

BRIDGET RITZ

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EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame

Ph.D., Sociology, expected August 2021

Dissertation: "A Pragmatist-Realist Approach to Culture and Agency"

Committee: Christian Smith (chair), Ann Mische, Eugene Halton, Stephen Vaisey (Duke)

Area Exams: Culture, Religion (both passed with distinction)

The University of Chicago

M.A., Social Sciences, 2015

Thesis: "Is There a Case for Research about 'Ideal Fertility'?"

Adviser: Linda J. Waite

Ave Maria University

B.A., Politics, 2013

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Theory, Culture, Religion, Family

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2020 Christian Smith, **Bridget Ritz**, and Michael Rotolo. *Religious Parenting: Transmitting Faith and Values in Contemporary America*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Forthcoming. **Bridget Ritz**. "Comparing Abduction and Retroduction in Peircean Pragmatism and Critical Realism." *Forthcoming at the Journal of Critical Realism*.

ARTICLES UNDER PEER-REVIEW

Sarah K. Cowan, Tricia C. Bruce, Brea Perry, **Bridget Ritz**, Stuart Perrett*, and Elizabeth M. Anderson*. "Discordant Benevolence: How and Why People Help Others in the Face of Conflicting Values." *Under Review*. (*Graduate Student Co-authors)

Ritz, Bridget and Tricia C. Bruce. "Reflective Contradiction as Disruption in Personal Culture." *Under Review*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2020 (Fall) Instructor, Foundations of Sociological Theory, Notre Dame

2019 (Spring) Guest Lecturer, "Pragmatism," Classical Social Theory (Graduate), Notre Dame

2017 (Spring) Teaching Assistant, Foundations of Sociological Theory, Notre Dame

GRANTS, AWARDS & HONORS

2016-2021	Notre Dame, Graduate Fellowship, Center for Ethics and Culture	\$30,000
2020	Notre Dame, Striving for Excellence in Teaching Certificate, Kaneb Center	
2019	Notre Dame, Travel Grant, Center for the Study of Religion and Society	\$600
2018	Notre Dame, Travel Grant, Center for Ethics and Culture	\$318
2015	The University of Chicago, MAPSS GfK Award for Innovative Research	\$1,000
2014-2015	The University of Chicago, Unendowed Scholarship	1/3 tuition

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Notre Dame

2019-2020	Interviewer and Research Assistant, Center for the Study of Religion and Society Project: National Abortion Attitudes Study (PI: Tricia C. Bruce)
2016-2019	Research Assistant, Center for the Study of Religion and Society Project: Intergenerational Religious Transmission Project (PI: Christian Smith) Project: Global Religion Research Initiative (PI: Christian Smith)

The University of Chicago

2015-2016	Research Assistant, Cognitive Development Lab, Department of Psychology Project: Parent & Caregiver Engagement (PIs: Amy Claessens, Susan Levine) Project: Getting on Track (PIs: Susan Levine, Stephen Raudenbush)
2015	Cognitive Interviewer, The University of Chicago Survey Lab

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

2020	“‘I Go Back and Forth’: Reflective Contradiction and the Constructive Capacity of Culture” (with Tricia C. Bruce). Paper accepted for presentation at the meetings of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.
2020	“Discordant Benevolence: How and Why People Help Others in the Face of Conflicting Values” (with Sarah K. Cowan, Tricia C. Bruce, Brea Perry, Stuart Perrett, and Elizabeth M. Anderson). Paper presented at the meetings of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.
2020	“‘I Go Back and Forth’: Reflective Contradiction and the Constructive Capacity of Culture” (with Tricia C. Bruce). Paper accepted for presentation at the annual Chicago Ethnography Conference, Chicago, IL.

- 2019 “The Problem of Teleology: Returning to the Theoretical Foundations of Culture in Action.” Paper presented at the meetings of the American Sociological Association, New York.
- 2019 “Problematizing the Abortion Attitudes’ Binary” (with Tricia C. Bruce). Paper presented at the meetings of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York.
- 2018 “Social Class and Catholic Religious Parenting.” Paper presented at the meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 2018 “Social Class and Cultural Conceptions of Religious Parenting.” Paper presented at the meetings of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Invited Presentation

- 2016 “What is ‘Ideal Fertility’? Exploring Meaning Through Cognitive Interviews.” Paper presented at the annual GfK Microgrant Awardee Research Presentation, Chicago, Illinois.

SERVICE

- 2020 Organizer, Author Meets Critics Panel for Maureen Day’s *Catholic Activism Today* (NYU Press). Accepted for presentation at the meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2018-2020 Mentor, Graduate Program in Sociology, Notre Dame
- 2016-2020 Mentor, STEMentorship Program in Sociology, Notre Dame
- 2018 Coordinating Editor, *American Sociological Review*
- 2017 Student Representative to the Graduate Studies Committee, Notre Dame
- 2017 Organizer (with Michael Rotolo), “Philosophical Bases of Social Theory,” Graduate Workshop, Notre Dame

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association: Theory, Culture, Religion, and Family sections

Association for the Sociology of Religion

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion