

Penny Edgell

Professional Positions

- 2007 Professor, Sociology Department, University of Minnesota
 Affiliated with: American Studies, Religious Studies
- 2002 Associate Professor, Sociology Department, University of Minnesota
 Affiliated program: American Studies
- 1995 Assistant Professor, Sociology Department, Cornell University
 Affiliated programs: Women's Studies, Religious Studies, American Studies

Education

- 1995 Ph.D., Sociology, University of Chicago
 Dissertation: "'How We Do Things Here': Culture and Conflict in Local Congregations"
 Nominated for Social Science Division Geller Prize as best dissertation in sociology, 1995
- 1989 M.A. Sociology, University of Chicago
- 1986 A.B. Sociology, *magna cum laude*, Princeton University

Fields of Interest

Religion, Culture, Gender and Family, Work and Organizations

Grants, Honors

- 2008 Life Course Center Research Grant, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota
- 2006-2002 Principal Investigator, \$700,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment for a national survey of religion,
work, and family; Christopher Ellison and Brad Wilcox, co-PIs
- 2006-2002 Principal Investigator, American Mosaic Project, \$340,000 grant from Edelstein Family Foundation
to study race, religion, and tolerance in U.S.; Douglass Hartmann and Joseph Gerteis, co-PIs
- 2005-2004 Sabbatical Supplement Grant, University of Minnesota
- 2005-2004 Sabbatical Grant, \$45,000, Religious Institutions Grant Program, Louisville Institute for the Study of
Protestantism in American Culture, Louisville Seminary
- 2005-2003 Life Course Center Research Grant, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota
- 2002 Summer Stipend, \$8000, Louisville Institute, Louisville Seminary
- 2001-2000 Visiting Faculty Fellow, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University
- 2001-2000 Visiting Faculty Fellow, Center for the Study of Human Values, Harvard University (declined)
- 2001-1998 Cornell Careers Institute, Cornell University, Summer Research Fellowship, \$5000 to \$10,000
- 2000-1997 Principal Investigator, \$280,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment for a comparative study of
institutional links between religion and family in four communities in upstate New York
- 1996-1995 Ford Foundation Undergraduate Teaching Program, Summer Stipend, Cornell University
- 1993 Robert Park Prize Lecturer in Sociology, University of Chicago
- 1993-1992 Institute for the Study of Protestantism in American Culture Dissertation Fellowship
- 1990-1987 National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship

Publications

Books:

- 2005 Edgell, Penny. *Religion and Family In a Changing Society*. Princeton University Press Series in
Cultural Sociology. *Distinguished Book Award 2006*, ASA Religion Section.
- 1999 Becker, Penny Edgell. *Congregations in Conflict: Cultural Models of Local Religious Life*. Cambridge
University Press. *Best Book Award 2000*, ASA Religion Section.

1997 Becker, Penny Edgell, and Nancy Eiesland, eds. *Contemporary American Religion: An Ethnographic Reader*. Alta Mira Press/Sage.

Articles and Book Chapters:

- In press "Religion and Family: Contemporary Problems, Emerging Issues." Pp. 1038-64 in the *Oxford Handbook for the Sociology of Religion*, ed. Peter Clarke. New York & London: Oxford University Press.
- 2007 "Religious Influences on Understandings of Racial Inequality in the United States." With Eric Tranby. *Social Problems*, 54(2):263-288.
- 2007 "Religion and Work-Family Tradeoffs." With Samantha Ammons. *Journal of Family Issues*, 28(6): 794-826.
- 2007 "Beyond the Nuclear Family? Familism and Gender Ideology in Diverse Religious Communities." With Danielle Docka. *Sociological Forum* 22(1):25-50.
- 2006 "Atheists as 'Other': Moral Boundaries and Cultural Membership in American Society," with Joseph Gerteis and Douglas Hartmann. *American Sociological Review*, 72(2):211-234.
- 2003 "In Rhetoric and Practice: Defining 'The Good Family' in Local Congregations." Pp. 164-178 in *Handbook of the Sociology of Religion*, Dillon, editor. Cambridge University Press.
- 2003 "Sunday Morning Rush Hour," with Heather Hofmeister. Pp. 203-219 in *It's About Time: Couples and Careers*, edited by Phyllis Moen. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
- 2001 "Work, Family, and Religious Involvement for Men and Women," with Heather Hofmeister. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 40(4):707-722.
- 2001 "Religious Involvement and Volunteering," with Pawan Dhingra. *Sociology of Religion*, 62(3): 315-335.
- 2000 "Boundaries and Silences in a Post-Feminist Sociology." *Sociology of Religion*, 61(4):399-408.
- 1999 "Scaling Back: Dual-Earner Couples' Work-Family Strategies," with Phyllis Moen. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61:995-1007.
- 1998 "Making Inclusive Communities: Congregations and the 'Problem' of Race." *Social Problems*, 45(4):451-472.
- 1998 "'Rational Amusement and Sound Instruction': Constructing the True Catholic Woman in the *Ave Maria*." *Religion and American Culture*, 8(1):55-90, Winter.
- 1998 "Congregational Models and Conflict: A Study of How Institutions Shape Organizational Process." Pp. 231-255 in *Sacred Companies: Organized Aspects of Religion and Religious Aspects of Organization*, Demerath, Dobkin Hall, Schmitt, and Williams, editors. Oxford University Press.
- 1997 "'What is Right' and 'What is Caring': Identifying a Religious Logic in Local Congregations." Pp. 121-145 in *Contemporary American Religion: An Ethnographic Reader*, Becker and Eiesland, editors. Alta Mira Press/Sage.
- 1997 "Understanding Local Mission." Pp. 267-285 in *Connectionalism: Ecclesiology, Mission, and Identity*. Report on the United Methodism and American Culture Project. Campbell, Lawrence, Richey, editors. Abingdon Press.
- 1997 Contributor to *Congregation and Community: Stability and Change in American Religion*, by Nancy Ammerman. Rutgers University Press.

1993 "Straining at the Tie that Binds: Congregational Conflict in the 1980s," with Stephen J. Ellingson, Richard W. Flory, Wendy Griswold, Fred Kniss and Tim Nelson. *Review of Religious Research*, 34(3):193-209.

In Progress:

"Religion and Work-Family Conflict." With Samantha Ammons and Eric Dahlin. *Under Review*.

"Losing My Religion: Religious Stability and Change During the Transition to Adulthood." With Ann Meier.

"Religion and the Transition to Adulthood," with Doug Hartmann.

Race, Religion, and Diversity in Contemporary America, with Douglas Hartmann and Joseph Gerteis. Book Prospectus.

"Shared Visions, Imagined America." With Eric Tranby. Presented at the ASA Annual Meeting, 2005.

"Public Religion in the United States." With Darin Mather, Shannon Golden, and Eric Tranby.

"Religion and Profiles of Social Support." With Eric Tranby.

Reviews, Comments, Essays:

Forthcoming "We Still Don't Know if Christianity 'Works,' Much Less Why: Reply to Smith." *Sociology of Religion*, in press.

2008 "Trust Me." Blog entry on The Immanent Frame, sponsored by the Social Science Research Council. Available at: http://www.ssrc.org/blogs/immanent_frame/2008/04/18/trust-me/.

2008 "Be Still and Know that I am Bright." Review of *Breaking the Spell*, by Daniel C. Dennet. *Contexts*, 7(1):64-65.

2005 Review of *Heaven's Kitchen*, by Courtney Bender. *Social Forces*, 84(2): 1318-1319.

2003 Review of *Evangelical Identity and Gendered Family Life*, by Sally K. Gallagher. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 65(4):1089-1090.

2002 Review of *Choice and Religion*, by Steve Bruce. *Journal of Religion*, 82(1):141-2.

2001 "It's Not Just a Matter of Time: How the Time Squeeze Affects Congregational Participation." *Journal of Family Ministry*, 15(2):11-26.

2001 "The Sacred Turn: Fieldnotes from CTIII." *ASA Culture Section Newsletter*, 15(3):14-15.

2001 Review of *The Gold Coast Church and the Ghetto*, by James A. Wellman. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 40(2):350.

2000 Review of *Beyond the Cultural Turn*, edited by Victoria Bonnell and Lynn Hunt. *Social Forces*, 79(1):349-51.

1999 Review of *The Battered Wife: How Christians Confront Family Violence* by Nancy Nason-Clark. *Sociology of Religion*, 60(3):335-6.

1999 Review of *Being There: Culture and Formation in two Theological Schools*, by Jackson Carroll, Barbara Wheeler, Daniel Aleshire and Penny Long Marler. *Contemporary Sociology*, 28(2):199.

1998 Review of *Presbyterian Pluralism*, by William J. Weston. *Sociology of Religion*, 59(4):418-19.

1998 Review of *Feminization of the American Clergy*, by Paula Nesbitt. *American Journal of Sociology*, 103(6):1751-2.

- 1996 Review of *Menonite Peacemaking*, by Leo Driedger and Donald Kraybill. *Sociology of Religion*, 57(3):327-328.
- 1996 Review of *Full Pews, Empty Altars: The Demographics of the Priest Shortage in United States Catholic Dioceses*, by Richard A. Schoenherr and Lawrence A. Young. *Administrative Science Quarterly*, 41(3):534-7.
- 1996 Review of *Material Christianity*, by Colleen McDannell. *American Journal of Sociology*, 102(2):644-5.
- 1995 Review of *Jesus Christ, Sun of God: Ancient Cosmology and Early Christian Symbolism*, by David Fideler. *Review of Religious Research*, 36(3):328-329.
- 1994 Review of *Slim's Table*, by Mitchell Duneier. *American Journal of Sociology*, 99(5):1391-1392.

Invited Lectures

- 2008 "Spillover and Instability: Understanding Short-Term and Long-Term Work-Family Conflict in a Diverse Population." Presented at the colloquium series, Dept. of Sociology, UNC Chapel Hill.
- 2007 "Race, Class, and Gender: Religion's Role in Existing Institutional Arrangements." Invited panelist, American Sociological Association/Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, New York
- 2006 "Religion and Myths: Ozzie and Harriet and Mainstream Religious Familism." Invited panelist, Conference on Religion and Myths, MARIAL Center, Emory University
- 2003 "Religion and Family in a Changing Society." Culture Workshop, Northwestern University, September
- 2002 "In Rhetoric and in Practice: the 'Good Family' in Congregational Life." Groves Conference on Marriage and Families, Chataqua, New York, June 5-9
- 2001 Panel presentation on "The Future of Theory in the Sociology of Religion." Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Columbus OH, October
- 2001 "Work, Faith, and Family." The Ties that Bind: Religion and Family in Contemporary America Conference, Princeton University, May 16-17
- 2001 "What You Take for Granted: Religion, Family, and Gender Today." Cultural Dynamics Conference, Princeton University, March 30-31
- 2001 "Longing for Ozzie and Harriet: The 'Time Bind' and Religious Institutions." Duke University Sociology Colloquium, January; Columbia University Sociology Colloquium, March
- 2001 "In Rhetoric and in Practice: Defining 'The Good Family.'" Sociology Department colloquia Series at Princeton University, Swarthmore College, Rutgers University
- 2000 "Religion and Family." Politics, Culture, and Society Workshop, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison.
- 2000 "Religious Involvement and Volunteering." School of Social Work and the Center for Community Partnerships, University of Pennsylvania, November

Courses Taught

- "Social Theory," upper-level undergraduate course required for sociology majors
- "Senior Projects Seminar," upper-level undergraduate workshop for majors to help complete required senior thesis
- "Religion, Community, and Politics in the U.S.," upper-level undergraduate course for sociology majors
- "Understanding Formal Organizations," upper-level writing-intensive course for sociology majors
- "Gender, Ideology, and Culture," upper-level course with lecture and discussion, part of undergraduate writing program

“Culture and Conflict in Organizations,” sophomore seminar, part of undergraduate writing program
 “Religion in the U.S: Introduction to the Sociology of Religion,” intro-level survey course
 “Religion and Family in the U.S.,” intro-level survey course
 “Culture and Agency,” graduate seminar
 “Religion and Society,” graduate seminar
 “Qualitative Methods,” combined undergraduate/graduate fieldwork seminar
 “Research Practicum,” required graduate writing seminar

Research Positions, Consulting

2006 Consultant, *National Congregations Study, II*. Director: Mark Chaves
 2002-1996 Hartford Seminary Advisory Board. Review Committee for Hartford Institute for Religion Research
 1998-1997 Consultant, *National Congregations Study*. Director: Mark Chaves
 1997 Consultant on methodology, *Congregations, Communities, and Leadership Development Project*, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Director: Ronald Sider
 1996-1995 Consultant on methodology, *Congregations and Generational Cultures Project*, directed by Jackson Carroll, Duke University, and Wade Clark Roof, University of California at Santa Barbara
 1993-1992 Research assistant, *Congregations in Changing Communities Project*, Emory University and the Institute for the Study of Economic Culture at Boston University. Director: Professor Nancy Ammerman

Academic Service

Editorial:

2012-2009 Advisory Editor, *Social Problems*
 2006-2000 Co-Editor, with Mary-Jo Neitz, *Qualitative Studies of American Religion Series*, NYU Press
 2006-1992 Manuscript and Book Reviewer: *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Journal of Religion*, *Review of Religious Research*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Sociological Quarterly*, *Sociology of Religion*, *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, *Journal of Family Issues*, *Non-Profit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*
 2005-2003 Consulting Editor, *American Journal of Sociology*
 2006-2004 Reviewer, National Science Foundation
 1993-1992 Student Book Review Editor, *American Journal of Sociology*
 1991-1992 Associate Book Review Editor, *American Journal of Sociology*
 1991-1990 Editorial Intern, The Center for the Study of Politics, History and Culture, University of Chicago

Department, College, University Service:

2011-2008 Promotions and Tenure Committee, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota
 2010-2005 Social Sciences Policy and Review Council, University of Minnesota
 2010-2005 Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota
 2009-2008 Religious Studies Steering Committee, University of Minnesota
 2008-2005 Executive Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota
 2008-2003 Life Course Center Advisory Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota
 2007-2006 Religious Studies Working Group, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota
 2007-2005 Social Sciences Course Proposals Review Committee, University of Minnesota
 2006-2005 CLA Humanities Cluster Hire Search Committee, University of Minnesota
 2006-2005 Research Committee of the Faculty Senate, University of Minnesota
 2006-2005 Steering Committee on the Future of Religious Studies, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota
 2005-2003 CLA Assembly Representative, University of Minnesota
 2005-2003 Committee for Curriculum, Instruction, and Advising, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota
 2004-2003 Personnel Committee, University of Minnesota Sociology Department
 2003-2002 Chair of Awards Committee, SRI, University of Minnesota Sociology Department

2003-2002 Personnel Committee, University of Minnesota Sociology Department
 2003-2002 Undergraduate Affairs Committee, University of Minnesota Sociology Department
 2001-1996 Executive Board, Women's Studies, Cornell University
 2000 Genomics Project, Ethics, Social, and Legal Implications Thrust Committee, Cornell University
 1999-1998 Junior Hiring Committee, Sociology Department, Cornell University
 1999-1998 Faculty Senate, Cornell University
 1998 Admission Selection Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Cornell University
 1999-1997 University Committee on Educational Policy, Cornell University
 1999-1997 Women's Studies Steering Committee, Cornell University
 1998-1996 Departmental Colloquium Committee Chair, Sociology Department, Cornell University
 1997-1996 Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, Cornell University.
 1989-1988 Society for Social Research (SSR), Sociology Department, University of Chicago.

Professional Associations and Related:

2007 ASA Religion Section Distinguished Book Award Committee
 2005 ASA Religion Section Program Committee for Annual Meeting
 2005-2003 Council Member, Culture Section, American Sociological Association
 2003-2002 Nominating Committee, Association for the Sociology of Religion
 2002-2001 Nominating Committee, Religion Section, American Sociological Association
 2002-2000 Council Member, Religion Section, American Sociological Association
 2002-2000 Executive Council, Association for the Sociology of Religion
 2001-1999 Executive Council, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
 2001-1997 Director at Large, Religious Research Association
 1997-1995 Nominating Committee, Culture Section, American Sociological Association (Chairperson 1995-6)
 1996-1995 Student Paper Award Committee, Culture Section, American Sociological Association

Organizer:

2005 Session on Qualitative Approaches to the Study of Religion, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meetings, Rochester, NY, Nov. 4-6
 2003 Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, Session organizer, review session on Omar McRoberts' *Streets of Glory*
 2002 Program Chair, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Oct. 31-Nov. 3
 2001 Co-Organizer, Religion and Family Conference, Princeton University, May 16-17
 2000 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Author-meets-critics session, *A Particular Place: Urban Restructuring and Religious Ecology*
 1999 Religious Research Association Annual Meeting, Author-meets-critics session, *Studying Congregations*
 1999 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Session organizer, "Religion and the Family"
 1998 Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, Session organizer, "Religion and Family"
 1996 Religious Research Association Annual Meeting, Session organizer, "Religious Ethnography: Insights from the Field"
 1994 Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, Session organizer, "Gender and Leadership in Religious Organizations"

Memberships

American Sociological Association
Sections: Culture; Religion; Family; Organizations, Occupations, and Work; Sex & Gender
 American Academy of Religion
 Association for the Sociology of Religion
 Religious Research Association
 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion