**Professor of Sociology**  mwilde@upenn.edu

3718 Locust Walk <http://web.sas.upenn.edu/mwilde/home/>

 292 McNeil Building Cell: 215.275.6946

 Philadelphia, PA, 19104 Fax: 215.573.2081

# Education

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  2002  | Ph.D. Sociology, University of California, Berkeley.  |
|  1998  | M.A. Sociology, University of California, Berkeley.  |
|  1996  | B.A. Sociology, New York University, with honors.  |

# ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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| --- | --- |
|  2022 -Present 2021 -2020 | Chair University of Pennsylvania, Department of Sociology.Associate Chair University of Pennsylvania, Department of Sociology. |
|  Present -2020  | Professor University of Pennsylvania, Department of Sociology. |
|  2020 -2010  | Associate Professor University of Pennsylvania, Department of Sociology.  |
|  2017  | Undergraduate Chair  |
|  -2013  | University of Pennsylvania, Department of Sociology.  |
| 2010  | Assistant Professor  |
|  -2006  | University of Pennsylvania, Department of Sociology.   |
| 2006  | Assistant Professor  |
|  -2002  | Indiana University, Department of Sociology.  |

# Awards and Distinctions

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| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  2020 | *Distinguished Book Award* from the American Sociological Association’s Section on the Sociology of Religion for *Birth Control Battles.**Penn Fellow:* Leadership Development for Mid-Career Faculty. |
|  2019 | *Geoffrey Marshall Mentoring Award* from the Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools. |
|  2015  | *Charles Tilly Best Article Award* from the American Sociological Association’s Section on Comparative and Historical Sociology for “Fewer and Better Children.”*Distinguished Article Award* from the American Sociological Association’s Section on the Sociology of Religion for “Fewer and Better Children.”*Distinguished Article Award* from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion for “Fewer and Better Children.  |
|  2014  | President of the Association for the Sociology of Religion   |
|  2009  | *Honorable Mention* from the American Sociological Association’s Section on the Sociology of Religion for *Vatican II.* |
|  2008  | *Distinguished Book Award* from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion for *Vatican II.* |
|  2004  | *Distinguished Article Award* from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion for “How Culture Mattered at Vatican II.”  |
|  1999  | *Outstanding Student Paper Award* from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion for “From Excommunication to Nullification.” |

# BOOKS

Wilde, Melissa J. 2020. *Birth Control Battles: How Race and Class Divided American Religion*. University of California Press.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2007. *Vatican II: A Sociological Analysis of Religious Change.* Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

# Journal Issues

Guest Editor: *Religions,* Special Issue on “The Complexity of Religious Inequality.” Forthcoming 2020.

Guest Editor: *Social Inclusions*, Special Issue on “Complex Religion: Intersections of Religion and Inequality.” 2018. 20(1).

# Peer Reviewed ARTICLES

Wilde, Melissa J. and Meghan Garrity. Forthcoming. *British Journal of Sociology*. “American Religious Groups’ Views of Hitler Circa 1935: Eugenics, Anti-Semitism and the American Racial Hierarchy.”

Wilde, Melissa J. and Tessa Huttenlocher and Elena Van Stee. “Religious Inequality in America: The View from 1916.” Under review.

Ellis, Rachel and Melissa J. Wilde. “We blame… the parents”: Eugenics and Juvenile Delinquency after the Progressive Era. Under review.

Wilde, Melisssa J. and Tessa Huttenlocher and Elizabeth Meisenzahl. “The Class Identities of American Religious Groups in the Early Twentieth Century.” Under review.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Austin Lee and Charlie Xie. Forthcoming. “American Religious Groups’ Views of the Civil Rights Movement in 1965.” *Religions.*

Wilde, Melissa J. and Tessa Huttenlocher. Revising to resubmit to the *American Journal of Sociology*. “Who were the Social Gospelers? Class and Place in the Creation of Progressive Protestantism in America.”

pilgrim, haley, Wensong Shen and Melissa J. Wilde. 2020. "A Complex Religion Approach to the Differing Impact of Education on Black and White Religious Group Members’ Political Views.” *Religions.* 11(9): 477. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel11090477>.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Hajer Al-Faham. 2018. “Believing in Women? Examining Early Views of Women among America's Most Progressive Religious Groups.” *Religions.* 9(321): 1-19.

Wilde, Melissa J., Patricia Tevington and Wensong Shen. 2018. “Religious Inequality in America.” *Social Inclusions*, Special Issue on “Complex Religion: Intersections of Religion and Inequality.” 6(2): 107-126.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Kajaiyaiu Hopkins. 2018. “From Eugenicists to Family Planners: America’s Most Prominent Religious Birth Control Advocates.” in *Family Planning* edited by Zouhair Amarin. Intechopen Publishing, 13-32.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2017. “Complex Religion: Interrogating Assumptions of Independence in the Study of Religion.” *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review.* 79(3): 287-298.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Patricia Tevington. 2017. “Complex Religion: Toward a Better Understanding of the Ways in Which Religion Intersects with Inequality.” in *Emerging Trends in the Social Sciences,* edited by Robert Scott and Marlis Buchmann (General Editors) with Stephen Kosslyn (Consulting Editor). John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1-13.

Wilde, Melissa. 2016. “American Bishops and Religious Freedom: Legacy and Limits.” *Religions.* 7(131): 1-11.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Lindsay Wood Glassman. 2016. "How Complex Religion Can Improve Our Understanding of American Politics." *Annual Review of Sociology*. 42: 407-425.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Sabrina Danielsen. 2014. “Fewer and Better Children: Race, Class, Religion and Birth Control Reform in America.” *American Journal of Sociology.* 119(6): 1710-1760.

* Synopsis titled, “Birth Control, Religion and the Social Construction of Whiteness,” published in *Contexts* (Winter 2015)

Wilde, Melissa J., Kristin Geraty, Shelley Nelson and Emily Bowman. 2010. “Religious Economy or Organizational Field? Predicting Bishops’ Votes at the Second Vatican Council.” *American Sociological Review*. 75(4): 586-606.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2007. “Who Wanted What and Why at the Second Vatican Council: Toward a General Theory of Religious Change.” *Sociologica*: *Italian Journal of Sociology*. 2007(1).

Wilde, Melissa J. 2007. “Reply to Comments on ‘Who Wanted What and Why at the Second Vatican Council.’” *Sociologica*: *Italian Journal of Sociology.* 2007(1).

Hout, Michael, Andrew M. Greeley and Melissa J. Wilde. 2005. “Birth Dearth: Demographics of Mainline Decline.” *Christian Century*. 122(20): 24-27.

Hout, Michael and Melissa J. Wilde. 2004. “The Denominational Society of the USA: A Reappraisal” in *Patterns and Processes of Religious Change in Modern Industrial Societies: Europe and the United States*, edited by Alasdair Crockett and Richard O’Leary*.* Edwin Mellon Press.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2004. “How Culture Mattered at Vatican II: Collegiality Trumps Authority in the Council’s Social Movement Organizations.” *American Sociological Review*. 69(4): 576-602.

Hout, Michael, Andrew M. Greeley and Melissa J. Wilde. 2001. “The Demographic Imperative in Religious Change.” *American Journal of Sociology.* 107(2): 468-500.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2001. “From Excommunication to Nullification: Testing and Extending Supply-Side Theories of Religious Marketing with the Case of Catholic Marital Annulments.” *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 40(2): 235-249.

# GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

* “Religion in America: Gauging Change and Continuity with the General Social Survey 2024” with Michele Margolis (PI). Grant submitted to the **National Science Foundation**. February 2023. Amount requested: $1,000,000. Pending.
* “Digitizing the Census of Religious Bodies from 1906 and 1936.” **The Louisville Institute**. January 1, 2021-December 31, 2021 ($30,000).
* “Digitizing the Census of Religious Bodies from 1916 and 1926.” **University Research Foundation** from the University of Pennsylvania. ($50,000).
* “Religion in America: Gauging Change and Continuity with the General Social Survey” with Michele Margolis. Grant #1918173 funded by the **National Science Foundation**. June 1, 2019-May 31, 2020. ($350,000).
* “Fixing the State of the Research on American Evangelicals” with Michele Margolis. Project grant funded by **The Louisville Institute** to add questions to the General Social Survey 2020 ($30,000).
* PURM (**Penn Undergraduate Research Mentorship**) Award. Summer 2013, 2019, 2020, 2021.
* POREs (**Penn’s Program on Opinion Research and Election Studies**) Fellow Awarded for Summer 2019, 2020, 2021.
* PRRUCs (**Penn’s Program for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society**) Undergraduate Research Mentorship) Summer Fellow Awarded for Summer 2019, 2021.
* **School of Arts and Sciences Faculty Working Group Grant** for the *Religion and 2016 Election* talk series at Penn’s Program for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society ($2500).
* **Gentle Foundation Award** from the University of Pennsylvania (2012)
* **Course-to-Book Grant for Cross-Cultural Research from the Mellon Foundation**, University of Pennsylvania (2009).
* **University Research Foundation Grant**, University of Pennsylvania for *Birth Control Battles* (2008-2009) ($45,000).
* **Indiana University Grant–In–Aid of Research** (2005-2006, 2002-2003) for “Catholicism Contested: A Sociological Analysis of Vatican II” ($2,500).
* **American Sociological Association’s Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline**Research Award (2004) ($7000).
* **Society for the Scientific Study of Religion’s** Research Award (2003-2004) ($3000).
* **Indiana University Summer Faculty Fellowship** for summer 2004.
* **Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship** from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation (2001-2002) ($16,000 plus fees).
* **National Science Foundation: Dissertation Improvement Grant**, Grant # SES-0002409, for *Reconstructing Religion: A Sociological Analysis of Vatican II* (August 15, 2000-July 15, 2001) ($7,500).
* **University of California at Berkeley Vice-Chancellor’s Research Fund Grant**, for Dissertation Research (1999-2000) ($3,500).
* **University of California at Berkeley Humanities Research Grant** (1998-99) ($3000).
* **National Science Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship** (1997-2000).
* **University of California at Berkeley Social Science Research Grant** (1996-97) ($3000).
* **University of California at Berkeley Chancellor’s Fellowship** (1996-97, 2000-2001).

# Invited Talks and Media Appearances

* “The Future of Religion in American” Invited lecture for the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, August 2023, Philadelphia.
* Penn State University’s 2023 Harshbarger Lecture on Religion and Reproductive Justice. February 27, 2023.
* *The Age of Roe: The Past, Present and Future of Abortion in America.* “Major Public Conference.” Harvard University, Radcliff Institute. July 19-21, 2021.
* *Birth Control Battles: How Race and Class Divided American Religion*. Talks:
	+ Cornell University (April 2022)
	+ Georgetown University (April 2021)
	+ The Ohio State University (December 2020)
	+ University of Texas, Austin (October 2020)
	+ University of Pennsylvania, PRRUCS (February 2020)
	+ Stanford University (February 2020)
	+ University of California, Los Angeles (February 2020)
	+ Penn’s Lightbulb Cafe, (December 2019)
* Author Meets Critics and other Special Sessions on *Birth Control Battles*:
	+ American Sociological Association Book Forum (August 2022)
	+ American Academy of Religion (November 21, 2022)
	+ Social Science History Association (November 11, 2021)
	+ Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (October 16, 2021)
	+ Association for the Sociology of Religion, San Francisco (August 2020 – Cancelled because of COVID)
* “The Catholic Church Resists Change but Vatican II Shows It Is Possible,” for *The Conversation*. 2018. <https://theconversation.com/the-catholic-church-resists-change-but-vatican-ii-shows-its-possible-102543>
* “Religion, Race and the Culture Wars.” 2018. The Annex – A Sociology Podcast. <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/joseph-cohen/the-annex-sociology-podcast/e/56612235>.
* “Conducting Comparative Historical Research.” 2018. Podcast for *Give Methods a Chance* series, edited by Kyle Green and Sarah Lageson. Published by *The Society Pages.* <https://thesocietypages.org/methods/2018/05/10/melissa-wilde-on-conducting-comparative-historical-research/>.
* Keynote. *Young Scholars in the Sociology of Religion Conference*. University of Notre Dame (April 2018).
* “Birth of the Culture Wars: How Race and Class Divided American Religion.” University of Chicago (January 2018).
* Presidential Panel for the Association for the Sociology of Religion and the American Sociological Association, Montreal (August 2017).
* Panelist, “Religion, Politics and the 2016 Election” Public Program at the American Jewish History Museum (September 2016).
* “Complex Religion and American Politics,” Penn’s Program for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society’s “Common Ground for the Common Good” series (May 2016).
* “Advancing the Demographic Study of Religion:” A Population Association of America Pre-Conference hosted by the Pew Research Center (March 30, 2016).
* Baylor University Outstanding Speaker Occasion Series in Sociology (BU OSO Series in Sociology - University-wide lecture (March 21, 2016).
* Presidential Address for the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion meeting, Chicago, IL. (August 2015)
* Invited Panelist for the Conference "Protestant, Catholic, Jew... Divorcing," Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College (March 2015).
* *Birth of the Culture Wars: How Race Divided American Religion.* Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University (October 2014).
* Department of Sociology and the Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society, University of California, Berkeley (April 2014).
* MacMillon Center on Religion, Politics and Society at Yale University (March 2013).
* Department of Sociology, Pennsylvania State University (Dec. 2012).
* Department of History and Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, University of Virginia (Dec. 2012).
* Department of Sociology, University of California, San Diego (May 2012)
* Race and Ethnicity Brownbag, University of Wisconsin, Madison (Feb. 2012)
* Center on the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion, University of Notre Dame (Sept. 2011)
* Department of Sociology, Northwestern University (Sept. 2011)
* Center for Cultural Sociology, Yale University (April 2011)
* Femsem, University of Wisconsin, Madison (Feb. 2011)
* Center on Religion and Culture, Fordham University (Sept. 2010).
* LaSalle University, Philadelphia, PA (April 2010).
* University of Pennsylvania, Department of Sociology’s Colloquium Series (Dec. 2009).
* St. Mary’s College, San Antonio, TX (March 2009).
* Culture and Interaction Cluster at the University of Pennsylvania (Jan. 2009).
* University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ (Feb. 2008).
* Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. (Feb. 2008).
* University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC (March 2006).
* University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN (Oct. 2005).
* Author Meets Critics and other Special Sessions on *Vatican II: A Sociological Analysis of Religious Change*:
	+ Eastern Sociological Association, Baltimore, MD (March 2009).
	+ Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Louisville, KY (Oct. 2008).
	+ Symposium, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University (Feb. 2008).
	+ Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York (August 2007).

# BOOK REVIEWS and Other Publications

Wilde, Melissa J. and Tessa Huttenlocher. "Eugenics." In The SAGE Encyclopedia of the Sociology of Religion, edited by Adam Possamai and Anthony J. Blasi, 274. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc., 2020. doi: 10.4135/9781529714401.n156.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Tessa Huttenlocher. "Social Gospel Movement." In The SAGE Encyclopedia of the Sociology of Religion, edited by Adam Possamai and Anthony J. Blasi, 771-772. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc., 2020. doi: 10.4135/9781529714401.n432.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Tessa Huttenlocher. "Vatican II." In The SAGE Encyclopedia of the Sociology of Religion, edited by Adam Possamai and Anthony J. Blasi, 887. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc., 2020. doi: 10.4135/9781529714401.n495.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Patricia Tevington. 2018.“Sociology of Religion,” in *A Sociology Experiment*, edited by Shamus Khan, Patrick Sharkey, and Gwen Sharp. Retrieved at: [www.sociologyexperiment.com](http://www.sociologyexperiment.com/)

Wilde, Melissa. 2018. “Research on Complex Religion.” *Social Inclusion and Religion*, Special Issue on “Complex Religion: Intersections of Religion and Inequality.” 6(2): 83-86.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2014. “Book Review of *Faithful Revolution: How Voice of the Faithful is Changing the Church,* by Tricia Bruce.” *Contemporary Sociology.* 43(2): 198.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2010. “Book Review of *Faith Makes Us Live: Surviving and Thriving in the Haitian Diaspora,* by Margarita Mooney.” *Social Forces.* 88(4): 1928-1931.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2008. "Just Your Average Full-Service Secret Archive." *Trajectories*. 19(2): 4-6.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2007. “Book Review of *The Catholic Church in State Politics: Negotiating Prophetic Demands and Political Realities,* by David Yamane.” *Social Forces.* 85(4):

1819-1820.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2002. “Book Review of *Young Adult Catholics: Religion in the Culture of Choice*, by Dean R. Hoge, William D. Dinges, Mary Johnson and Juan L. Gonzales, Jr.” *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 41(4): 788-789.

Wilde, Melissa J. 2000. “Book Review of *Catholic Identity: Balancing Reason, Faith and Power*, by Michele Dillon.” *Review of Religious Research*. 41(3): 426-428.

# CONFERENCE PAPERS (selected)

Wilde, Melissa J. and Tessa Huttenlocher and Elena Van Stee. “Religious Inequality in America: The View from 1916.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, August 2022, Los Angeles.

Ellis, Rachel and Melissa J. Wilde. “We blame… the parents”: Eugenics and Juvenile Delinquency after the Progressive Era. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 2022, Atlanta, GA, and the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2022, Baltimore, MD.

Wilde, Melisssa J. and Tessa Huttenlocher and Elizabeth Meisenzahl. “The Class Identities of American Religious Groups in the Early Twentieth Century.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, August 2022, Los Angeles.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Meghan Garrity. “American Religious Groups’ Views of Hitler Circa 1935: Eugenics, Anti-Semitism and the American Racial Hierarchy.” Paper presented at the 2019 annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York City.

Wilde, Melissa J., Haley Pilgrim and Wensong Shen. "Blackness as Primacy: The Continuing Significance of Race for Black American’s Political Views.” Paper presented at the Joint Presidential Panel of the 2017 annual meetings of the Association for the Sociology of Religion and the American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada.

Wilde, Melissa J., Patricia Tevington and Wensong Shen. “Complex Religion and American Politics.” Paper presented at the Regular Session on Political Sociology at the 2017 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, Canada.

Wilde, Melissa, Patricia Tevington and Wensong Shen. “Complex Religion and American Politics.” Paper presented at the 2016 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA.

Wilde, Melissa J. “Who were the Social Gospelers? Race, Class and Religion on the Eve of the

Depression.” Paper to be presented at the 2015 annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Baltimore, MD and the 2015 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Newport Beach, CA.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Lindsay Wood. “Religion and Politics in the United States: Thinking about Race, Class and Religion as more than just ‘Controls.’" Paper presented at the 2015 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.

Wilde, Melissa J. “Birth of the Culture Wars: How Race Divided American Religion.” Paper presented at the thematic session, “Religion and Sexuality.” 2015 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, Il.

Ellis, Rachel, Kristin Geraty, Steve Viscelli and Melissa Wilde. "The Socioeconomic Mobility of Jewish Immigrants in the 20th Century." Paper presented at the 2014 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco.

Rachel Ellis, Kristin Geraty, Steve Viscelli and Melissa Wilde. "The Socioeconomic Mobility of Jewish Immigrants in the 20th Century" Paper presented at the 2013 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Boston, MA.

Wilde, Melissa J. “From Birth Control to Abortion and Gay Marriage: The Origins of Sexual Progressivism in American Religion” Paper presented at the 2012 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Phoenix, AZ.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Rachel Ellis. “Jews, Eugenics and Birth Control: Race, Class and Assimilation in the United States Before WWII.” Paper presented at the 2011 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Milwaukee, WI.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Sabrina Danielsen. “Creating Heaven on Earth: Birth Control, Eugenics and Belief in the Social Gospel, 1920-1935.” Paper to be presented in the thematic session, “Race, Class, Gender and Religion,” at the 2011 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Sabrina Danielsen. “Creating Heaven on Earth: Birth Control, Eugenics and the Social Gospel in the American Religious Field (1920-1930).” Paper presented at

the 2010 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Baltimore, MD.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Sabrina Danielsen. “An Unholy Alliance: American Religion, Eugenics and Birth Control in the Twentieth Century.” Paper presented at the 2009 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association.

Wilde, Melissa J. “The Birth of the Culture Wars: American Religion and Sexuality at the Turn of the Twentieth Century.” Paper presented at the 2008 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Louisville, KY.

Wilde, Melissa J. “Looking for Power in the Archives.” Paper presented at the Culture and Power Conference*,* Oslo, Norway, December 13, 2007.

Wilde, Melissa J. and Kristin Geraty. “Explaining Religious Growth and Decline: The Roman Catholic Church, 1955-2005.” Paper presented at the 2007 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Rel*igion,* Tampa, FL.

Wilde, Melissa J. “Who Wanted What and Why at the Second Vatican Council: Toward a General Theory of Religious Change.” Paper presented at the 2006 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal.

Wilde, Melissa J., Kristin Geraty, Shelley Nelson, Emily Bowman and Grace Yukich. “What Makes a Progressive Religious Leader? National and Theological Factors Behind

Bishops’ Votes at the Second Vatican Council.” Paper presented at the 2004 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association in San Francisco, CA.

Wilde, Melissa J., Kristin Geraty, Shelley Nelson, Emily Bowman and Grace Yukich. “What Makes a Progressive Religious Leader? National and Theological Factors Behind Bishops’ Votes at the Second Vatican Council.” Paper presented at the 2004 annual meeting of the Religion, Economics and Culture *Conference*, Kansas City, MO*.*

Wilde, Melissa J. and Emily Bowman, Kristin Geraty and Grace Yukich. “National and

Theological Factors Behind Bishops’ Votes at the Second Vatican Council.” Paper presented at the 2003 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Norfolk, VA.

Wilde, Melissa J. “How Culture Mattered at Vatican II: Collegiality versus Authority in the Roman Catholic Church.” Paper presented at the 2003 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. Atlanta, Georgia.

Wilde, Melissa J. “Reconstructing Religion: A Sociological Analysis of Vatican II.” Paper presented at the 2002 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. Chicago, IL.

Wilde, Melissa J. “Reconstructing Religion: A Sociological Analysis of Vatican II.” Paper presented at the 2001 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Columbus, OH.

Wilde, Melissa J. “From Excommunication to Nullification: Testing and Extending Supply-Side Theories of Religious Marketing with the Case of Catholic Marital Annulments.” Paper presented at the 1999 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Boston, MA.

Wilde, Melissa J. “Regulating Sexuality Through Women’s Bodies: An Historical Analysis of the

American Catholic Church’s Response to the Sexual Revolution.” Paper presented at the 1999 meeting for the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (Boston, MA).

Hout, Michael and Melissa J. Wilde, “Denominational Society: An Appreciation.” Paper presented at the 1999 meeting of the American Sociological Association. Chicago, IL.

Wilde, Melissa J. “From Excommunication to Nullification: Testing and Extending Supply-Side

Theories of Religious Marketing with the Case of Catholic Marital Annulments.” Paper presented at the 1998 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. San Francisco, CA.

# Selected CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

* Organizer. Author Meets Critic Session on *Postsecular Catholicism: Relevance and Renewal* (Oxford University Press, 2017), by Michele Dillon. 2018 annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Las Vegas, NV.
* Panelist on, “How to Pick a Dissertation Topic Others Will Care About,” 2015 Annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion meeting, Chicago, IL.
* Presider, Roundtable for the Section on the Sociology of Religion. 2015 Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.
* Critic on Author Meets Critics panel on *Living Faith: Everyday Religion and Mothers in Poverty* by Susan Crawford Sullivan (University of Chicago Press, 2012). Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Phoenix, AZ. 2012.
* Critic on Author Meets Critics panel on *Faithful Revolution: How Voice of the Faithful is Changing the Church* (Oxford University Press, 2011) by Tricia Bruce. Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*.* Milwaukee, Wisconsin. 2011.
* Critic on Author Meets Critics panel on *Faith Makes Us Live* by Margarita Mooney(University of CA Press, 2009). Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Denver, CO. October 2009.

* Convener, Regular Session, “Religion and the State.” *SSSR.* Tampa, FL. October 2007.

* Presider, Roundtable for the Section on the Sociology of Religion on “Doubly Minority Religion.” Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association *(ASA)*. New York, NY. August 2007.

* Discussant, Roundtable for the Section on the Sociology of Religion on “Religion and Other Institutions.” *ASA*. Philadelphia, PA. August 2005.

* Chair, Author Meets Critics Session on *Streets of Glory: Church in Community in a Black Urban Neighborhood* by Omar McRoberts. *SSSR.* Kansas City, MO. October 2004.

* Discussant, Panel on “The Effects of Religious Freedom.” Annual meeting of *Religion, Economics and Culture.* Kansas City, MO. October 2004.

* Critic, Author Meets Critics Session on *They Call Him Pastor: Married Men in Charge of Catholic Parishes* by Ruth Wallace. Annual Meeting of the Religious Research Association. Kansas City, MO. October 2004

# TEACHING

* **S001: Introduction to Sociology:** Large introductory lecture course that highlights contributions to sociology by former and current Penn faculty. Includes an Academically Based Community Service component.

* **S010: Social Stratification:** Small introductory course that begins with classical theories of the causes and consequences of stratification before turning to the most important current empirical research in the field.

* **S100: Introduction to Social Research: Sociological Research Methods**: Larger Introductory course to all research methods that fulfills the school’s quantitative requirement and the methods requirement for sociology and HSOC majors.

* **S239: Religion and Society:** Undergraduate elective course that begins with the prominent theories in the field and then requires that students apply those theories to empirical studies.

* **S556: Proseminar in Sociological Concepts:** Graduate Level course for first year students covering core areas of sociology.

* **S559: Graduate Sociology of Religion:** Graduate-level course intended to give graduate students in sociology a comprehensive map of the empirical and theoretical strengths and weaknesses of the sociology of religion.

* **S604: Graduate Research Methods:** General research methods course designed to introduce graduate students to the variety of methods sociologists use to pursue research, the relative advantages and disadvantages of those methods, the logics of good research design, and the relationship between argument and evidence.

* **S620: Sociological Research II:** Graduate level course intended to aid graduate students in the transition from “student” to “professional sociologist” by revising a paper for publication and developing a dissertation proposal.

* *Graduate Student Instructor*: “Sociology 5: Evaluation of Evidence.” Professor Michael Hout, Department of Sociology, University of California, Spring 2000.

# Service- National

* National Science Foundation
	+ Sociology Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Award Panelist (2018, 2019).
* General Social Survey
	+ Board of Scientific Advisors (2019-2023)
	+ Abortion Core Revision Committee Chair (2020-2022).
	+ Religion Core Revision Committee Chair (2022-2023).
	+ 2003 Religion Core Revision Consultant.

* Association for the Sociology of Religion
	+ President, 2014-2015.
	+ Executive Committee, 2013-2016, 2017-2018.
	+ Publication Committee, 2010-2013, 2015 (Chair).
	+ Program Chair, 2009 Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

* Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
	+ Nominated for President (election in November of 2023).
	+ Jack Shand Small Research Grants Committee, 2013-2014.
	+ Executive Council, 2012-2015.
	+ Distinguished Book Award Committee, 2004, 2005 (chair).
	+ Student Paper Award Committee, 2003.

* Religious Research Association
	+ Jacquet Awards Committee, 2012-2015.
	+ Board of Directors, 2013-2015.
	+ Nominating Committee, 2011-2012.
* American Sociological Association*:*
* Comparative and Historical Sociology Section
	+ Candidate for Chair, 2020
	+ Council, 2016-2018.
	+ Ad Hoc Committee on Creating a Comparative-Historical Sociology Journal, 2019-2020.
	+ Planning Committee, Mini-Conference on the “Crisis of History and the History of Crisis.” 2018.
	+ Distinguished Article Award Committee, 2016.
	+ Barrington Moore Prize for Best Book Committee, 2012.
* Culture Section
	+ Clifford Geertz Prize for Best Article Committee, 2012 (chair).
	+ Council Member, 2007-2010.
* Sociology of Religion Section
	+ Chair, 2018.
	+ Council Member, 2005-2008.
	+ Membership Committee, 2005 (chair).
	+ Roundtable Coordinator, 2003.
	+ Student Representative, 2002.
* Ford Foundation International Scholars Coordinator, 2004.
* Eastern Sociological Association:Organizer: Mini-Conference on Catholicism and Social Policy 2005.

**Editorial Boards**

* *Cambridge Studies in Historical Sociology (2020-2023)*
* *American Sociological Association Rose Series* (2019-2022)
* *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* (2018 -2019)
* *American Journal of Sociology* (2017-2019)
* *American Sociological Review* (2015-2017)
* *Sociology of Religion* (2006-2008)

# University Service

* University Council Moderator, 2020-2021, 2022-2023.
* Provost Selection Consultative Committee, 2017. 2022.
* Athletic Advisory Council, 2020-2021.
* Graduate Council of the Faculties, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021
* Trustee’s Budget and Finance Committee Faculty Liaison, 2019-2020, 2020-2021.
* Faculty Council on Access and Academic Support, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021.
* Campus Working Group on Enhancing Academic Advising, 2019-2020.
* University Research Foundation Social Science Review Panel, 2019-2020.
* Provost’s Graduate Academic Engagement Fellowship Committee, 2018-2019, 2019-2020.
* Faculty Senate Executive Committee, 2013-2015, 2015-2017, 2018-2020, 2020-2022.
* Faculty Senate Committee on Committees 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018-2019.
* President’s Engagement Prize Committee, 2017.
* University Steering Committee, 2014-2015, 2016-2017.
* Curriculum Committee, 2013-2014, 2014-2015.
* Faculty Senate Executive Committee on Committees, 2013-2014, 2014-2015.
* University Council Committee on Campus and Community Life, 2012-2013.
* Provost’s Steering Committee for the 2012-2013 theme, the “Year of Proof.”
* Back-up Care Committee, 2008-2009, 2009-2010.
* Pre-Major Advisor, 2007-2008, 2008-2009.
* Center for Teaching and Learning Regular Participant.

**School of Arts and Sciences**

* Personnel Committee, 2020-2021.
* Working Group on Public Policy and Social Impact for the Strategic Plan, 2019-2020.
* Teaching Award Committee, 2018-2019, Chair.
* Teaching Initiative Advisory Committee, 2018-2019.
* Penn’s Program for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society, Associate Director for Survey Research, 2018-2020.
* Organizer, Penn’s Program for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society, *Religion and the 2016 Election* Speaker Series, Fall 2016.
* DCC Planning Committee for “States of Religious Freedom,” 2016-17.
* Andrea Mitchell Center Faculty Committee for “States of Religious Freedom,” 2017-18.

**Department of Sociology**

* *Executive Committee,* 2007-2008, 2009-2010, 2014-2015, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021.
* *Black Lives Matter Committee*, 2020-2021, Fall 2021.
* *Qualitative Methods Committee,* 2018-2019.
* *Search Committee,* 2018-2019.
* *Undergraduate Committee,* Fall 2011, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2018-2019.
* *Website Committee,* 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2012-2013 (Chair).
* *Graduate Committee,* 2007-2008. 2013-2014, 2019-2020.
* *Colloquium Committee,* 2006-2007, 2009-2010, 2016-2017.