-sex sexual behavior.** *American journal of human genetics*
  Ventresca, C., Martschenko, D. O., Wedow, R., Civelek, M., Tabery, J., Carlson, J., Parker, S. C., Ramos, P. S.
  2024

- **Schoolhouse risk: Can we mitigate the polygenic Pygmalion effect?** *Acta psychologica*
  Matthews, L. J., Zhang, Z., Martschenko, D. O.
  2024; 248: 104403

- **"Ethical Responsibility Very Often Gets Drowned Out": A Qualitative Interview Study of Genome Scientists' and ELSI Scholars' Perspectives on the Role and Relevance of ELSI Expertise.** *AJOB empirical bioethics*
  Martschenko, D. O., Grannuci, A., Cho, M. K.
  2024: 1-12

- **Barriers to diverse clinical trial participation in Duchenne muscular dystrophy: Engaging Hispanic/Latina caregivers and health professionals.** *Orphanet journal of rare diseases*
  Crossnohere, N. L., Campoamor, N. B., Camino, E., Dresnick, E., Martschenko, D. O., Rodrigues, V., Apkon, S., Hazlett, A., Mittur, D., Rodriguez, P. E., Bridges, J. F., Armstrong, N.
  2024; 19 (1): 207

- **Practical Approaches to Enhancing Fairness, Social Responsibility and the Inclusion of Diverse Viewpoints in Biomedicine.** *Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing. Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing*
  Martschenko, D. O., Martinez-Martin, N., Halley, M.
  2024; 29: 645-649

- **Placing Publics in Public Health Genomics.** *Public health genomics*
  Fox, B. M., Martschenko, D. O.
  2024; 27 (1): 23-29

- **Are we nearly there yet? Starts and stops on the road to use of polygenic scores.** *Journal of community genetics*
  Moorthie, S., Martschenko, D. O., Fatumo, S.
  2023

- **Social and Behavioral Genomics: What Does It Mean for Pediatrics?** *The Journal of pediatrics*
  Martschenko, D. O., Matthews, L. J., Sabatello, M.

2023: 113735

- **Promoting diagnostic equity: specifying genetic similarity rather than race or ethnicity.** *Journal of medical ethics*
  Saylor, K. W., Martschenko, D. O.
  2023
- **Beware of the phony horserace between genes and environments.** *The Behavioral and brain sciences*
  Trejo, S., Martschenko, D. O.
  2023; 46: e228
- **Wrestling with Social and Behavioral Genomics: Risks, Potential Benefits, and Ethical Responsibility.** *The Hastings Center report*
  Meyer, M. N., Appelbaum, P. S., Benjamin, D. J., Callier, S. L., Comfort, N., Conley, D., Freese, J., Garrison, N. A., Hammonds, E. M., Harden, K. P., Lee, S. S., Martin, A. R., Martschenko, et al
  2023; 53 Suppl 1: S2-S49
- **Confronting ethical and social issues related to the genetics of musicality** *ANNALS OF THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES*
  Gordon, R. L., Martschenko, D. O., Nayak, S., Niarchou, M., Morrison, M. D., Bell, E., Jacoby, N., Davis, L. K.
  2023; 1522 (1): 5-14
- **Re-envisioning community genetics: community empowerment in preventive genomics.** *Journal of community genetics*
  Wand, H., Martschenko, D. O., Smitherman, A., Michelson, S., Pun, T., Witte, J. S., Scott, S. A., Cho, M. K., Ashley, E. A., Preventive Genomics Program Co-Design Working Group, Goldberg, E., Knepper, L., Michelson, S., et al
  2023
- **Black Bioethics in the Age of Black Lives Matter** *JOURNAL OF MEDICAL HUMANITIES*
  Ray, K., Fletcher, F. E., Martschenko, D. O., James, J. E.
  2023: 1-17
- **Social and Behavioural Genomics and the Ethics of (In)Visibility** *GENETIC SCIENCE AND NEW DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES*
  Martschenko, D.
  edited by Sikka, T.
  2023: 9-27
- **Rethinking the "Public" and Rethinking "Engagement".** *The American journal of bioethics : AJOB*
  Fox, B., Martschenko, D. O.
  2023; 23 (7): 66-68
- **Ethical, anticipatory genomics research on human behavior means celebrating disagreement.** *HGG advances*
  Martschenko, D. O., Trejo, S.
  1800; 3 (1): 100080
- **Precision Medicine Needs to Think Outside the Box.** *Frontiers in genetics*
  Martschenko, D. O., Young, J. L.
  2022; 13: 795992
- **The Genetic Lottery: Why DNA Matters for Social Equality (Book Review)** *HASTINGS CENTER REPORT*
  Book Review Authored by: Martschenko, D.
  2021; 51 (6): 54-55
- **Normalizing race in (gifted) education: genomics and spaces of White exceptionalism** *CRITICAL STUDIES IN EDUCATION*
  Martschenko, D.
  2023; 64 (1): 67-83
- **"The elephant in the room": social responsibility in the production of sociogenomics research** *BIOSOCIETIES*
  Martschenko, D.
  2022; 17 (4): 713-731
- **What about Ethics in Design Bioethics?** *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF BIOETHICS*
  Martschenko, D., Martinez-Martin, N.
  2021; 21 (6): 61-63

- **Genes do not operate in a vacuum, and neither should our research** *NATURE GENETICS*
  Martschenko, D., Smith, M.
  2021; 53 (3): 255–56
- **Embodying biopolitically discriminate borders: teachers' spatializations of race** *DISCOURSE-STUDIES IN THE CULTURAL POLITICS OF EDUCATION*
  Martschenko, D.
  2022; 43 (1): 101-114
- **"The train has left the station": The arrival of the biosocial sciences in education** *RESEARCH IN EDUCATION*
  Martschenko, D.
  2020; 107 (1): 3–9
- **DNA Dreams': Teacher Perspectives on the Role and Relevance of Genetics for Education** *RESEARCH IN EDUCATION*
  Martschenko, D.
  2020; 107 (1): 33–54
- **Genetics and Education: Recent Developments in the Context of an Ugly History and an Uncertain Future** *AERA OPEN*
  Martschenko, D., Trejo, S., Domingue, B. W.
  2019; 5 (1)

PRESENTATIONS

- The New Borderland: Genetics at the School House Door - University of Wisconsin- Madison Summer Demography Seminar (May 30, 2019)
- Adversarial Collaboration in the Context of an Ugly History and an Uncertain Future - Polygenic Prediction and its Application in Social Science (November 30, 2018)