

CURRICULUM VITAE

Robert Brenneman II
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Box 231, Saint Michael's College
One Winooski Ave
Colchester, VT 05404
Blog: homiesandhermanosbook.wordpress.com

(574) 514-6606 (mobile)
(802) 654-2293
rbrenneman@smcvt.edu

EDUCATION

- 2009 Ph.D. University of Notre Dame, Sociology
Dissertation: "From Homie to *Hermano*: Conversion and Gang Exit in Central America." Supervisor: Christian Smith.
- 2005 M.A. University of Notre Dame, Sociology
Thesis: "Faith and the Foreigner: Exploring the Impact of Religion on Attitudes toward Immigrants." Supervisor: David Sikkink.
- 1997 B.A. Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia (*cum laude*)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social theory (exam), religion (exam), Central America, violence, masculinity, deviance, culture, sociology of emotions, qualitative methods

BOOKS

- 2011 Brenneman, Robert. *Homies and Hermanos: God and Gangs in Central America*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2009 Brenneman, Robert. *Faith and the Foreigner: Exploring the Impact of Religion on Immigration Attitudes*. Verlag Publishers. (Germany)

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming Brenneman, Robert. "Enfrentando la 'Crisis de valores:' La seguridad y las iglesias en Centroamérica." Chapter for the volume *El Impacto de las Iglesias Pentecostales y Carismáticos sobre la Participación Cívica*. San Salvador, ES: UCA Editores
- Forthcoming Brenneman, Robert. "Violence, Religion, and Institutional Legitimacy in Northern Central America." Chapter for volume *Religion and Violence in Latin America*. Notre Dame, IN: Notre Dame Press.

- 2011 Brenneman, Robert. "Evangelical Movements" in *Encyclopedia of Global Religion*. eds. Wade Clark Roof and Mark Juergensmeyer. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

REFEREED ARTICLES

- Forthcoming Brenneman, Robert and Adriana García. "Latin American Youth Gangs." In Oxford Handbooks Online. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming Brenneman, Robert. "Wrestling the Devil: Conversion and Exit from the Central American Gangs." *Latin American Research Review*. Vol. 49, Special Issue.
- 2014 Brenneman, Robert. "La Mara de Cristo: Iglesias y pandillas en Centroamérica." In *El Faro Académico*, January 21, 2014.
- 2009 Brenneman, Robert. "Embodied Forgiveness: John H. Yoder and the (Body) Politics of Footwashing," *The Mennonite Quarterly Review*. 83:7-28.

REVIEWS

- Forthcoming Review of *God's Gangs: Barrio Ministry, Masculinity, and Gang Recovery* by Edward Orozco Flores for *Contemporary Sociology*.
- Forthcoming Review of *Cleansing Honor with Blood: Masculinity, Violence, and Power in the Highlands of Brazil, 1845-1889* by Martha Santos for the *Bulletin of Latin American Research*.
- 2013 Review of *The Rational Believer: Choices and Decisions in the Madrasas of Pakistan* by Masooda Bano for *Sociology of Religion*. 74:2 pp. 289-290.
- 2011 Review of *An Amish Paradox: Diversity and Change in the World's Largest Amish Community* by Charles E. Hurst and David L. McConnell for *American Journal of Sociology*. 116:4 pp. 1388-90.
- 2009 Review of *Working Hard, Drinking Hard: On Violence and Survival in Honduras* by Adrienne Pine, in *Contemporary Sociology*. 39:1 p. 78-79.
- 2009 Review of *Land, Protest and Politics* by Gabriel Ondetti, in *Mobilization: An International Quarterly*. 14:2 pp. 264-265.
- 2009 Review of *Plain Diversity: Amish Cultures and Identities* by Nolt and Myers for *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review*. 70:4 pp. 455-457.

PEER REVIEWER

Sociology of Religion (Oxford Journals) since 2010

Social Problems (California Press) since 2011

Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion since 2011

AWARDS

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|------|---|
| 2009 | Kane Award for Outstanding Graduate Student—Notre Dame Sociology Department |
| 2009 | David L. Dodge Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching—Notre Dame Sociology Department |
| 2009 | William D’Antonio Award for Outstanding Graduate Student in the Sociology of Religion – University of Notre Dame, Center for the Study of Religion and Society. |
| 2008 | Notre Dame Graduate Research Symposium. Awarded First Place among more than fifty entries in Social Sciences Division for Dissertation Poster Presentation. |

RESEARCH PROJECTS

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|-----------|---|
| 2012-2013 | Member, Advisory Team: “Religion and Violence” Luce Foundation-Funded Research Grant, Center for Latin American and Latino Studies, American University, Washington, D.C. |
| 2010-2012 | Advisor for Guatemala Team: “The Impact of Pentecostal and Charismatic Catholic Movements on Local Community Organization and Civic Participation in Central America.” \$400K joint research grant - University of New Mexico/Jesuit University of Central America (UCA). |
| 2007-2009 | Doctoral Dissertation: Conducted 104 interviews in Central America including sixty-three in-depth interviews with former gang members. |
| 2007-2008 | Chicago Study of Congregations – Notre Dame Institute for Latino Studies: Conducted ethnographic research on a large Latino immigrant congregation on Chicago’s West Side. |
| 2006-2008 | Embodiment in Mennonite Communion Rituals: Launched and directed mixed-method study including interviews, field notes, and survey of representative sample of congregations (N=117). |
| 2005 | Master’s Thesis: “Faith and the Foreigner: Exploring the Impact of Religion on Immigration Attitudes.” Advisor: David Sikkink. Used national survey data in quantitative analysis of religion and prejudice. |

EMPLOYMENT

2010-present	Assistant Professor of Sociology, Saint Michael's College, Colchester, VT
2009-2010	Post-doctoral Researcher, Center for the Study of Religion and Society, University of Notre Dame
2008-2009	Pre-doctoral Fellow at University of Notre Dame Writing Center
2008	Directed training and implementation of "SNAP" Survey Software for the Center for the Study of Religion and Society
2003-2007	Research Assistant to David Sikkink, Center for the Study of American Religion
2002-2003	Director, Central American Study and Service (CASAS) study abroad program, Guatemala City, Guatemala
1997-2001	Assistant Director, CASAS, Guatemala City, Guatemala Member, Volunteer Corps, Mennonite Central Committee

GRANTS

2014	Recommended for a Fulbright Teaching Award in Guatemala (alternate status as of June 2014). Council for International Exchange of Scholars, U.S. Department of State.
2013	(\$4500) Travel grant for follow-up research and videotaping of short documentary films exploring my research on ex-gang members
2012	Faculty Development Grant from Saint Michael's College for \$550 to off-set costs for proof-reading and indexing for <i>Homies and Hermanos</i>
2010	Finalist among more than four hundred applicants for Pentecostal and Charismatic Research Initiative, USC Center for Religion and Civic Life (did not receive award)
2008-2009	(\$15,000) University of Notre Dame Writing Center – Pre-doctoral Teaching and Writing Fellowship
2009	(\$5,000) Notre Dame Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts – For funding student travel during cross-cultural component of SOC 25354.
2008	(\$5,000) Notre Dame Kellogg Institute for International Studies Intramural Grant – For funding student travel during cross-cultural component of SOC 25354.
2008	(\$1,500) The Society for the Scientific Study of Religion – For writing of the dissertation.

- 2007 (\$5,000) Notre Dame Kellogg Institute for International Studies
Dissertation Seed Money Grant – For travel funds related to dissertation
research.
- 2007 (\$1,000) Notre Dame Center for the Study of Social Movements and
Social Research – For travel and research related to the dissertation.
- 2008 (\$1,000) Notre Dame Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts – For
qualitative analysis software and transcription of interviews.
- 2008 (\$250) Mennonite Central Committee, Dwight Moody Wiebe
Endowment Fund Scholarship – For former international volunteers
conducting dissertation research on a topic of social concern in an
international context.
- 2006 (\$2,000) Notre Dame Center for Social Concerns – Course Development
Grant for course proposal “Coffee, Globalization, and the Fair Trade
Movement”

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2014 Panelist for “Urban Violence and Crossborder Criminal Activity: New
Challenges for Peacebuilding” at Alliance for Peacebuilding Annual
Conference – United States Institute of Peace, Washington, DC, May 21.
- 2014 “Maras para Cristo: What the Gang Conversions Have to Teach us about
Pentecostalism in Central America.” Regent University, March 1.
- 2013 “Religion and Violence in Latin America: Assessing a Shifting
Landscape.” Presentation for workshop on “Religious Responses to
Violence in Latin America, at American University, January 14.
- 2012 “Religion and Violence in Latin America: Assessing a Shifting
Landscape.” Presentation for workshop on Religion and Violence in
Latin America, at Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Phoenix,
AZ.
- 2012 “Homies and Hermanos: God and Gangs in Central America.” Virginia
Commonwealth University’s Bishop Sullivan Center for Catholic Studies
Lecture Series, October 5.
- 2012 Panelist at “Global Youth, Civilian Security, and National Security.”
Foreign Service Training Center, Washington, D.C.
- 2012 Panelist for “Religion and Violence in Central America” at the Woodrow
Wilson Center and the Center for Latin American & Latino Studies,
American University. Washington, D.C., July 21.
- 2012 “Homies and Hermanos: God, Gangs, and the Drug War in Central
America” Kloeck-Jenson Endowment for Peace Studies Program, St.
Olaf College.

- 2011 Panelist for ASA Presidential Plenary Session on Comparative Mafias: “Homies and Hermanos: Gang, Church, and the Rules of Engagement in the Central American Barrio,” Las Vegas, NV.
- 2011 “*La Mara de Cristo: Homies and Hermanos in the Central American Barrio*” Second Conference on Religion, Social Movements, and Progressive Reform in Latin America, Institute on Culture, Religion, and World Affairs, Boston University.
- 2010 “Homies and *Hermanos*: God and Gangs in Central America.” Global and Regional Studies Program, University of Vermont.
- 2010 “Homies and *Hermanos*: God and Gangs in Central America.” Presentation at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI.
- 2010 “Peaceful Pentecostals? Pietistic Interpersonal Pacifism in the Central American Barrio.” Kroc Institute for Peace Studies, Notre Dame.
- 2009 “Homies and *Hermanos*: God and Gangs in Central America.” Presentation at the Institute for Latino Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago. Respondent, Prof. John Hagedorn.

PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

- 2013 “First Impressions from a Longitudinal Study of Ex-gang Members.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Boston, MA.
- 2013 “Pentecostalism, Security, and the ‘Crisis of Values’ in Central America.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Boston, MA.
- 2012 “Religious Responses to Gang Violence in Latin America: An Update.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2011 “*¿Hijos del Rey?* Religious Responses to Relative Deprivation in Central America.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Milwaukee, WI.
- 2010 “Peaceful Pentecostals? Pietistic Interpersonal Pacifism in the Central American Barrio.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Baltimore, MD.
- 2010 “Pentecostal Human Rights Activists?” Presentation at Human Rights regular session Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Atlanta, GA.
- 2009 “Don’t Mess with Curly: Leaving the Central American Gang via the ‘Evangelical Escape Clause.’” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting for the Association Sociology of Religion.

- 2008 “Measure of America” Departmental Colloquium. Served with Notre Dame Sociology faculty on panel discussing UN Human Development Report.
- 2008 “Crusaders and Samaritans: Catholic and Evangelical Gang Initiatives in Northern Central America.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting for the Society of the Scientific Study of Religion.” Louisville, KY.
- 2008 “Transgressing the Code of the Barrio: Emotion and Conversion among Former Gang Members.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting for the Association for the Sociology of Religion. Boston.
- 2008 Panelist for Author Meets Critics session exploring David Smilde’s *Reason to Believe: Culultural Agency in Latin American Evangelicalism*. Annual Meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion. Boston.
- 2007 “When the Saints Go Washing: Mennonite Footwashing since 1960.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Tampa, FL.
- 2006 “Flipping the Tortilla: The Emergence of ‘Color-Blind’ Ideology in Guatemala”. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the North Central Sociological Society.
- 2005 “Faith and the Foreigner: Exploring the Impact of Religion on Immigration Attitudes.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia.

COURSES TAUGHT

- Summer 2012 SO-310 Special Topics: God, Gangs, and Globalization: month-long International course taught in Guatemala City
- Spring 2012 SO-218 Deviance, Norms, and Social Control
- Spring 2011 SO-310 Special Topics: God, Gangs, and Globalization (Saint Michael’s College)
- Fall 2010/11 SO-301 Foundations of Social Theory (Saint Michael’s College)
- Fall 2010/11 SO-101 Introduction to Sociology (Saint Michael’s College)
- Spring 2010 SOC10002 Understanding Societies (Notre Dame, 100 students)
- Fall 2009 SOC10033 Social Problems (Notre Dame, 144 students)
- Spring 2009 SOC23534 Coffee, Globalization, and the Fair Trade Movement (Notre Dame, 17 students with one-week study-abroad component)

- Fall 2008 FY13100 First-year Composition: Arguing about Globalization (Notre Dame, 13 students)
- Spring 2008 S161 Principles of Sociology (Indiana University South Bend, 40 students)
- Fall 2007 S161 Principles of Sociology (Indiana University South Bend, 50 students)
- Fall 2007 S161 Principles of Sociology (Indiana University South Bend, 25 students)

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

- 2014 Brenneman, Robert. "Five Myths about the 'Surge' of Central American Immigrant Minors." Web blog post. *OUPblog*. Oxford University Press. 3 Aug. 2014. Reprinted in entirety at *HNNblog* and *USAPP* (London School of Economics) and partially reproduced in Andrew Sullivan's *The Dish*.
- 2014 Brenneman, Robert. "Struggling with the Legacy of Ríos Montt," Guest scholar on *Interfaith Voices* National Public Radio syndicated show aired March 26.
- 2014 "Habemus papum menonitum" in *The Mennonite*, March.
- 2013 "Entendiendo las raices de la violencia urbana." Keynote speaker at conference of religious non-profits sponsored by Mennonite Central Committee, September 30-October 1.
- 2013 Brenneman, Robert. "Vom Töten zum Beten." In *Welt-sichten*, a German magazine for global development and ecumenical cooperation. November 11, 2013, pp. 19-21.
- 2013 Blog: homiesandhermanosbook.wordpress.com "A Sociologist's Blog about Urban Violence and Religion in Central America."
- 2013 Television interview on *Este o Este* weekly television talk show broadcast throughout Guatemala.
- 2013 Press conference in Guatemala City resulting in four articles on national daily newspapers in Guatemala. (See blog for links to each story.)
- 2013 Interviewed for feature spread "O con Dios o con la Mara" in *Contra Poder*, Guatemalan semi-weekly magazine of politics and culture. July 12, 2013.
- 2012 "Talking about Gun Rights, Laws and Culture after a Tragedy." Invited Guest on *Vermont Edition*. July 30.

- 2012 “Gun Violence and Its Sources.” Special Guest on *The Mark Johnson Show*, Vermont call-in radio show.
- 2012 Cited as expert in violence in “Has society become accustomed to violent acts?” by Eric Adler and Ian Cummings. Op-ed for the *Kansas City Star* July 20, 2012.
- 2012 “Kicking a Bad Habit” Op-Ed in *Sojourners Magazine*. May. 41:5 p. 11.
- 2012 Panelist for Saint Michael’s College “Disconnect to Reconnect” Event.
- 2012 Review of *Eaarth* by Bill McKibben in *Edible Green Mountains*, May.
- 2011 “Homies and *Hermanos*” Interview on New Hampshire Public Radio’s *Word of Mouth*. November 21.
- 2011 “Becoming an Occupier” guest blog on website for Burlington Peace and Justice Center.
- 2011 Panelist for SMC Honors Colloquium: “Should Marijuana Be Legal?”
- 2011 “Man up! Lessons in Beer-tasting and Masculinity” guest blog in “This Week in Sociology.”
- 2009 Wrote “The Cross and the Crossfire” article based on dissertation research for *Sojourners Magazine*. April. 38:4 p.18.
Also published web-exclusive online interview.
- 2007 Expert Witness: Submitted ten-page written affidavit as an expert witness in a trial regarding the refugee status of a victim of a Salvadoran gang violence.
- 2008 *All Things Considered*, National Public Radio. “The Sound of Silence.” Short piece on the connection between sound and image in silent film.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2011-2012 Volunteer Driver. Vermont Migrant Justice.
- 2010 Night Shift Volunteer. Our Lady of the Road Catholic Worker House., South Bend, IN.
- 2010 Sales Volunteer. Ten Thousand Villages (fair trade store).

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2011 – Present Latin American Studies Association
- 2006 – Present Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

2006 – 2010 Association for the Sociology of Religion

2005 – Present American Sociological Association

CONSULTING

2012 Invited consultant/reviewer for proposed Global Anabaptist Profile. Goshen College, Goshen, IN.

2010 Chaired internal review committee for Notre Dame's Center for the Study of Religion and Society. South Bend, IN.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Spanish Spoken and written fluently

French Spoken and written at beginner level