

CAROLYN CHEN
Curriculum Vitae
February 2011

Department of Sociology
Northwestern University
1810 Chicago Ave.
Evanston, Illinois 60208
Phone: 847.467.4069
Email: cechen@northwestern.edu

EMPLOYMENT

- 2009-present Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Asian American Studies Program,
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2003-2009 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Asian American Studies Program,
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

- Forthcoming *Keeping the Faith: Religion, Race and Ethnicity among the Latino and Asian American Second
Generation*, co-edited with Russell Jeung. New York: NYU Press.
- Forthcoming "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

- Forthcoming *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

- 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.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Spring 2005 Instructor. "Sociology of Immigration Graduate Seminar," Department of Sociology, Northwestern University.
- Spring 2005 Instructor. "Sociology of Immigration," Department of Sociology, Northwestern University.
- Winter 2004 Instructor. "Contemporary Asian American Immigration," Asian American Studies Program, Northwestern University.
- Winter 2004 Instructor, "Contemporary Issues in Asian American Communities," Asian American Studies Program, Northwestern University.
- Spring 2004 Instructor. "Sociology of Religion Graduate Seminar," Department of Sociology, Northwestern University.
- Spring 2004 Instructor. "Asian American Religions," Asian American Studies Program, Northwestern University.
- Winter 2004 Instructor. "Contemporary Issues in Asian American Communities," Asian American Studies Program, Northwestern University.

- Spring 2000 Graduate Student Instructor. "Methods of Social Research," Department of Sociology, U.C. Berkeley.
- Spring 1999 Instructor. "Introduction to Sociology," Department of Sociology, Holy Names College.
- Spring 1998 Graduate Student Instructor. "Introduction to Sociology," Department of Sociology, U.C. Berkeley.

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