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Anne Leggett McDonald* (amcdona@luc.edu), 2032 Seward St, Evanston, IL 60202. 1600
Women with U.S. Doctorates in the Mathematical Sciences, 1960-1979. Preliminary report.

For a number of years I have been building a database of the women who earned doctorates (in almost all cases, PhDs) in the mathematical sciences from U.S. educational institutions over the two decades from 1960 through 1979. My collaborator Bettye Anne Case and I were interested in analyzing this cohort for a variety of reasons. Women up to 1959 had been well studied in the books written by Green & LaDuke and by Murray, and we wanted to see what the career paths had been for women with more recent degrees who had had adequate time to become established in their chosen arenas. Those two decades were also interesting times to be in graduate school, due to the rise of feminism and other social and cultural factors.

I will present some statistical information about this cohort and give a rough accounting of the careers pursued by these women, most of whom not too surprisingly had (and still have) academic careers. I will discuss some of the difficulties I've run into while building the database. But happily, given the wonders of the Internet, I have been able to find at least some information past the earned doctorate on a large percentage of the women in the database. (Received July 09, 2015)