

# **Namita Naomi Manohar**

## **Bio:**

Namita has completed her Bachelors degree in Sociology and Masters degree in Social Work from India. She has also worked as a social worker in the city of Mumbai (Bombay) from where she hails. She spent a year working with college youth in the suburbs of Mumbai, to foster leadership, social responsibility and awareness among them. She also worked with HIV positive children in an orphanage in Mumbai. Here, she was primarily responsible for building the case histories of the children and documenting their live stories to date. Namita worked as a Research Assistant in the Research Unit of the College of Social Work, Nirmala Niketan in Mumbai. She was part of the team that worked on a study of the Catholic participation in and perception of the Small Christian Communities in the Archdiocese of Bombay.

## **Research Interests and Areas of Specialization:**

Marriage and families, Asian Indians in the United States, immigration and migration, gender and HIV (especially the impact of HIV on families and communities in developing countries).

## **Education:**

B.A University of Mumbai 1998-2001

M.S.W. University of Mumbai 2001-2003

## **Current Research and/or Dissertation Topic:**

- 1) Assimilation and the Indian Man – a study that explores the construction of masculinity among North Indian students, studying at the University of Florida. The study also seeks to examine whether migration to the United States has influenced their masculinity with particular emphasis on their views on and expectations of marriage and family life.
- 2) M.A. Thesis – an examination of the union formation processes among second generation Gujaratis in Florida.

## **Teaching Experience:**

Guest lecturer for Social Problems – College of Social Work, Nirmala Niketan 2003

## **Professional Activities, Honors, and Awards:**

Member of Southern Sociological Society - 2004

Awarded the Alumni Fellow Award – University of Florida 2004