

Kersten Bayt Priest

340-H Elder Hall

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POSITION

Assistant professor of sociology, Department of Behavioral Sciences, Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. with distinction, Department of Sociology, Loyola University, Chicago, Aug. 2009.
Dissertation: "Caring for the least of these:" Christian women's short-term mission travel.
Committee: Judith Wittner (chair), Fred Kniss, Kathleen Adams, Anne Figert.

M.A., Department of Anthropology, University of South Carolina, Columbia, May 1998.
Thesis: Disharmony in the 11:00 A.M. Worship Hour: A Case Study of an Abandoned Interethnic Church Merger.

B.S., English Bible/Education, Columbia International University, SC, May 1980.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Sociology of culture, sociology of religion, gender, race, globalization, and qualitative research methods.

BOOK CHAPTERS

2008. "Women as Resource Brokers: STM Trips, Social and Organizational ties, and mutual Resource Benefits." *Effective Engagement in Short-term Missions: Doing it Right!* (ed) Robert J. Priest, pp. 257-276. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Publishers.

2007. "New Immigrant Filipinos Bring Changes to Their Parish." *This Side of Heaven: Race, Ethnicity, and Christian Faith*. Edited by Robert Priest and Alvaro Nieves. New York: Oxford University Press.

2007. (with Robert Priest). "Divergent Worship Practices in the Sunday Morning Hour: Analysis of an 'Interracial' Church Merger Attempt." *This Side of Heaven: Race, Ethnicity, and Christian Faith*. Edited by Robert J. Priest and Alvaro Nieves. New York: Oxford University Press.

BOOK REVIEWS & ESSAYS

(forthcoming) "The Burden of Black Religion and The Elusive Dream." In *Books and Culture*.

2010. "Let's Get it Together: Multiracial and Interethnic Congregations." in *Racism*. Center for Christian Ethics: Baylor University.

2006. Book review of: "A Mosaic of Believers: Diversity and Innovation in a Multiethnic Church" by Gerardo Marti, (2005) Indiana Press. *Christian Scholar's Review* 36(1): 100-104.

2005. Book review of: "Encountering Religious Pluralism: The Challenge to Christian Faith and Mission" by Harold Netland (2001) InterVarsity Press. *Trinity Journal* 27: 160-162.

JOURNAL SUBMISSION REVIEW

Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion. Spring 2011. Reviewed a submission.

DISCUSSANT/SERVICE AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

Discussant for featured work: "Dynamics of Congregation-Based Mobilization Efforts: The case of Humanitarian Aid Efforts for Migrants Along the Sonora-Arizona Border, by Kraig Beyerlein, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Notre Dame. CAGSRC, Feb. 13, 2009.

Secretary at the annual meeting of *Christian Scholar's Review*. Calvin College, May 2009.

PRESENTATIONS

Preconference Symposium for the American Society of Missiology, June 2011, Illinois. "Observations on activism, care, and politics on behalf of children at risk."

Council for Christian Colleges & Universities/International Justice Mission Symposium, April 2011, Virginia. "Christian Women's Short-term Mission Care Travel to Address Sex Trafficking."

Evangelical Missiological Society for the Central States, March 2011, Illinois. "Short-term missions and sex trafficking."

American Anthropological Association National Meeting, November 2010, Louisiana. "Women's Short-term Mission Resource Brokering, the Internet, and Embodied "Care" for "victims" of AIDS and Sex Trafficking."

Religious Research Association, Oct 2010. Presentation of a film for panel review. Title: "Short-term Missions: Case Studies from Peru."

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 2010. "The Pivotal Role of Short-term Missionary Resource Brokers in the Distribution of Global Generosity."

American Academy of Religion, November 2009. Religion & Social Sciences Section. "Ethnographies of Religion: Practice, Problems, and Possibilities."

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 2009. "Women's short-term missions as global resource brokering."

Evangelical Missiological Society for the Central States, March 2009. "The role of visual media in women's short-term missions."

Interdisciplinary symposium for scholars researching short-term missions, March 2007. "Evangelical Women's short-term mission trips."

Loyola University Graduate Association of Sociology Mini-Conference, April 2005. "Globalization, Congregations and Women who 'do' and 'tell' short-term mission trips."

Evangelical Missiological Society for the Central States, April 2005. "U.S. Christian Mothers' 'Care-trips': Social Capital & Identities Within and Without Borders."

Association for the Sociology of Religion, August 2004. "Singing, Sewing, Dancing and Cooking Worship: Filipino/a Feasts for the Saints in Skokie, IL."

Central States Anthropological Society, April 2004. "Dancing and Decorating the Saints: Filipino-American Worship in a Mainstream Chicago Parish."

The Religion and Immigration in Civil Society Project Symposium, June 2003. "Emergent Ethnic Filipino Worship: The case of a Multi-racial Parish in Skokie."

Midwest Sociological Society, April 2003. "We're Catholic Filipino: Multiculturalism, Globalization and Negotiated Ethnicity."

Loyola University Graduate Association of Sociology Mini-Conference, March 2003. "New Immigrant Catholic Filipinos: Globalization and Multi-Cultural Projects in a Local Mainstream Parish."

Wheaton College Faculty Development Day, February 2003. Co-led a seminar for the Christian Education Department entitled: "Teaching Diversity."

American Sociological Association, August 2002. "Rethinking the Census 'Boxes': Chicago's new Religious Immigrants and the Construction of Racial/Ethnic Marginality."

American Academy of Religion (Central States), April 2002. "Does nonverbal communication matter?: A preliminary analysis of emotion expressions as 'Markers of meaning' indicative of diverse immigrant religious community experiences."

Fourth Annual Chicago Area Conference on Ethnography, February 2002. "Embodied Meanings: Working out the kinks on the qualitative data for the Religion, Immigration and Civil Society project in Chicago."

Chicago Area Group for the Study of Religious Communities, November 2001. "Divergent Worship Practices in the Sunday Morning Hour: Analysis of an 'Interracial' Church Merger Attempt."

Louisville Institute, February 2001. "Divergent Worship Practices in the Sunday Morning Hour: Analysis of an 'Interracial' Church Merger Attempt."

American Anthropological Association, December 1998. "Desegregating the 11:00 Sunday Morning Hour: A Case Study of an Attempt to Merge Religious/Ethnic Identities."

South Carolina Academy of Religion, February 1998. "Divergent Spiritual Aesthetics in an Attempted Integration of the Sunday Morning Hour."

University of South Carolina, Graduate Student Awards Day, April 1997. "An Attempted Integrative Church Merger Examined."

University of South Carolina, Anthropology Department Colloquium, February 1997.
"Cultural Differences in the Teaching and Performance of Music."

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Part-time Assistant Professor of Sociology. Indiana Wesleyan University, 2010-11.
Principles of Sociology

Assistant Professor of Sociology. Wheaton College, 2006-2009.
Introduction to Sociology; Research Methods; Social Change; Gender Roles &
Social Institutions; Sociology of Sexuality; Body, Suffering & Death; Art &
Society.

Teaching Fellow. Loyola University, 2004-2005.
The Sociological Perspective; Magic, Witchcraft & Power.

Adjunct Professor

College of Lake County, 2000-2001; 2003; 2005

Cultural Anthropology; Introduction to Sociology.

Wheaton College (IL), 2000, 2004

Introduction to Anthropology; Women, Development & Globalization.

St. Francis University, 2003

Cultural Anthropology for Health Care Professionals

Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, 2001

Religion and Culture (graduate/co-taught)

Barat College, 2000-2001

Exploring Anthropology; The Supernatural (SOC 290).

Trinity International University, 1999-2000

Race & Ethnic Relations

University of South Carolina, 1998-1999

Invitation to Anthropology; Magic & Witchcraft (ANTH 352).

HONORS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Louisville Institute Research Grant, 2010. \$16,000.

McNamara Prize for outstanding student research in the sociology of religion.
Loyola University, 2009. \$150.

Wheaton College, Faculty development grants.

Dissertation research support, 2008-2009. \$3,800.

Aldeen Grant. Fall 2008. \$4,320.

Aldeen Grant. Research grant, Spring 2007. \$4,100.

Loyola University, Teaching Fellow Scholarship Award, 2004-2005.
Loyola University Graduate Assistantship Award, 2001-2004.
Louisville Institute Summer Stipend Award, 2000. \$10,000.
University of South Carolina, Graduate Assistantship Award, 1996-1998.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Ethnographic researcher in India, Winter 2011.
Ethnographic researcher in South Africa & Dominican Republic, Fall 2007.
Field researcher in Peru & ethnographic film consultant, Summer 2004.
Research/writer, with a team of social science and religious studies scholars, 2004-2007.
Title: "Christian Discourses, Practices and Communities in Engagement with Ethnic and "Racial" Ideologies, Boundaries, Hierarchies, and Identities.
Wheaton College, \$15,000.
Research Assistant: ethnographer, photographer, transcriber, data coder, analyst.
Title: The Religion & Immigration in Civil Society Project, 2001-2003. (Pew)
P.I.s Dr. Fred Kniss and Dr. Paul Numerich, McNamara Center, Chicago.
Survey researcher on statewide effects of video poker gambling, November 1997.
P.I. Dr. Frank Quinn and Palmetto Psychiatry Associates, Columbia, S.C.
Filmographer of African American history programs in South Carolina public school, 1996 & 1997.
Field experience in urban and Amazonian locations of Peru, 1987-1989; 2004

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Christians Teaching Sociology
American Anthropological Association
Association for the Sociology of Religion
Chicago Area Group for the Study of Religious Communities, Loyola University.
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

CHURCH & COMMUNITY

Member at Faith Evangelical Covenant Church, Wheaton
Short-term mission trip to India with NGO Rahab's Rope (3 weeks), Jan. 2011
Attended CCCU/IJM Symposium & delivered a paper, Wash. D.C., Apr. 9, 2011
Attended International Justice Mission's Global Prayer Day, Wash.D.C., Apr. 2011
Attended IJM's Advocacy Training Day & lobbied my representatives, Apr. 2011
Invited to give plenary paper at Children at Risk Symposium, June 17, 2011