

Curriculum Vitae

Lukas Szrot

The University of Kansas

Department of Sociology

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Areas of Interest: Environmental Sociology, Quantitative Methodology, Theory, Sociology of Religion

Dissertation Title: Religion versus the Environment? Humanity, Nature, and the Sacred, 1884-2014

My dissertation combines social theory with historical and statistical analysis in order to examine the role of religious traditions in cultivating, or attenuating, environmental concern in the United States. Using data from the General Social Survey, thus far I have uncovered evidence indicating that religious traditions exert variegated influences on believers with regard to environmental concern, but that a general upward trend in levels of environmental concern is present across the majority of faith traditions, which is in part influenced by official church pronouncements on environmental issues.

Dissertation chapters 1-4 have been approved by chair and co-chair; drafts of chapters 6-9 currently under review; chapter 5 in process.

Education:

Doctoral Candidate, University of Kansas, November 2017.

M.A., Sociology, The University of Texas at Arlington, May 2015.

B.A., Philosophy, The University of Texas at Arlington, May 2004.

Academic Positions:

Fall 2017: Adjunct Lecturer, Washburn University, Topeka, KS.

August 2015-Present: Sociology Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Kansas.

January 2014-May 2015: Sociology Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Arlington.

Editorial Duties:

Senior Editor, *Faith, Environment, Nature, Religion, and Spirituality (FERNS)*. Yale University Divinity School, January 2018 to present.

Editor, *Social Thought and Research*, the University of Kansas, July 2017 to present.

Telos Journal of Philosophy and Critical Theory Global Internship May 2014 to present.

Articles & Book Chapters:

Book Chapter: "Social Theory as Public Sociology: Ben Agger, 1952-2015." *Forgotten Founders and Other Neglected Theorists*. Edited by Christopher T. Conner, Nicholas M. Baxter, and David R. Dickens. Lanham: Lexington Books (Accepted for publication May 2018, volume forthcoming).

Co-Authored Article: Lukas Szrot and Nathan R. Collins: "'Social Cocoons,' Revisited': Examining the Correlates of Strict Religiosity via Encapsulation Theory." *Journal of Behavioral and Social Sciences*, 6.4 (Accepted for publication April 2018, issue forthcoming).

"Of (Auto)biography and Social Theory: A Perspective on the Life and Work of Ben Agger (1952-2015)." *Fast Capitalism*, 14.1 http://www.uta.edu/huma/agger/fastcapitalism/14_1/home.html

"Lynn White, Reconsidered: Religiosity and Environmental Concern in the United States." *Journal of Behavioral and Social Sciences*, 6.1 (Accepted for publication August 2017, issue forthcoming).

Manuscripts Under Review:

"Who Cares about the Environment: Accounting for Changes in Environmental Groups across Birth Cohorts, 1884-2014." *Social Forces*.

"My Green Generation: Assessing the Effects of Religious Upbringing and Disaffiliation on Environmental Concern." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.

"Do Visitors Differ? Religion, Culture, and Scientific Literacy in the United States." *Public Understanding of Science*.

(manuscripts under review, cont.)

Co-authored Book Chapter (Invited): Paul V. Stock and Lukas Szrot. "Justice." *Handbook of Sustainable and Regenerative Food Systems*. Edited by Jessica Duncan, Michael Carolan, and Han Wiskerke. New York: Earthscan by Routledge (Book Proposal Accepted, Manuscript in Process).

"From Stewardship to Creation Spirituality: The Evolving Ecological Ethos of Catholic Doctrine." *Faith, Environment, Religion, Nature, and Spirituality (FERNS)*.

"Where Science, Religion, and Magic Meet: Mind, Media, and the Politics of Knowledge." *Fast Capitalism*.

Works in Progress:

"Bringing Religion in: How Religious Identity Contributes to Understanding Environmental Concern in the U.S." (working paper from dissertation research).

"Red and Blue. Black and White. Green? Politics, Race, Religious Identity, and Environmental Concern in the U.S." (working paper from dissertation research).

"Prosperity Gospel and the Protestant Ethic." (working paper nearing completion).

Other Publications:

Newsletter: "Terrorism, Modernity, and the Politics of the Tactical." *Telos*, Published February 2017 <http://www.telospres.com/author/laszrot/>

Newsletter: "Evaluating Enlightenment: Progressive Critiques of Modernity in Rationalization and Ecology." *Telos*, Published February 2016 <http://www.telospres.com/evaluating-enlightenment-progressive-critiques-of-modernity-in-rationalization-and-ecology/>

Review Essay: "Defending Moral Realism," *Telos*, published September 2015 <http://www.telospres.com/defending-moral-realism/>

Review Essay: "On the Legacy of September 11" *Telos*, published July 2015 <http://www.telospres.com/on-the-legacy-of-september-11/>

Review Essay: "The Critique of Philosophical Naturalism" *Telos*, published March 2015 <http://www.telospres.com/the-critique-of-philosophical-naturalism/>

Review Essay: "Popper, Adorno, and the Methodology Dispute" *Telos*, published November 2014 <http://www.telospres.com/author/popper-adorno-and-the-methodology-dispute/>

Presentations:

“On Caring for Creation: Accounting for Changes in Environmental Concern among Religious Organizations.” American Sociological Association (ASA) conference, Philadelphia, PA, August 2018

“Who Cares About the Environment? Environmental Concern by Religious Affiliation.” Southern Sociological Society (SSS) conference, New Orleans, LA, April 2018

“Do Visitors Differ? Religion, Culture, and Scientific Literacy.” Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) conference, Minneapolis, MN, March 2018

“Encapsulated Echo Chambers: Arthur Greil and Encapsulation Theory, 20 Years Later.” Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) conference, Minneapolis, MN March 2018

“Social Cocoons, Revisited: Social and Ideological Encapsulation among Strict Religious Believers.” American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS) conference, Las Vegas, NV, February 2018, with Nathan R. Collins

“Hamlet’s Father: Hauntology and the Roots of the Modern Self.” 6th Symposium, *New Directions in Critical Social Theory*, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, October 2017

“From Stewardship to Creation Spirituality: The Evolving Ecological Ethos of Catholic Doctrine.” Graduate Conference on Religion and Ecology, Yale University Divinity School, New Haven, CT, April 2017

“Catholicism, Ecology, Poverty: The Environmental and Social Justice Legacy of the Catholic Church.” Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) conference, Milwaukee, WI, March 2017

“Of (Auto)biography and the Author: A Perspective on the Life and Work of Ben Agger (1952-2015).” Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) conference, Milwaukee, WI, March 2017

“Taking a Stand: Natural History, Cultural Capital, and Religiosity in the United States.” American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS) conference, Las Vegas, NV, January 2017

“Eco-terrorism, Modernity, and the Politics of the Tactical.” TELOS 2017 international conference, NYU Deutsches Haus, New York, NY, January 2017

“Where Science, Religion, and Magic Meet: Mind, Media, and the Politics of Knowledge.” Social Science History Association (SSHA) conference, Chicago, IL, November 2016

“The Sociological Significance of Satan: Moral Panic and Polarization in a Contemporary Cross-Cultural Perspective.” Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) conference, Chicago, IL, March 2016

“Evaluating Enlightenment: Progressive Critiques of Modernity in Rationalization and Ecology.” TELOS international conference, NYU Deutsches Haus, New York, NY, January 2016

(presentations, cont.)

“Catholicism in a Nation of Immigrants: Cultural Assimilation and Religious Pluralism in the United States.” Southwestern Social Science Association (SSSA) conference, Denver, CO, April 2015.

“Sites of Skepticism: Evolution, the Big Bang, Scientific Literacy and Religious Orthodoxy in the United States.” Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students (ACES) conference, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX, March 2015.

“Beyond the Great Demotions: Faith, Reason, Fear, and the Future.” TELOS international conference, NYU Deutsches Haus, New York, NY, February 2015.

“The Demotion of Humanity.” Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students (ACES) conference, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX, March 2014.

“Origins of Life, America Divided: A Sociological Examination of the Creation-Evolution Controversy.” American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS) conference, Las Vegas, NV, February 2014.

Other Roles at Professional Meetings:

Presider: “Disaster(s).” Southern Sociological Society (SSS) conference, New Orleans, LA, April 2018

Presider: “Belonging in National, Secular, and Religious Organizations.” Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) conference, Minneapolis, MN, March 2018

Chair/Discussant: “New Perspectives in Social Science History.” Social Science History Association (SSHA) conference, Chicago, IL, November 2016

Chair/Discussant: “Religion and the Other.” Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) conference, Chicago, IL, March 2016

Funding and Awards:

KU Sociology Carol Clark Endowment Award Recipient, Spring 2018.

University of Kansas Graduate Teaching Award Nominee, Spring 2018.

KU Graduate Scholarly Presentation Travel Fund Award Recipient, Spring 2016.

Who’s Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges 2015.

Awarded Dean’s Travel Fund Grant April 2014, April 2015.

(funding and awards, cont.)

Golden Key International Honour Society March 2015 to present.

UTA COLA Conference Travel Support Grant 2014, 2015.

UTA College of Liberal Arts (AcCOLAdes) Scholar 2014, Sociology Scholar 2013.

Summer 2003: Studied Language and Culture abroad in Vienna, Austria.

UTA Philosophy Club 2000-2005, elected Secretary Fall 2002, elected president fall 2003-2005.

Teaching (Full Teaching Portfolio with ratings available upon request):

Instructor: SOC 310 Social Science Research Methods Fall 2018 and Spring 2019.

Instructor: SOC 160 Social Problems and American Values Summer 2018.

Instructor: SO308 Sociology of Religion Washburn University Fall 2017.

Co-Instructor: SOC 310 Social Science Research Methods Fall 2017.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: SOC 310 Social Science Research Methods Spring 2018.

Instructor SOC 160 Social Problems and American Values (2) Fall 2016 and (2) Spring 2017.

Discussion Leader: SOC 104 Elements of Sociology Discussion Sections (3) Fall 2015 and Spring 2016.

Lab Instructor: Social Science Research Methods Lab Spring 2015.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Sociology of the Family and Sociological Theory Spring 2015.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Social Statistics (2) Fall 2014 Semester.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Social Statistics and Sociological Theory Spring 2014 Semester.

Public Outreach:

“Environmental Concerns are Stronger among Younger Religious Americans, Study Finds.” *KU Today*. By George Diepenbrock. <https://news.ku.edu/2018/07/09/environmental-concerns-are-stronger-among-younger-religious-americans-study-finds>

Also: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/08/180811110749.htm>

<https://phys.org/news/2018-08-environmental-stronger-younger-religious-americans.html>

(public outreach, cont.)

“Young Religious Americans Care about the Environment, Because Religious Leaders Have Avoided Activist Politics”

https://www.science20.com/hank_campbell/young_religious_americans_care_about_the_environment_because_religious_leaders_have_avoided_activist_politics

Live Interview WIBW On environmental concern among younger religious Americans, 7:30am, Friday, August 17, 2018.

<https://www.wibwnewsnow.com/younger-generation-of-christians-appears-to-care-more-about-the-environment-than-their-forebearers-says-ku-researcher/>

Memberships:

Scholars Strategy Network. Director: Theda Skocpol, Harvard University.

Network for the Social Scientific Study of Science and Religion. Co-facilitators Elaine Ecklund, Rice University and John Evans, University of California-San Diego.

Forum on Religion and Ecology. Founded by John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale University.

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society November 2016 to present.

Southern Sociological Society (SSS) November 2017 to present.

Social Science History Association (SSHA) September 2016 to present.

Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) September 2015 to present.

American Sociology Association (ASA) May 2014 to present.

American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS) November 2013 to present.

AKD Sociology Honor Society 2013 to present.

List of Referees:

Dissertation Chair: Professor Robert J. Antonio, Sociology anto@ku.edu

Co-Chair: Professor David J. Ekerdt, Sociology & Gerontology dekerdt@ku.edu

Associate Professor Lesa Hoffman, Associate Scientist and Director of Quantitative Development of the Research Design and Analysis Unit, Schiefelbusch Institute for Life Span Studies
lesa@ku.edu

Associate Professor Paul V. Stock, Sociology & Environmental Studies paul.stock@ku.edu