

JESSE SMITH

701 Oswald Tower
University Park, PA 16802
619-713-4920 | jus769@psu.edu

EDUCATION

- 2023 (expected) Ph.D., Sociology and Demography, The Pennsylvania State University
Dissertation: "Faith, Family, and Moral Formation: Reciprocal Pathways of Enculturation."
Research Interests: Religion, Culture, Politics, Family, Demography
Dissertation Committee: Valarie King (Chair), Roger Finke, Gary Adler, Jr., Mary Shenk
- 2019 Master of Arts, Sociology and Demography, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2014 Master of Social Work, Indiana University-Indianapolis
- 2010 Bachelor of Social Work with Honors, Indiana University-Bloomington

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Smith, Jesse, and Gary Adler, Jr. "What isn't Christian Nationalism? A Call for Conceptual and Empirical Splitting." Accepted for publication at *Socius*.
- 2022 Smith, Jesse. "Beyond The God Gap: Mapping Religiopolitical Heterogeneity in the United States." *Sociological Forum* 37 (2):421–42.
- 2020 Smith, Jesse. "Transmission of Faith in Families: The Influence of Religious Ideology." *Sociology of Religion* 82(3):332–356.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- Smith, Jesse, and Nicholas H. Wolfinger. "Reexamining the Link between Premarital Sex and Divorce."
- Smith, Jesse. "Early-life Religious Sources of Moral Formation."

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Smith, Jesse. "Why are religious conservative parents more successful at passing on the faith?" *Institute for Family Studies*, January 12.
<https://ifstudies.org/blog/why-are-religious-conservative-parents-more-successful-at-passing-on-the-faith>

- 2021 Smith, Jesse. "Want your kids to follow in your faith? Take a page from religious conservatives." *Religion News Service*, January 19.
<https://religionnews.com/2021/01/19/want-your-kids-to-follow-in-your-faith-take-a-page-from-religious-conservatives/>

MEDIA

- 2022 Silver, Jonathan. "Jesse Smith on Transmitting Religious Devotion." *Tikvah* Podcast. <https://tikvahfund.org/library/podcast-jesse-smith-on-transmitting-religious-devotion/>.
- 2021 Wilken, Todd. "Children Retaining Their Religious Faith – Jesse Smith, 1/25/21." *Issues, Etc.* Podcast. <https://issuesetc.org/2021/01/25/0251-children-retaining-their-religious-faith-jesse-smith-1-25-21/>.

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2020, 2022 Honorable Mention, Penn State Sociology Graduate Student Paper Competition
- 2020—2021 Penn State University Graduate Fellowship
- 2020 Penn State Sociology M.A. Thesis Competition Award
- 2019 Winner, Penn State Sociology Graduate Student Paper Competition
- 2017—2019 Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Pre-doctoral Family Demography Traineeship

FEATURED SPEAKER

- 2022 "Early-Life Sources of Moral Formation: Religion, Parenting, Politics, and Position." Religion and Society Brown Bag, West Virginia University.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 "'It's Time for Some Splitting': Seeking the Conceptual Boundaries of Christian Nationalism"
 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Baltimore, MA.
- "Moral Formation in the Private Sphere: Religious Upbringing, Parenting Styles, and Children's Moral Characteristics"
- "Reexamining the Link between Premarital Sex and Divorce" with Nicholas H. Wolfinger
 American Sociological Association. Los Angeles, CA.
- "Does Past Relationship Churning Undermine Midlife Religiosity?"
 Population Association of America. Atlanta, GA.

- 2021 “Religion’s Residue: Comparing the Effects of Past and Present Religious Attendance on Current Attitudes”
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Portland, OR.
- 2020 “Intergenerational Religious Transmission: A Conservative Advantage?”
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Pittsburgh, PA.*
**Accepted but not presented due to COVID-19*
- 2019, 2020 “Sexual History, Commitment Beliefs, and Relationship Quality”
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. St. Louis, MO.
Population Association of America. Washington, D.C.*
**Accepted but not presented due to COVID-19*
- 2019 “The Religious-Political Link: Continuous or Categorical?”
Social Thought Conference. University Park, PA.
American Sociological Association. New York, NY.
- 2018, 2019 “The Intergenerational Transmission of Conservative Religious Attitudes.”
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Las Vegas, NV.
Population Association of America. Austin, TX.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Summer 2022 Sociology of the Family (Instructor)
2021—2022 Senior Research Seminar (TA – Statistics lab instructor)
Summer 2021 Introductory Sociology (Instructor)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- 2022 Co-chair of session “Changing Trends in Families”
Population Association of America. Atlanta, GA.
2017—2022 Penn State Sociology Paper Competition Committee
2020 Penn State Social Thought Student Reading Group Coordinator
2017—2020 Penn State Sociology Community Service Committee

ACADEMIC PEER REVIEW EXPERIENCE

- *Sociology of Religion* (3)
- *Socius* (1)
- *Sociological Focus* (1)
- *Sociology Compass* (2)
- *Journal of Research on Adolescence* (1)

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

2022–Present Conduct sociological research for The Lay Centre regarding the Synod on Synodality and roles for the laity in the “post-Synodal” Catholic Church, in collaboration with Dr. Tricia Bruce.

DATA ANALYSIS PROFICIENCY

- Stata
- R
- SPSS

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociology Association (ASA)
Population Association of America (PAA)
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)