

BLAKE VICTOR KENT

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EDUCATION

- 2018 Ph.D. SOCIOLOGY, Baylor University
- 2015 M.A. SOCIOLOGY, Baylor University
- 2010 M.A. THEOLOGICAL STUDIES, Regent College (Canada)
- 2002 B.A. SOCIOLOGY, Wheaton College, *Magna Cum Laude*, Alpha Kappa Delta

EMPLOYMENT

- 2020- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Anthropology; Data Analyst, Office of Institutional Research; Westmont College
- 2019-2020 Research Associate, Center on Genomics, Vulnerable Populations, and Health Disparities; Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital
- 2018-2019 Post-doctoral Fellow, Center on Genomics, Vulnerable Populations, and Health Disparities; Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

- 2020- Non-Resident Scholar, Institute for Studies of Religion; Baylor University
- 2020- Research Affiliate, Center on Genomics, Vulnerable Populations, and Health Disparities; Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital
- 2018-2020 Research Affiliate, The Human Flourishing Program; Harvard University

AREAS OF INTEREST

Religion/Spirituality, Population Health, Minority Populations, Attachment Theory, Quantitative Methods

COURSES TAUGHT

Introduction to Sociology, Quantitative Methods, Environmental Sociology

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

* Indicates undergraduate student co-author

** Indicates graduate student co-author

In Press Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, James Davidson**, and Stacy de Leon*. "Parents, Peers, and Trajectories of Cigarette Smoking: A Group-Based Approach." *Youth & Society*.

Kent, Blake Victor. "Religion/Spirituality and Gender-Differentiated Trajectories of Depressive Symptoms Age 13 to 34." *Journal of Religion and Health*.

Kent, Blake Victor, W. Matthew Henderson, Matt Bradshaw, Christopher G. Ellison, and Bradley R.E. Wright. "Do Spiritual Experiences Moderate the Effect of Daily Stressors on Psychological Well-Being?: An Experience Sampling Study of Depressive Symptoms and Flourishing." *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*.

- Kent, Blake Victor** and Matt Bradshaw. "Adolescent Context and Depressive Symptom Trajectories in a National Sample: Ages 13 to 34." *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*.
- Stroope, Samuel, **Blake Victor Kent**, Ying Zhang, Donna Spiegelman, Alka M. Kanaya, Namratha Kandula, Anna B. Schachter, and Alexandra E. Shields. "Mental Health and Self-Rated Health among U.S. South Asians: The Role of Religious Group Involvement." *Ethnicity & Health*.
- 2020 **Kent, Blake Victor**, Samuel Stroope, Alka M. Kanaya, Ying Zhang, Namratha Kandula, and Alexandra E. Shields. "Private Religion/Spirituality, Self-rated Health, and Mental Health among U.S. South Asians." *Quality of Life Research* 29(2):495-504.
- Stroope, Samuel, **Blake Victor Kent**, Ying Zhang, Alka M. Kanaya, Namratha Kandula, and Alexandra E. Shields. "Self-Rated Religiosity/Spirituality and Four Health Outcomes Among U.S. South Asians." *Journal of Nervous & Mental Disease* 208(2):165-168.
- 2019 Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, W. Matthew Henderson, and Anna C. Setar*. "Attachment to God and Social Trust." *Sociological Perspectives* 62(6):1001-1021.
- Kent, Blake Victor** and Christopher M. Pieper. "To Know and Be Known: An Intimacy-Based Explanation for the Gender Gap in Biblical Literalism." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 58(1):231-250.
- 2018 Bradshaw, Matt and **Blake Victor Kent**. "Prayer, Attachment to God, and Psychological Well-being in Later Life." *Journal of Aging and Health* 30(5):667-691.
- Kent, Blake Victor**, Matt Bradshaw, and Jeremy E. Uecker. "Forgiveness, Attachment to God, and Mental Health Outcomes in Older U.S. Adults: A Longitudinal Study." *Research on Aging* 40(5):456-479.
- 2017 **Kent, Blake Victor** and W. Matthew Henderson. "Attachment to God, Tenure, Race, and Participation in Congregational Life." *Review of Religious Research* 59(3):319-340.
- Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, W. Matthew Henderson, and Anna C. Setar*. "Subjective Social Status, Life Course SES, and BMI in Young Adulthood." *Health Psychology* 36(7):682-694.
- Kent, Blake Victor**. "Attachment to God, Religious Tradition, and Firm Attributes in Workplace Commitment." *The Journal of Social Psychology* 157(4):485-501.
- 2016 **Kent, Blake Victor**, Matt Bradshaw, and Kevin D. Dougherty. "Attachment to God, Vocational Calling, and Worker Contentment." *Review of Religious Research* 58(3):343-364.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2017 **Kent, Blake Victor**. "Patricia Snell Herzog and Heather E. Price: American Generosity: Who Gives and Why." *International Journal of Contemporary Sociology* 54(1):63-65.
- 2014 **Kent, Blake Victor**. "Todd M. Brenneman: Homespun Gospel: The Triumph of Sentimentality in Contemporary American Evangelicalism." *Review of Religious Research* 56(3):491-92.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Abubakar, Auwal, Angela Monahan, and **Blake Victor Kent**. "Jeff Levin Interview," *Public Health, Religion, and Spirituality Network Bulletin*, 1(2):3-9.
- 2016 Melton, J. Gordon, ed. *Melton's Encyclopedia of American Religions, Vol 1: United States and Vol 2: Canada*. 9th Edition. Detroit, MI: Gale. Contributor, researcher, and editorial assistant.

MANUSCRIPTS IN REVISE & RESUBMIT

Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, W. Matthew Henderson, and Anna C. Setar*. "Subjective Social Status and Sleep Problems in a National Sample of Young Adults." (R&R at *Social Science and Medicine – Population Health*)

Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, Margarita Mooney, and Cheryl Roberts. “Financial Hardship, Religious Resources, and Psychological Well-Being in Late Life.” (R&R at *Religions*)

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, and W. Matthew Henderson. “Childhood SES and Depression in Young Adulthood.”

Kent, Blake Victor, James C. Davidson**, Ying Zhang, Ken Pargament, Tyler VanderWeele, Harold Koenig, Lynn Underwood, Neal Krause, Alka Kanaya, Shelley Tworoger, Anna Schachter, Shelley Cole, Marcia O’Leary, Yvette Cozier, Martha Daviglus, Tracey Zacher, and Alexandra Shields. “Baseline Results from the Study on Stress, Spirituality, and Health: Religious and Spiritual Beliefs and Practices among American Indian, Black, Hispanic/Latina, South Asian, and White Women in the U.S.”

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Blais, Mark, Erica Warner, **Blake Victor Kent**, Alka Kanaya, Shelley Tworoger, Julie Palmer, Martha Daviglus, Marcia O’Leary, and Alexandra Shields. “Psychometric Properties of the Study on Stress, Spirituality, and Health.”

Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, and W. Matthew Henderson. “Early-Life Religious Involvement and Trajectories of Alcohol Abuse across Adolescence and Young Adulthood.”

Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, Byron Johnson, Sung Joon Jang, Joseph Leman. “Accountability to God, Prayer, and Psychological Well-being among U.S. Adults.”

Davidson, James C.**, **Blake Victor Kent**, David Williams, Alka Kanaya, Shelley Tworoger, Julie Palmer, and Alexandra Shields. “Everyday Discrimination, Religion and Spirituality, and Obesity.”

Henderson, W. Matthew, Matt Bradshaw, and **Blake Victor Kent**. “Non-linear Effects of Secure Attachment to God on Psychological Distress.”

Isehunwa, Oluwaseyi, Erica Warner, Donna Spiegelman, Shelley Tworoger, **Blake Victor Kent**, Nicholas Spence, and Alexandra Shields. “The Association between Religion, Spirituality, and Salivary Rhythms of Cortisol and DHEA in Postmenopausal Women.”

Kent, Blake Victor, Tyler J. VanderWeele, Marcia O’Leary, Julie Palmer, Martha Daviglus, Alka Kanaya, Shelley Tworoger, and Alexandra Shields. “Religion/Spirituality and Health among Five Diverse U.S. Cohort Studies.”

Kent, Blake Victor and Matt Bradshaw. “Demographic and Socioeconomic Differences in Trajectories of Smoking across Adolescence and Young Adulthood.”

Kent, Blake Victor, Christopher G. Ellison, Alka Kanaya, Julie Palmer, Martha Daviglus, Shelley Tworoger, and Alexandra Shields. “Religion/Spirituality and Prevalent Hypertension in Five Racially and Ethnically Diverse U.S. Cohort Studies.”

Franzen, Aaron B. and **Blake Victor Kent**. “Religion, Meaning, and Socialization: Medical Students’ Sense of Calling to the Medical Profession.”

Palmer, Julie, Yvette Cozier, Chunyu Liu, Austin Argentieri, **Blake Victor Kent**, and Alexandra Shields. “The Buffering Effects of Religion and Spirituality on Psychosocial Stress and DNA Methylation.”

Wright, Bradley R.E., **Blake Victor Kent**, and Christopher G. Ellison. “Lingering Effects of Religious Service Attendance on Emotional Well-being.”

RESEARCH SUPPORT, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

2018- Co-investigator, “National Spirituality and Health Consortium.” Principal investigator Alexandra E. Shields. Templeton Foundation - \$4,675,682

- 2017- Co-investigator, “Promoting the Use of Field Experiments to Study Religion and Spirituality.”
Principal investigator Bradley R.E. Wright. Templeton Foundation - \$214,399
- 2017 Travel Award, Integral Humanism Seminar, Oxford & Princeton Universities - \$3,500
- 2016 Travel Award, Social Science & Religion Seminar, Harvard University - \$1,000
- 2015 Travel Award, Virtue Ethics Seminar, Yale University - \$1,000
- 2013-2018 Graduate School Fellowship, Baylor University - \$25,000
- 2013-2019 Travel Awards, Baylor University (15 awards) - \$12,200
- 2008-2009 Chan Memorial Fellowship, Regent College - \$3,000

RESEARCH APPOINTMENT

- 2014 Research assistant, “National Study of Entrepreneurial Behavior, Regulatory Focus, and Religion.”
Principal investigators Mitchell J. Neubert, Jerry Z. Park, and Kevin D. Dougherty. National Science
Foundation. \$348,654.

SUBCONTRACTS

- 2016-2017 Project liaison and research assistant, “Self-control, Spirituality, and Well-being: An Online
Experience Sampling Method Study.” Principal investigator Bradley R.E. Wright. Templeton
Foundation - \$14,000
- 2014-2016 *Melton’s Encyclopedia of American Religions, Vol 1: United States and Vol 2: Canada.* 9th Edition. Detroit,
MI: Gale - \$13,000

HONORS

- 2018 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, Baylor University
- 2015 Outstanding Instructor Award, Kappa Alpha Theta, Baylor University
- 2014 Visual Sociology Competition 3rd Prize, Southwestern Social Science Association
- 2002 Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 **Kent, Blake Victor.** “Emerging Findings on Religious Tradition in the Study on Stress, Spirituality,
and Health.” Panel presentation, “True to Tradition? Religious Roots of Modern Public Health and
Emerging Paradigms of Practice.” Conference on Religion and Medicine: Columbus, OH. March
2020.
- 2019 Isehunwa, Oluwaseyi, **Blake Victor Kent**, and Alexandra E. Shields. “Do Religiosity and Spirituality
Contribute to Better Psychological Well-being across Different Racial/Ethnic Groups?” Annual
meeting of the American Public Health Association: Philadelphia, PA. November 2019.

Stroope, Samuel, **Blake Victor Kent**, Alka Kanaya, and Alexandra E. Shields. “Mental Health and
Self-Rated Health among South Asians in the United States: The Role of Religious Involvement in
the MASALA Study.” Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion: St. Louis,
MO. October 2019.

Kent, Blake Victor and Matt Bradshaw. “Adolescent Context and Depressive Symptom
Trajectories in a National Sample: Ages 13 to 34.” Aging and the Life Course section refereed round
table. Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association: New York, NY. August 2019.

Kent, Blake Victor, Erica Warner, Tyler J. VanderWeele, and Alexandra E. Shields. Panel
Presentation. “Prevalence of Religious and Spiritual Practices and Beliefs in Diverse Racial/Ethnic
Groups: The Study on Stress, Spirituality, and Health.” Conference on Religion and Medicine:
Durham, NC. March 2019.
- 2017 **Kent, Blake Victor** and Matt Bradshaw. “Forgiveness, Attachment to God, and Mental Health
Outcomes in Older U.S. Adults: A Longitudinal Study.” Open refereed roundtable. Annual meeting
of the American Sociological Association: Montreal, Quebec. August 2017.

Kent, Blake Victor, Brad Wright, Christopher G. Ellison, and Richard Blackmon. "The Effect of Attending a Weekend Religious Service on Emotional Well-Being: Evidence from a Smartphone-Based Daily Diary Study." Annual Meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion. Montreal, Quebec. August 2017.

Kent, Blake Victor, Matt Bradshaw, Christopher G. Ellison, W. Matthew Henderson, and Bradley R.E. Wright. "Daily Stressors, Depression, Flourishing, and the Moderating Effect of Daily Spiritual Experiences: An Experience Sampling Study." Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association: Austin, TX. April 2017.

Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, and W. Matthew Henderson. "Early-Life Religious Involvement and Trajectories of Alcohol Abuse across Adolescence and Young Adulthood." Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society: Greenville, SC. March 2017.

2016 **Kent, Blake Victor**, Jeremy E. Uecker, and Matt Bradshaw. "Forgiveness, Attachment to God, and Mental Health Outcomes in Older U.S. Adults." Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Atlanta, GA. October 2016.

Kent, Blake Victor and W. Matthew Henderson. "On the Edge: Insecure and Anxious Attachments to God, Tenure, Race, and Participation in Congregational Life." Religion section refereed roundtable. Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association: Seattle, WA. August 2016.

Bradshaw, Matt, **Blake Victor Kent**, W. Matthew Henderson, and Anna C. Setar. "Attachment to God and General Trust in the United States Population." Annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion: Seattle, WA. August 2016.

Kent, Blake Victor, Matt Bradshaw, and Kevin D. Dougherty. "Attachment to God, Vocational Calling, and Worker Contentment." Annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society: Atlanta, GA. April 2016.

2015 Henderson, Matt and **Blake Victor Kent**. "Non-linear Attachment to God and Psychological Distress." Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion: Newport Beach, CA. October 2015.

Kent, Blake Victor. "To Know and Be Known: Divine Attachments, Intimacy and Biblical Literalism." Discussant. Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion: Newport Beach, CA. October 2015.

Kent, Blake Victor. "Prayer, Attachment to God, and Psychological Well-being in Later Life." Annual Meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association: Long Beach, CA. April 2015.

2014 **Kent, Blake Victor**. "Doubly Attached: God and Work." Panel presentation, "New Assessments of Religion and the Workplace." Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion: Indianapolis, IN. November 2014.

Kent, Blake Victor. "Ethnic Minorities in Southwest China: Resistance and Accommodation." Annual meeting of the Southwest Social Science Association: San Antonio, TX. April 2014.

GUEST LECTURES AND PANELS

2018 "The Meaning of Education." Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society, Baylor University

2017 "Preparing for Graduate School." Sociology Department, Baylor University

"Outlining Course Objectives." Sociology Department - Graduate Studies, Baylor University

"Getting Started with Data." Sociology Department - Graduate Studies, Baylor University

2016 "Teaching Your First Course." Sociology Department - Graduate Studies, Baylor University

2013 "Power and Politics." Sociology Department, Baylor University

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2019 Lilly Evidence-Based Teaching Conference, Austin, TX
- 2017 Seminar in Integral Humanism, Scala Foundation, Princeton Seminary, & Oxford University
- 2016 Seminar in Social Science & Religion, Program on Integrative Knowledge, Harvard University
- 2015 Seminar in Sociology, Virtue Ethics, & Human Flourishing, Yale University
- 2014-2015 Conyers Scholar, Baylor University Institute for Faith & Learning

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Reviewer *Journal of Aging & Health; Applied Research in Quality of Life; Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion; Preventive Medicine; Preventive Medicine Reports; Review of Religious Research; Sociology of Religion; Archive for the Psychology of Religion; Social Currents; Journal of Religion & Health; International Journal for the Psychology of Religion; Mental Health, Religion & Culture; Youth & Society; Journal of Psychology & Theology, Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health*
- 2020- Editorial Board, *Review of Religious Research*
- 2019- Board Member, Public Health, Religion, and Spirituality Network
- 2019 Selection committee, Field Experiments in Religion Research Network small grants program
- 2018 Selection committee, Baylor University Graduate School Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award
- 2017 Reviewer, “Reading Old Books and the Search for Relevance,” in *Stewards in the Academy: Christian Thought and the Academic Life*, Palgrave.
- 2016-2018 Accreditation committee, Baylor University Department of Sociology for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

MEDIA COVERAGE

Forbes, Huffington Post, USA Today, Inc., Medical News Today, Success Magazine, Yahoo! News, The Baptist Standard, Christianity Today, The Economic Times, Crux, USA Radio Network

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association – Sections on Medicine, Mental Health, and Religion
 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
 Religious Research Association
 Southern Sociological Society

SOFTWARE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

SAS • Stata • SPSS • NVivo • Photoshop • Lightroom