

**Curriculum Vitae - Isaac Kimmel**  
**Doctoral Candidate**  
**University of Notre Dame**  
**Department of Sociology**

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[ikimmel@nd.edu](mailto:ikimmel@nd.edu)

**Education**

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Magna cum Laude, May 2016  
Catholic University of America, Washington, DC  
University Scholar

Master of Arts in Sociology, August 2019  
The University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN  
Thesis Title: “Rah Rah Ritual: High School Basketball and Community Identity”  
Committee: Erika Summers Effler (chair), Kraig Beyerlein, David Sikkink

**Publications**

“Confronting Systemic Racism in a Post-Truth World” (with Abigail Bodeau, Baylor University), *Church Life Journal*, January 18, 2021  
My coauthor and I synthesize social psychology and Catholic doctrine to argue that a coherent discussion of systemic racism requires awareness of the culturally mediated nature of knowledge and morals.

**Work in Progress**

Dissertation: “COVID-19 and Partisan Boundary-Setting in Conditions of Uncertainty”

“Effects of Support for Trump on Willingness to Discuss Politics Online” (with Gregory Wurm, University of Notre Dame)

“The Sower and Social Theory Contra Integralism” (with Timothy Troutner, University of Notre Dame)

**Research Experience**

Notre Dame Undergraduate Religion and Student Life Survey  
August 2019 – May/June 2020

**Isaac Kimmel**  
[ikimmel@nd.edu](mailto:ikimmel@nd.edu)

Landscape Study of Chaplaincy and Campus Ministry in the United States

August 2018 – July 2019, August 2020 - present

Master's Thesis: "Rah Rah Ritual: High School Basketball and Community Identity"

November 2018 – July 2019

Thesis Committee: Erika Summers Effler (chair), Kraig Beyerlein, David Sikkink

My research relies on participant observation of high school basketball games to develop a theory of rhythmic participation in ritual surrounding community symbols and the role of emotional entrainment in routinizing this participation and maintaining shared identity.

## Teaching

Teaching Assistant, Theology 33936: Summer Service Learning Program

Summer 2021, University of Notre Dame

Teaching Assistant, Sociology 10033: Social Problems

Spring 2021, University of Notre Dame

Professor, John Paul II Junior College

August 2016 – May 2017, Benque Viejo del Carmen, Belize

John Paul II Junior College is Belize's only liberal arts college. I taught Philosophy 101 (an introduction to the Socratic method and Aristotle's logic), Mathematics 101 (Books I and VII of Euclid's *Elements*), Humanities 201 (history and literature of the Middle Ages), Philosophy 102 (Aristotle and Descartes), and Rhetoric 101 (Aristotelian logic).

## Conference Presentations

"Confronting Systemic Racism in a Post-Truth World" (with Abigail Bodeau, Baylor University)

Notre Dame Student Peace Conference

April 2021; online conference

"Rah Rah Ritual: High School Basketball and Community Identity"

American Sociological Association Annual Conference

August 2020; online conference

"Rah Rah Ritual: High School Basketball and Community Identity"

International Conference for Interdisciplinary Social Sciences

July 2020; online conference

## **Awards and Fellowships**

Rev. Robert S. Pelton, CSC Essay Contest winner  
University of Notre Dame Kellogg Institute for International  
Studies Latin American – North American Church Concerns  
April 2019  
Submission title: “Death Rises in Mexico: Political Upheaval and  
Religious Innovation”

Graduate Sorin Fellow, de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture  
University of Notre Dame  
August 2019 - present

## **References**

Dr. Erika Summers-Effler  
Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Notre Dame, Notre  
Dame, IN  
[Erika.M.Effler.1@nd.edu](mailto:Erika.M.Effler.1@nd.edu)

Dr. Lynette Spillman  
Professor of Sociology, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN  
[spillman.1@nd.edu](mailto:spillman.1@nd.edu)

Dr. Samuel Woolley  
Assistant Professor, School of Journalism and Media, University of  
Texas, Austin, TX  
[swoolley@utexas.edu](mailto:swoolley@utexas.edu)