Dr. Connidis' primary research interest is family ties and aging. A key objective of much of her work has been to broaden understanding of families by studying relationships and groups that are often excluded. Her current research is on three main topics: the family ties of gay and lesbian adults; step ties in adulthood; and sibling relationships in middle and later life. Recurring themes in her work include the centrality of gender to family life, the value of a life course perspective, the significance of context when examining any particular relationship, and the policy implications of research results.