

CAROLYN CHEN

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EMPLOYMENT

- 2011-present Director, Program in Asian American Studies, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2009-present Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Program in Asian American Studies, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2003-2009 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Program in Asian American Studies, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2002-3 Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Department of Sociology, University of California at Berkeley (May 2002).
- M.A. Department of Sociology, University of California at Berkeley (Spring 1997)
- A.B. Sociology, Brown University, Providence, RI (Magna Cum Laude).
Elected to Phi Beta Kappa (1993).

PUBLISHED WORKS

- July 2012 *Sustaining Faith Traditions: Religion, Race and Ethnicity among the Latino and Asian American Second Generation*, co-edited with Russell Jeung. New York: NYU Press.
- Under Contract “Accidental Pilgrims: Modernity, Migration and Christian Conversion among Contemporary Taiwanese Americans” in *Negotiating the Global with the Local: Translating Christianity in Modern East Asia*, edited by David Yoo and Albert Park. Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press.
- Under Contract “Taiwanese-American Religion” in *Asian Pacific Americans Religious Cultures Encyclopedia*. Edited by Fumitaka Matsuoka and Jane Naomi Iwamura. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio.
- 2008 *Getting Saved in America: Taiwanese Immigration and Religious Experience*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

*Featured Book for Author Meets Critics Panel at:
Association for the Sociology of Religion 2008 Annual Meeting, Boston
American Academy of Religion 2008 Annual Meeting, Chicago

- 2008 “True Buddhism is not Chinese’: Taiwanese Immigrants Defining Buddhist Identity in the United States” in *North American Buddhism*. Edited by Paul Numrich. Boston, MA: Brill Publishers.
- 2008 “Focused on the Chinese-American Family: Evangelical Christianity and Chinese Immigrant Families.” In *Culture, Work and Family Values*, edited by Elizabeth Rudd and Lara Descartes. Rowman & Littlefield.
- 2007 “Fashioning New Selves: The Experiences of Taiwanese Immigrant Buddhist Women.” In *Women Practicing Buddhism: American Experiences*, edited by Peter N. Gregory and Susanne Mrozik. Wisdom Publications.
- 2006 “From Filial Piety to Religious Piety: Evangelical Christianity Reconstructing Taiwanese Immigrant Families in the United States.” *International Migration Review* 40 (3): 573-602.
- 2005 “A Self of One’s Own: Taiwanese Immigrant Women and Religious Conversion.” *Gender & Society* 19(3): 336-357.
- 2003 “Cultivating Merit by Cultivating Acceptance: The Public Engagement of A Chinese Buddhist Temple in American Society” Pp. 67-86 in *Revealing the Sacred in Asian Pacific America*. Edited by Paul Spickard and Jane Naomi Iwamura. New York: Routledge Press.
** This essay is an adaptation of “Religious Varieties of Ethnic Experience” (2002)
- 2002 “Religious Varieties of Ethnic Experience: A Comparison between a Taiwanese Immigrant Buddhist Temple and an Evangelical Christian Church.” *Sociology of Religion* 63, 2 (Summer): 215-238.
- 2000 "Creating and Sustaining our Communities: Asian American Religious Institutions" in *Asian American Studies: Identity, Images, and Issues -- Past and Present*, co-written with Russell Jeung (second author). Pp. 231-254. Edited by Esther M. Ghymn. New York: Peter Lang Publishing.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2010 *Virtual Orientalism: Asian Religions and Popular Culture* by Jane Naomi Iwamura. *Discourses* 32.2.
- 2005 *Every Time I Feel the Spirit: Religious Ritual and Experience in an African American Church* by Timothy J. Nelson. *American Journal of Sociology* 11 (3): 907-908.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2007 Selected as a “Top Ten Scholar of Asian American Religions” by

Religionlink.org

- 2006-present Faculty Associate, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University.
- 2006-7 Fellow, Wabash Center Workshop on Teaching and Learning for Pre-Tenure Asian/Asian North American Faculty.
- 2005-2006 Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, Junior Scholars Grant
- 2005-2006 Visiting Faculty Fellow, American Bar Foundation, Chicago, Illinois
- 2002-2003 Center for the Study of Religion Postdoctoral Fellowship, Princeton University
- 2001-2002 Center for the Study of Working Families Fellowship, U.C. Berkeley
- 2000-2001 Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion at Yale Dissertation Fellowship
- 1999-2000 Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship
- 1999-2000 Social Science Research Council International Migration Dissertation Fellowship
- 1999 National Science Foundation International Research Travel Grant
- 1998-99 Humanities Research Grant, U.C. Berkeley
- 1998-1999 Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, U.C. Berkeley
- 1998 Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship
- 1997-2000 Doreen B. Townsend Center Humanities Working Groups Program Grant, U.C. Berkeley
- 1995-1998 National Science Foundation Fellowship
- 1994-1995 Graduate Opportunity Fellowship, U.C. Berkeley

GRANTS

- 2007 University Research Grant Committee Award. \$5000
- 2007 Wabash Center Summer Research Grant, The Wabash Center. \$7000
- 2007 "Popular Discourses of Health and Spirituality," with Jenny Korn. MacArthur Summer Research Grant. \$1350.
- 2006 "Adoptee Cultural Camps II," with Lori Delale-O'Connor. MacArthur Summer Research Grant. \$1080.
- 2006 University Research Grant Committee Award. \$5000

2005 “Learning to be Me: The Effects of Culture Camps on Transnational Adoptee Identity Formation,” with Lori Delale-O’Connor. MacArthur Summer Research Grant. \$1188.

2005 University Research Grant Committee Award. \$5000.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Nov. 2011 Respondent for “Author Meets Critic Book Panel” for *Religion at the Corner of Bliss and Nirvana*. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Francisco.

July 2011 “Diasporic Displacement: Taiwanese-American Religious Experience.” International Conference on the Comparative Study of Religious Experience in Contemporary Taiwan. Graduate Institute of Religious Studies, National Chengchi University. Hualien, Taiwan.

April 2011 “Religion, Racial, and Ethnic Identities of the Asian American Second Generation.” Association for Asian American Studies Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Jan. 2010 “Accidental Pilgrims: Modernity, Migration and Christian Conversion among Contemporary Taiwanese Americans.” Conference on “Negotiating the Global with the Local: Translating Christianity in Modern East Asia,” Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, CA.

Nov. 2008 Respondent for “Author Meets Critic Book Panel” for *Getting Saved in America*. American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.

Sept. 2008 “Rethinking Religion, Race, and Ethnicity in the United States: The Case of Asian American Religions.” Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 2008 Respondent for “Author Meets Critic Book Panel” for *Getting Saved in America*. Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, Boston, MA.

Sept. 2007 Guest on Chicago Public Television talk show, “ConversAsians,” hosted by Yvonne Lau.

Aug. 2007 Critic for “Author Meets Critic Book Panel” for *Korean American Evangelicals* (Oxford 2007) by Elaine Howard Ecklund. Association for the Sociology of Religion 2007 Annual Conference, New York, NY.

Nov. 2006 “From Filial Piety to Religious Piety: Evangelical Christianity Reconstructing Taiwanese Immigrant Families.” Ethnography Workshop, Northwestern University. Evanston, IL.

Oct. 2006 “Reflections on Being a Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Social Change.” Celebrating the Institute for the Study of Social Change: Thirty Years of Research with a Conscience Conference, University of California at Berkeley. Berkeley, California.

July 2006 “Asian Americans: Exploding the Myths.” Luke Christian Medical Missions Annual Conference. San Francisco, California.

- June 2006 "Hospitality and the Asian American Experience." Parkwood Church, Chicago Illinois.
- May 2006 "Becoming American Men and Women: Otherworldly Narratives and Thisworldly Selves." Center for Migration and Development, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.
- April 2006 "Religious Otherness and the Racialization of Chinese American Buddhists." Forum for Buddhism in America, Smith College, Northampton, MA.
- April 2006 "Becoming American Men and Women: Otherworldly Narrative and Thisworldly Selves." Workshop on Race and Religion, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- October 2005 "From Filial Piety to Religious Piety: Evangelical Christianity Reconstructing Taiwanese Immigrant Families." American Bar Foundation, Chicago, IL.
- August 2005 "Race and Religion in Asian America." Panel discussant. The American Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- May 2005 "From Filial Piety to Religious Piety: Evangelical Christianity Reconstructing the Taiwanese Immigrant Home." Paper delivered at the Chicago Area Group for the Study of Religion, Loyola University, Chicago, IL.
- Nov. 2004 "A Self of One's Own: Taiwanese Immigrant Women Converting to Evangelical Christianity and Buddhism," Presentation delivered at the Culture Workshop, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- August 2004 "The Study of Asian Pacific American Religions: Interdisciplinary Reflections." Panel discussant. The Asian Pacific American Religious Research Initiative, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- March 2004 "From Tradition to Choice: Taiwanese Immigrants Becoming Buddhist." Presentation delivered at the Religion Colloquium, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- October 2003 "The Chinese Church and the Family in the United States." Presentation delivered at the Conference on Chinese Christianity, Tunghai University, Taichung, Taiwan.
- Sept. 2003 "Faith, Culture and Religion." Guest on talk show "US Asians" on The Asia Channel. www.asiachannel.tv. Chicago, IL
- April 2003 "Religious Conversion as Women's Liberation from the Family: The Case of Taiwanese Immigrant Women." Presentation delivered at the Center for Study of Religion, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.
- Feb. 2003 "Becoming Buddhist: From Tradition to Choice." Presentation delivered at the Buddhist Studies Workshop, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.
- Dec. 2001 "From Tradition to Choice: Taiwanese Immigrants Becoming Buddhist in Los Angeles." Presentation delivered at the Center for Religion and Civic

Culture, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA.

- April 2001 "From Tradition to Choice: Religious Conversion among Taiwanese Immigrants in Los Angeles." Presentation delivered at Princeton University, Department of Sociology, Princeton, NJ.
- Jan. 2001 "Awakening an Identity: Taiwanese Immigrants Becoming Buddhist in America." Presentation delivered at the Social Science Research Institute's International Migration Fellows Conference, La Jolla, CA.
- Dec. 2000 "Reinterpreting Traditions: Taiwanese Immigrants Becoming Buddhist in America." Presentation delivered at the Institute for Leadership Development and Study of Pacific and North American Religion. Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA.
- May 2000 "Race and Religion: A Roundtable Discussion." Panel discussant. Academy of Asian American Studies Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ.
- March 2000 "Converting to 'American': Religion and Assimilation among Taiwanese Immigrant Buddhists and Christians." A course lecture for "Asian Pacific American Religion." Professor Russell Jeung, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA.
- Oct. 1999 "The Ethnic Consequences of Religion." A course lecture for "Asian Pacific American Religion." Professor Jane Iwamura, U.C. Santa Barbara, Department of Ethnic Studies.
- Nov. 1997 "Getting Saved in the Margins: Evangelical Protestantism and Asian Immigrants." Presentation at the Doreen B. Townsend Center for Humanities Working Group on Asian Americans and Religion U.C. Berkeley.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- October 2009 "'There is no Time for Me': Spirituality as Sanctuary from the Economy." Paper presented at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Conference, Denver, CO.
- August 2008 "Rethinking Race, Religion and Ethnicity in the United States: The Case of Asian Americans. Paper presented at the Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, Boston, MA.
- April 2007 "Getting Saved in America: Taiwanese Immigration and Religious Experience." Paper presented at the Association for Asian American Studies Annual Conference, New York, New York.
- August 2006 "'True Buddhism is not Chinese:' Taiwanese Immigrants Becoming Practicing Buddhists in the United States." Paper presented at a joint session of the Association for the Sociology of Religion and American Sociological Association Conference, Montreal, Canada.

- March 2006 "Gender and Taiwanese Immigrant Narratives of Religious Conversion." Paper presented at the Academy for Asian American Studies Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- August 2005 "From Filial Piety to Religious Piety: The Immigrant Church Reconstructing Taiwanese Immigrant Families and Parent-Child Relations." Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- April 2005 "Believing by Belonging: Taiwanese Immigrants Converting to Evangelical Christianity." Paper delivered at the Academy for Asian American Studies Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- October 2004 "A Self of One's Own: Taiwanese Immigrant Women and Religious Conversion." Paper presented at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Kansas City, MO.
- August 2002 "From Filial Piety to Religious Piety: The Immigrant Church Reconstructing Taiwanese Immigrant Families and Parent-Child Relations." Paper presented at the Asian Pacific American Religion Research Initiative Conference, Berkeley, CA.
- August 2001 "Awakening an Identity: Taiwanese Immigrants Becoming Buddhist in America." Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA.
- Nov. 2000 "Religious Varieties of Ethnic Experience: A Comparison between a Taiwanese Immigrant Buddhist Temple and an Evangelical Christian Church." Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Nashville, TN.
- June 2000 "The Ethnic Consequences of Religion." Paper presented at the Asian Pacific American Religion Research Initiative Conference, Santa Barbara, CA.
- August 1999 "Political Opportunities and Women's Moral Reform Movements." Paper presented at the American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- April 1998 "Culture in Conversation: Creating the Immigrant Home." Paper presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- April 1997 "A Place of Their Own: Taiwanese Immigrant Women and the Home." Paper presented at the Academy of Asian American Studies Annual Conference, Seattle, WA.
- Nov. 1995 "Asian America Religious Institutions." Paper co-presented with Russell Jeung at the American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2008-present Working Group on Spirituality and Political Engagement, Social Science Research Council.
- 2006-9 Advisory Board, Asian Pacific American Religious Research Initiative.
- 2006-9 Council Member, Section on Asia and Asian American, American Sociological Association.
- 2006-present Advisory Committee, Bay Area Chinese Churches Research Project, American Baptist Seminary of the West.
- 2003-present Reviewer for *American Journal of Sociology*, *Sociological Quarterly*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Gender and Society*, *Social Psychology Quarterly*
- 2004 Co-organizer, Asian Pacific American Religion Research Initiative Conference. Northwestern University.
- 2003-2004 Co-organizer, Department of Sociology Colloquium Series. Northwestern University.
- 2003-2005 Membership Committee, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion.
- 1999-2003 Planning committee, Asian Pacific American Religion Research Initiative Conference, U.C Berkeley and U.C. Santa Barbara.
- 1997-2000 Co-organizer, Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities Working Group on Asian Americans and Religion, U.C. Berkeley.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2005 Planning Committee, Chinese-American Museum of Chicago
- 1995-1999 Volunteer with Cambodian refugees, Oak Park Community, Oakland, CA

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Sociological Association
- Academy of Asian American Studies
- Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
- Association for the Sociology of Religion
- American Academy of Religion
- Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
- Asian Pacific American Religious Research Initiative

