

Taylor E. Hartson

Curriculum Vitae | August 2022

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

2021–Present	University of Notre Dame , Notre Dame, Indiana Doctoral Student in Sociology
2019	Calvin University (formerly Calvin College) , Grand Rapids, Michigan Bachelor of Arts in Sociology (with honors)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND INTEREST

Agriculture, rural sociology, gender & sexuality, environment, sociology of food, ethnography, social movements

CURRENT PROJECTS

An Ecology of Empowerment: Women Farmers, Livestock Relationships, and Ethics of Care in Sustainable Agriculture

This ethnographic project aims to answer how gendered experiences within sustainable agriculture lead to the formation of gendered ethics of care for the nonhuman—in this case, livestock. I ask the questions: How do women sustainable livestock farmers negotiate and contend with gendered expectations of agricultural work and carework to develop a particular ethic of care for the livestock they raise? How do their relationships with their livestock impact their identities, relationships, and ethics? To answer these questions, I will conduct a qualitative study based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted at a women-owned and operated regenerative livestock farm in southwest Michigan.

Gender, Sexuality, and Social Sustainability: Exploring Queer Farmers' Relationships, Ethics, and Practices in the Midwest

Through semi-structured interviews, this project explores the unique experiences of queer sustainable farmers in the Midwest, with the hopes of developing typologies of alternative resource networks and resiliency strategies of queer farmers and creating specific recommendations to support queer farmers and their work.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

Hartson, Taylor E. 2021. "Converted Structures: Exploring Material Expressions of the Sacred and Secular." *Review of Religious Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13644-021-00447-0>

Williams, Roman R. and **Taylor E. Hartson**. 2020. "From Sanctuary to Skatepark." *Contexts Magazine* 19(3):52–59.

Book reviews

Hartson, Taylor E. 2021. "*Building Faith*, by Robert Brenneman and Brian Miller." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 60(1):216-217.

Hartson, Taylor E. 2020. "*Food, Festival and Religion: Materiality and Place in Italy*, by Francesca Ciancimino Howell." *Fieldwork in Religion* 15(1-2):214-215.

Hartson, Taylor E. 2020. "*Religious Pluralism and the City*, by Helmuth Berking, Silke Steets, and Jochen Schwenk." *Fieldwork in Religion* 15(1-2): 200–201.

Hartson, Taylor E. 2019. "*Religion and the Global City*, by David Garbin and Anna Strhan." *Fieldwork in Religion* 14(2):218–19.

Selected written reports

Holcomb, Jesse, **Taylor E. Hartson**, Yejae Kim, and Laura Luchies. February 2022. "Keeping Up with the Ed Beat." Calvin University Center for Social Research.

Holcomb, Jesse, **Taylor E. Hartson**, and Matthew Bone. September 2020. "The 100 Million Project: How Media Habits Relate to Voter Participation." The Knight Foundation.

Hartson, Taylor E. August 2020. "Kids' Food Basket Educator Listening Sessions: Findings and Recommendations." Calvin University Center for Social Research.

Hartson, Taylor E., & Laura B. Luchies. June 2020. "SIDMA survey results for residents of Alger Heights, Christ Church, Oakdale, and Leisure Creek Condominium Communities. Written for the Plaster Creek Stewards." Calvin University Center for Social Research.

Cohen, Shannon M., Patricia Sosa VerDuin, **Taylor E. Hartson**, & Laura B. Luchies. October 2019. "From Knowing Better to Doing Better: Closing the Opportunity Gap for Women of Color in the Workplace through Transformed Systems Behavior." Calvin University Center for Social Research.

Rudi, Allison, Abraham Mena Velasquez, **Taylor E. Hartson**, and Laura B. Luchies. March 2019. "Kids' Food Basket Community Listening Sessions Final Report: Based on Sessions Hosted from October to December 2018." Calvin University Center for Social Research.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

2022 "Regenerative Relationships: Caring, Empathy, and Agency in Sustainable Agriculture." The annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society. Chicago, Illinois.

2022 "An Ecology of Empowerment: Women Farmers, Livestock Relationships, and Ethics of Care in Sustainable Agriculture." The Chicago Ethnography Conference. Virtual.

- 2020 “Food Access, Consumption, and Resources in Kent County: Results from the 2018-2019 Kent County Community Food Survey.” The Michigan Good Food Virtual Summit.
- 2019 “Converted Structures: Understanding Material Expressions of the Secular and the Sacred.” The annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. St. Louis, Missouri.
- 2019 “Converted Structures and Urban Religious Materiality.” The annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society. Chicago, Illinois.
- 2018 “The Visual Toolkit: A Handbook on Visual Research Methods.” The Michigan Colleges Alliance Third Space Learning Conference. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2022 **Graduate Research Assistant** for Christian Smith | University of Notre Dame
- 2021 **Graduate Research Assistant** for Terrence McDonnell | University of Notre Dame
- 2019–2021 **Research Specialist** | Calvin University Center for Social Research
- 2017–2019 **Research Assistant** | Calvin University Center for Social Research

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Spring 2022 **Teaching Assistant** | SOC20666 Environment, Food, and Society

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2022 **Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Graduate Student Grant**, United States Department of Agriculture, for project titled, "Gender, Sexuality, and Social Sustainability: Exploring Queer Farmers' Relationships, Ethics, and Practices in the Midwest." \$14,972.
- 2022 **GLOBES Mini-Grant Award**, John Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values, for project titled, "Gender, Sexuality, and Social Sustainability: Exploring Queer Farmers' Relationships, Ethics, and Practices in the Midwest." \$2981.
- 2022 **American Dream Grant**, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, for project titled "Gender, Sexuality, and Social Sustainability: Exploring Queer Farmers' Relationships, Ethics, and Practices in the Midwest." \$4450.
- 2022 **Student Travel Grant**, the Midwest Sociological Society, for presenting at the annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society in Chicago, Illinois. \$150.
- 2018–2019 **Civitas Lab Research Fellow**, Calvin College, for project titled “Converted Structures” (Roman R. Williams, PI)
- 2019 **Deur Student Travel Award**, Calvin College Department of Sociology and Social Work, for presenting at the annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society in Chicago, Illinois.

SOFTWARE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

Stata and SPSS

Tableau

Qualtrics

NVivo, ATLAS.ti, and MAXQDA

Kumu

ArcMap

Quick Base and Microsoft Access

Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

REFERENCES

Kraig Beyerlein, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Director of the Center for the Study of Religion and Society

University of Notre Dame

Neil Carlson, Ph.D.

Founder & Principal Consultant

DataWise Consulting (formerly Calvin University Center for Social Research)

Jonathan Hill, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Sociology

Calvin University

Laura Luchies, Ph.D.

Founder & Principal Consultant

DataWise Consulting (formerly Calvin University Center for Social Research)