ADVANCING THE DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY OF RELIGION
CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Pew Research Center, 1615 L Street NW, Suite 800, Washington D.C.
Wednesday, March 30, 2016

9:00 REGISTRATION

10:00 OPENING SESSION
Pew Research Center’s Global Religious Demography Research
Conrad Hackett

Location: Mexico City/Los Angeles room

10:30 – 12:00 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

SESSION A1: Religion, Politics & Demography
Convenor: Gregory A. Smith  Timekeeper: Neha Sahgal
Location: Mexico City/Los Angeles room

How do state institutions and ethnic identity mediate religion’s influence on demographic behavior?
Kevin McQuillan

How are differences in HIV prevalence across and within countries related to religious and ethnic diversity?
Alex Weinreb & Jenny Trinitapoli

Can shifts in religious demography lead to political instability and even state collapse?
Monica Duffy Toft

How may the recent influx of refugees change the religious landscape of Europe?
Michaela Potančoková & Marcin Stonawski

How have party politics fueled the growth of Pentecostal Christianity in sub-Saharan Africa?
Elizabeth Sheridan Sperber

SESSION A2: Religion & Health
Convenor: Vegard Skirbekk  Timekeeper: Jessica Martinez
Location: Kinshasa room

Why isn’t religion more widely recognized and studied as a social determinant of health?
Ellen Idler

Do more religious people live longer and healthier lives across all populations, cultures, health domains and ways of expressing religious conviction?
Zachary Zimmer, Carol Jagger, Chi-Tsun Chiu

What are the relationships between religiosity and life-satisfaction in Japan and the United States?
Kimiko Tanaka, Nan E. Johnson, Jeong-Hwa Ho

Why does the religious composition of U.S. counties predict infant mortality rates even after controlling for confounding factors?
John P. Bartkowski, Gin García-Alejandro and Xiaohe Xu

Does religious involvement slow down cellular aging?
Terrence Hill
SESSION A3: Jewish Demography
Convenor: Alan Cooperman      Timekeeper: Claire Gecewicz      Location: Nairobi room

How has the American Jewish population grown and, in light of recent trends, what are the prospects for the future?
Steven M. Cohen

What are the sociological explanations for the demographic decline of Conservative Judaism?
Jonathan Zisook

What are the demographic differences between Jews and other major religious groups in the United States?
Uzi Rebhun

Is Jewish fertility in Israel driven primarily by religiosity or nationalism?
Evgenia Bystrov

How and why are fertility patterns changing in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza Strip?
Anaïs Simard-Gendron

12:00 CATERED LUNCH      Location: 6th Floor Atrium

1:15 – 2:45 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

SESSION B1: Religious Change
Convenor: David McClendon      Timekeeper: Besheer Mohamed      Location: Mexico City room

Could computer models of cognitive mechanisms improve projections of religious demography?
Justin Lane

How are religious changes in the United States exacerbating inequality in health and wellbeing?
Philipp Schwadel

Have men and women experienced different patterns of religious change in the United States? If so, why?
Lisa D. Pearce and Claire Chipman

Has mainline Protestantism in the United States declined because its liberal theology and wealthy, white demographic niche is alienating to fast-growing minority groups?
Rachel Bacon

How do people leaving Catholicism differ between Britain and the United States?
Stephen Bullivant
SESSION B2: Fertility and Family Formation
Convenor: Caryle Murphy Timekeeper: Aleksandra Sandstrom Location: Kinshasa room

Is religion the only reason Americans marry at young ages anymore?
Jeremy Uecker

How does religion shape union formation patterns in Canada?
Monica Boyd

Could the fertility of religious people limit the spread of secularization?
Landon Schnabel

Why do religious nones in Switzerland have only half as many children as the religiously active?
Marion Burkimsher

Is intermarriage driving the rise of the nones?
Ariela Keysar

SESSION B3: Data and Methods
Convenor: Juan Carlos Esparza Ochoa Timekeeper: Peter Henne Location: Nairobi room

What would you learn about spirituality if you interviewed people at various times on their cellphones?
Bradley Wright

How does our understanding of religion change with having more detail on sub-religions and data over time?
Gina Zurlo

What are the implications of a 34% undercount in the 2010 U.S. “Religion Census”?
J. Gordon Melton

Why is measuring religious affiliation in Europe so problematic, and how can the Swiss Metadatabase of Religious Affiliation in Europe (SMRE) help?
Antonius Liedhegener

How has the religious structure of Xinjiang, China, changed across space and time?
Wenjun Chen, Hongli Zhang, Shuming Bao

3:00 PANEL DISCUSSION Location: Mexico City/Los Angeles room
What are the most important unanswered questions demographers of religion can answer?
Panelists: Christopher Ellison, David Voas, Jenny Trinitapoli
Moderator: Alan Cooperman

4:30 – 6:00 COCKTAIL HOUR Location: 6th Floor Atrium