

RUTH BRAUNSTEIN

Department of Sociology • University of Connecticut
Unit 1068 • 344 Mansfield Road • Storrs, CT 06269
phone: 917.273.5292 • e-mail: ruth.braunstein@gmail.com • web: www.ruthbraunstein.com

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2013- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut

EDUCATION

2013 Ph.D., Sociology, New York University

2008 M.A., Sociology, New York University

2003 B.S., Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS:

Braunstein, Ruth. 2017. *Prophets and Patriots: Faith in Democracy Across the Political Divide*. University of California Press.

Braunstein, Ruth, Todd Nicholas Fuist and Rhys H. Williams, Eds. 2017. *Religion and Progressive Activism: New Stories about Faith and Politics*. NYU Press.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

Braunstein, Ruth and Malaena Taylor. 2017. "Is the Tea Party a "Religious" Movement? Religiosity in the Tea Party versus the Religious Right." *Sociology of Religion* 78(1): 33-59.

Braunstein, Ruth. 2015. "The Tea Party Goes to Washington: Mass Demonstrations as Performative and Interactional Processes." *Qualitative Sociology* 38(4): 353-374. (Lead article)

➤ *Original photograph by author featured on journal cover*

Yukich, Grace and Ruth Braunstein. 2014. "Encounters at the Religious Edge: Variation in Religious Expression Across Interfaith Advocacy and Social Movement Spaces." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 53(4): 791-807.

Braunstein, Ruth, Brad Fulton, and Richard L. Wood. 2014. "The Role of Bridging Cultural Practices in Racially and Socioeconomically Diverse Civic Organizations." *American Sociological Review* 79(4): 705-25.

➤ *Winner of the Clifford Geertz Best Article Award from the American Sociological Association Section on the Sociology of Culture*

➤ *Winner of the Dennis Gouran Research Award from the Group Communication Division of the National Communication Association*

➤ *Reviewed in The Society Pages and Work in Progress (blog of the American Sociological Association's Organizations, Occupations, and Work Section)*

Braunstein, Ruth. 2012. "Storytelling in Liberal Religious Advocacy." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 51(1): 110-127.

➤ *Winner of Graduate Student Paper Award Honorable Mention from the American Sociological Association Section on the Sociology of Religion*

Braunstein, Ruth. 2011. "Who Are 'We the People'?" *Contexts* Spring 2011.

➤ *Includes original photographs by author*

Manza, Jeff and Ruth Braunstein. 2008. "Beyond the Ballot Box: Social Groups and Voting in Democratic Elections." *Harvard International Review* 30(1): 40-43.

BOOK CHAPTERS:

Braunstein, Ruth. 2017. "Strategic Storytelling by Nuns on the Bus." Pp.289-307 in *Religion and Progressive Activism: New Stories about Faith and Politics*, Ruth Braunstein, Todd Nicholas Fuist and Rhys H. Williams, Eds. New York: NYU Press.

Braunstein, Ruth. 2014. "Who Are 'We the People'? Multidimensional Identity Work in the Tea Party." Pp. 149-173 in *Understanding the Tea Party Movement*, Nella Van Dyke and David S. Meyer, Eds. Ashgate.

➤ *Reviewed in Contemporary Sociology (January 2016)*

Braunstein, Ruth. "From the Classroom to the Courtroom: The Intelligent Design Movement as a Challenge to Authority," in *Creating Authority*, Craig Calhoun and Richard Sennett, Eds. New York: NYU Press. (*Accepted for publication*)

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION:

Braunstein, Ruth. "Muslims as Outsiders, Enemies and Others: The 2016 Presidential Campaign and the Politics of Religious Exclusion." *American Journal of Cultural Sociology* (Accepted for publication).

Braunstein, Ruth. "Good Citizens/Bad Citizens: Civility Discourse as Symbolic Boundary-Work." (Under review)

PUBLIC WRITING AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

Braunstein, Ruth, Editor. 2016. Series on "The Politics of National Identity," with contributions from Mucahit Bilici, Rogers Brubaker, Philip Gorski, Peggy Levitt and Geneviève Zubrzycki. *The Immanent Frame*.

Braunstein, Ruth. 2016. "Mitt Romney & the Tea Party helped make Donald Trump... Can they unmake him?" *Political Power & Social Theory: The Blogpages*.

Braunstein, Ruth and Fiona Rose-Greenland. 2015. First-Time Book Authors Writing Workshop, featuring Eviatar Zerubavel. Culture Newsletter of the Culture Section of the American Sociological Association.

Braunstein, Ruth (Contributor). 2015. "Roundtable: Is the (Tea) Party Over?" Edited by Erik Kojola and Jack Delehanty. *The Society Pages*.

Braunstein, Ruth. 2014. "The Good, the Bad, and the Uncivil." *Participation and its Discontents*. A Blog In Collaboration with the ASA Political Sociology Section.

Braunstein, Ruth and Melissa Aronczyk. 2013. "Culture in NYLON." Culture Newsletter of the Culture Section of the American Sociological Association (Spring).

Braunstein, Ruth. 2010. "Blogging and Academia," in the Social Science Research Council report, "The New Landscape of the Religion Blogosphere."

Braunstein, Ruth. 2011. "I would love to read the biography of a book..." (Interview with Fred Appel, Senior Editor, Princeton University Press). *The Immanent Frame*.

Alberts, Thomas, Ruth Braunstein, David Buckley and Grace Yukich. 2010. "Skyping Secularism: Religion And Multiple Modernities," *The Immanent Frame*.

- Braunstein, Ruth and Grace Yukich. 2010. "Toward a Sociology of Social Religion." *The Immanent Frame*.
- Braunstein, Ruth, David Buckley and Grace Yukich. 2010. "Discussing Mosques, Minarets, And Crosses." *The Immanent Frame*.
- Braunstein, Ruth. 2008. "Obama's Faith in the Common Good." *The Immanent Frame*.
- Braunstein, Ruth. 2008. "Voting in a Year When 'Muslim' Was a Slur." *The Immanent Frame*.
- Braunstein, Ruth. 2007. "Election 2008: Union Endorsements of Presidential Candidates." *In Critical Solidarity*. Volume 7, Number 3, December 2007.
- Braunstein, Ruth. 2007. "On the Hill: Legislative Update." *In Critical Solidarity*. Volume 7, Number 3, December 2007.

GRANTS, HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016
- Clifford Geertz Best Article Award from the American Sociological Association Section on the Sociology of Culture
 - College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Book Support Grant, Humanities Institute, University of Connecticut (\$1,200)
 - Fellowship, Public Discourse Project, Humanities Institute, University of Connecticut
 - Research Grant, Public Discourse Project, Humanities Institute, University of Connecticut (\$1,630)
- 2015
- Dennis Gouran Research Award, Group Communication Division, National Communication Association
 - Publication Grant, University of Connecticut, Scholarship Facilitation Fund (\$2,000)
- 2014
- Summer/Short-Term Research Publication Grant, AAUW American Fellowships (\$6,000)
- 2012
- Dissertation Grant Award, NYU Department of Sociology (\$1,000)
 - Delegate, Researching the Contemporary Moral Landscape (Centre for Religion and Contemporary Society, University of Kent)
 - Invited Participant, Young Scholars in Social Movements Conference, Center for the Study of Social Movements, Notre Dame University
- 2011
- Graduate Student Paper Award (Honorable Mention), American Sociological Association Section on the Sociology of Religion
 - Fellow, Berlin Summer School in the Social Sciences: Linking Theory & Empirical Research
- 2010
- Dissertation Grant Award, NYU Department of Sociology (\$1,000)
 - Student Travel Grant, NYU Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (\$500)
 - Fellow, Institute for Human Sciences, International Summer Program in Philosophy & Politics, Cortona, Italy
 - Collaborative Research Funding with Craig Calhoun, NYU Department of Sociology (\$3,000)
- 2009
- Student Travel Grant, NYU Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (\$500)
 - Collaborative Research Funding with Jeff Manza, NYU Department of Sociology (\$3,000)
- 2006
- Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship (5-Year Award), New York University
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INVITED LECTURES AND PUBLIC TALKS

- “Putting Faith in Action in the Tea Party and Faith-Based Community Organizing” at the Religion and Politics in American Public Life Lecture Series, jointly sponsored by the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life; the Department of Political Science; and the Department of Religion, Columbia University, April 28, 2016, New York, NY.
- “Religion, Nationalism and the Tea Party Movement,” at the UConn Center for Learning in Retirement (CLIR), April 21, 2016, Storrs, CT.
- “Prophets and Patriots: Faith in Democracy Across the Political Divide” at the Storrs/Willimantic Branch of the AAUW, April 6, 2016, Willimantic, CT.
- “Making Sense of the Topsy-Turvy 2016 Presidential Race” (Panelist). University of Connecticut Alumni Association. March 31, 2016, Boston, MA.
- “Putting Faith (in Democracy) in Action in Tea Party and Faith-Based Community Organizing” at the Penn Urban Ethnography Workshop, University of Pennsylvania, February 12, 2016, Philadelphia, PA.
- “Making Sense of the Topsy-Turvy 2016 Presidential Race” (Panelist). University of Connecticut Alumni Association. December 2, 2015, Hartford, CT.
- “Good Citizen / Bad Citizen: Civility Discourse as Boundary-Work” at the University of Connecticut Humanities Institute Public Discourse Project Seminar, November 16, 2015, Storrs, CT.
- “Religion, Nationalism, and the Tea Party Movement” at the Sociology Department Colloquium (Co-sponsored by the Government Department), Colby College, November 4, 2015, Waterville, ME.
- “Good Citizen / Bad Citizen: Civility Discourse as Boundary-Work” at the Center for Cultural Sociology Workshop, Yale University, October 9, 2015, New Haven, CT.
- “Prophets and Patriots: Practicing Citizenship Across the Political Divide” at the Joint Meeting of the Lower CT Valley and Shoreline Branches of the AAUW, April 15, 2015, Westbrook, CT.
- “Citizens, Government, and God: The Democratic Imagination in Community Organizing and the Tea Party” at the Religion & Politics Colloquium, The MacMillan Center Initiative on Religion, Politics and Society, Yale University, March 24, 2014, New Haven, CT.
- “Holding Government Accountable: How Cultural Logics Shape Democratic Practice in Community Organizing and the Tea Party” at Lehigh University’s Humanities Center Panel on Contemporary Political Movements: Decoding the Political Tides: The Tea Party & Occupy Wall Street, April 2, 2013, Bethlehem, PA.
- “Accountability is in Relationships,” at the Craft of Ethnography Workshop, Dec. 7, 2011, New York, NY.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Render unto Caesar? Tax Resistance, Government Power, and Higher Powers” at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, October 23-25, 2015, Newport Beach, CA.
- “Religious Diversity and Heterogeneity in the Tea Party Movement” at the Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, August 21, 2015, Chicago, IL.
- “Taxes as Democratic Infrastructure: Moral Discourses of Mutual Obligation in Community Organizing and the Tea Party” at the Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, November 6-9, 2014, Toronto.

CURRICULUM VITAE

- “The Moral of the Story: Strategic Storytelling by Nuns on the Bus” at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, October 31-November 2, 2014, Indianapolis, IN.
- “The Participation Initiative,” Section on Political Sociology Invited Session at the American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, August 19, 2014, San Francisco, CA.
- “The Moral of the Story: Strategic Storytelling by Nuns on the Bus” at the Thematic Session: Progressive Religious and Social Activism: New Stories of Faith and Politics in America (co-sponsored with the Association for the Sociology of Religion) at the American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, August 18, 2014, San Francisco, CA.
- “Talking about Taxation: Moral Logics of Obligation in Community Organizing and the Tea Party” at the American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, August 17, 2014, San Francisco, CA.
- “Talking about Taxation: Moral Logics of Obligation in Community Organizing and the Tea Party” at the Center for Cultural Sociology Anniversary Conference, Advancing Cultural Sociology, Yale University, April 25-27, 2014, New Haven, CT.
- “Citizens, Government, and God: The Democratic Imagination in Community Organizing and the Tea Party” at the Comparative-Historical Sociology/Political Sociology Miniconference on “Capitalism, the Politics of Inequality, and Historical Change,” August 14, 2013, New York, NY.
- “Bridging Diversity: Social Capital, Solidarity, And Prayer In Faith-Based Community Organizing” (with Richard L. Wood and Brad Fulton) at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, November 8-10, 2013, Boston, MA.
- “Religious Practices Bridge Class Inequalities: Ethnographic and Survey Data from a Social Movement Sector” (with Richard L. Wood and Brad Fulton) at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 10, 2013, New York, NY.
- “Holding Government Accountable: How Cultural Logics Shape Democratic Practice in Community Organizing and the Tea Party”
- at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, March 22-24, 2013, Boston, MA.
 - at the Yale University Center for Comparative Research Graduate Student Conference: The Location of Meaning, The Meaning of Location, January 26, 2013, New Haven, CT.
 - at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 19, 2012, Denver, CO.
- “Negotiating Position Asymmetries in Multisite Comparative Ethnographic Research” at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, November 9-11, 2012, Phoenix, AZ.
- “Who are ‘We the People’? Negotiating Multidimensional Collective Identity in the Tea Party,” at the Third Annual Young Scholars in Social Movements Mini-Conference hosted by the Center for the Study of Social Movements, University of Notre Dame, May 4, 2012, South Bend, IN.
- “Varieties of Populist Politics,” at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, February 23-26, 2012, New York, NY.
- “God-Given Rights or Faithful Covenant? Religiopolitical Discourses and Cultures of Accountability in Citizen Activism” at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, October 28-30, 2011, Milwaukee, WI.
- “Emotional Dynamics of Collective Identity Formation in the Tea Party: Restoring Honor Rally as a Ritual of Recognition,” at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 22, 2011, Las Vegas.
- “The Movement for the Common Good: Bridging the Transcendent and the Transformative,” at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, October 29-31, 2010, Baltimore, MD.

CURRICULUM VITAE

“Representing ‘People of Faith’ in Washington: Religious Advocates as Moral Experts” at the Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, August 8-11, 2009, San Francisco, CA.

“Promoting Professional Expertise for the Public ‘Good’? Unintended Consequences of Scientific-Judicial Alignment in Debates Over Evolution” at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 8-11, 2009, San Francisco, CA.

“Challenging Religious-Secular Distinctions in the Study of Public Policy Advocacy” at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, March 19-22, 2009, Baltimore, MD.

COURSES TAUGHT

2016-2017	<i>Graduate Social Movements</i> , Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut <i>Introduction to Sociology</i> , Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut
2015-2016	<i>Introduction to Sociology</i> , Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut
2014-2015	<i>Graduate Political Sociology</i> , Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut <i>Introduction to Sociology</i> , Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut <i>Social Movements and Social Change</i> , Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut
2013-2014	<i>Social Movements and Social Change</i> , Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut <i>Political Sociology</i> , Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut
Winter 2012	<i>Wealth and Inequality</i> , Teaching Assistant for Dr. Jeff Manza, Dept. of Sociology, NYU
Fall 2007	<i>Sociology of Religion</i> , Teaching Assistant for Dr. Gerald Marwell, Dept. of Sociology, NYU

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Discipline:

Reviewer: *American Journal of Cultural Sociology*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Politics Research*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Sociological Review*, *Contexts*, *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, *Mobilization*, *Research in Social Movements Conflicts and Change*, *Qualitative Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Sociology of Religion*, *The Sociological Quarterly*

Editorial Board Member, *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review* (2017-2020)

Committee Chair, Shils-Coleman Award for Best Student Paper, ASA Theory Section (2017)

Nomination Committee Member, ASA Religion Section (2016-2017)

Council Member, Association for the Sociology of Religion (2016-2019)

Faculty Fellow, Center for Cultural Sociology, Yale University (2016-)

Committee Member, Richard A. Peterson Award for Best Student Paper, ASA Culture Section (2016)

Nominating Committee Member, ASA History of Sociology Section (2014-2015)

Graduate Student Representative, ASA Culture Section (2013-2014)

CURRICULUM VITAE

Graduate Student Prize Committee, ASA History of Sociology Section (2012-2013)

Editorial Collective Member, *In Critical Solidarity*. Newsletter of the American Sociological Association's Section on Labor and Labor Movements (2007-2010)

Conference session convener/organizer:

- “Invited Session: Religion and the Politics of National Identity,” (Co-Sponsored by the Sociology of Religion and Culture Sections) at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 20-23, 2016, Seattle, WA.
- “Religion and the Tea Party” at the Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, August 21, 2015, Chicago, IL.
- “Progressive Religion in the United States: Remapping the Political Landscape” at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, November 8-10, 2013, Boston, MA. (with Rhys H. Williams and Todd Nicholas Fuist)
- “Inside, Outside and Between: Theory, Method and Ethics in Multi-Site Ethnography” at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, November 9-11, 2012, Phoenix, AZ. (with Jeffrey Guhin)
- “Populist Resurgence? Economic Crisis and Social Activism Across the Political Spectrum” at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, February 23-26, 2012, New York, NY.

Interdisciplinary:

Organizer, Interdisciplinary conference on Religious Conviction and Intellectual Humility in Public Life, UConn Humanities Institute, Humility and Conviction in Public Life Project, April 21-22, 2017, Storrs, CT.

Editorial Board Member, *The Immanent Frame*, Social Science Research Council (2016-)

Participant, Consultation, *Religion Dispatches* (September 2015)

Editor at Large (and former Managing Editor), *The Immanent Frame*, Social Science Research Council (2007-2015)

Coordinator, NYLON Research Network (2008-2011)

Organizer, Emerging Scholars of Religion and Public Life Network (co-sponsored by the Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University and the Social Science Research Council) (2009-2010)

University of Connecticut:

Core Faculty Member, Humility and Conviction in Public Life Project, Humanities Institute (2015-)

Executive Committee, Department of Sociology (2015-)

Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology (2015-2016)

Undergraduate Program Committee, Department of Sociology (2013-2015)

Colloquia & Rituals Committee, Department of Sociology (2013-2015)

New York University:

Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology (2009-2010)

Graduate Student Association Representative, Department of Sociology (2007-2008)

Graduate Student Spring Conference Committee, Department of Sociology (2006-2007)

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association (ASA)

Section Memberships: Altruism, Morality and Social Solidarity, Collective Behavior and Social Movements, History of Sociology, Political Sociology, Sociology of Religion, Sociology of Culture, Theory

Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR)

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)

Social Science History Association (SSHA)