

Sharon Erickson Nepstad

Curriculum Vitae

May 2009

Professor of Sociology & Director of Religious Studies
University of New Mexico
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Education

- Postdoctoral Fellow, Princeton University, Center for the Study of Religion (2001-2002)
- Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Colorado-Boulder (1996)
- B.A. in Psychology, Bethel University of St. Paul, *summa cum laude* (1986)

Academic Positions

2009–present Professor of Sociology and Director of Religious Studies,
University of New Mexico

2008 Visiting Fellow, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies,
University of Notre Dame

2007-2008 Professor of Sociology & Director of Religious Studies, University
of Southern Maine

2005-2007 Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Southern Maine

1999-2005 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Duquesne University

1996-1999 Assistant Professor of Sociology and Director of Peace Studies,
Regis University

Areas of Specialization

- Social Movements
- Sociology of Religion
- Peace Studies
- Political Sociology

Scholarship

Books

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2008. *Religion and War Resistance in the Plowshares Movement*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2004. *Convictions of the Soul: Religion, Culture, and Agency in the Central America Solidarity Movement*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Peer-Reviewed Articles & Book Chapters

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. Forthcoming in 2009. "Disruptive Action and the Prophetic Tradition: War Resistance in the Plowshares Movement." *U.S. Catholic Historian* 27(2).

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson and Stellan Vinthagen. 2008. "Strategic Changes and Cultural Adaptations: Explaining Differential Outcomes in the International Plowshares Movement." *International Journal of Peace Studies* 13(1): 15-42. [Revised version to be published in 2010 in Jeff Goodwin and Gregory Maney's (eds.) *Strategy in Action*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.]

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson and Rhys H. Williams. 2007. "Religion in Rebellion, Resistance, and Change." Pp. 403-421 in *Handbook of Sociology of Religion*, edited by N.J. Nemerath III and James Beckford. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2007. "Oppositional Consciousness Among the Privileged: Remaking Religion in the Central America Solidarity Movement." *Critical Sociology* 33(4): 661-688.

Bob, Clifford and Sharon Erickson Nepstad. 2007. "Kill a Leader, Murder a Movement? Leadership and Assassination in Social Movements." *American Behavioral Scientist* 50 (10): 1370-1394.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson and Clifford Bob. 2006. "When Do Leaders Matter? Hypotheses on Leadership Dynamics in Social Movements." *Mobilization* 11(1): 21-42.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2004. "Disciples and Dissenters: Tactical Choice and Consequences in the Plowshares Movement." *Research in Social Movements, Conflict, and Change* 25: 139-160.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2004. "Religion, Violence, and Peacemaking." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 43(3): 297-301.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2004. "Persistent Resistance: Commitment and Community in the Plowshares Movement." *Social Problems* 51 (1): 43-60.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2004. "The Role of the Church in International Peacebuilding and Development: Lessons from the U.S.-Central America Solidarity Movement." *Journal of Peacebuilding and Development* 1(3): 20-34.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson and Christian Smith. 2001. "The Social Structure of Moral Outrage in Recruitment to the U.S.-Central America Peace Movement." Pp. 158-174 in *Passionate Politics: Emotions and Social Movements*. Edited by Jeffrey Goodwin, James Jasper, and Francesca Polletta. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2001. "Creating Transnational Solidarity: The Use of Narrative in the U.S.-Central America Peace Movement." *Mobilization* 6 (1): 21-36. (Reprinted in 2002 in *Globalization and Resistance: Transnational Dimensions of Social Movements*. Edited by Jackie Smith and Hank Johnston. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.)

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2000. "School of the Americas Watch." *Peace Review* 12 (1): 67-72.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson and Christian Smith. 1999. "Rethinking Recruitment to High-Risk/Cost Activism: The Case of Nicaragua Exchange." *Mobilization* 4 (1): 40- 51.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 1997. "The Process of Cognitive Liberation: Cultural Synapses, Links, and Frame Contradictions in the U.S.—Central America Peace Movement." *Sociological Inquiry* 67 (4): 470-487.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 1996. "Popular Religion, Protest, and Revolt: The Emergence of Political Insurgency in the Nicaraguan and Salvadoran Churches of the 1960s-1980s. Pp. 105-124 in *Disruptive Religion: The Force of Faith in Social Movement Activism*. Edited by Christian S. Smith. New York: Routledge.

Wehr, Paul and Sharon Erickson Nepstad. 1994. "Violence, Nonviolence, and Justice in Sandinista Nicaragua." Pp. 81-98 in *Justice Without Violence*. Edited by Paul Wehr, Guy Burgess, and Heidi Burgess. Boulder, CO: Lynne Reiner Publishers.

Roe, Michael, Carolina Warner, and Sharon Erickson. 1986. "A Phenomenological Exploration of Feminism and Christian Orthodoxy." *Journal of Christianity and Psychology* 5:30-38.

Essays and Encyclopedia Entries

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. Forthcoming in 2009. "War Resistance and the Catholic Left." In the *Oxford International Encyclopedia of Peace*. Edited by Nigel Young. New York: Oxford University Press.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. Forthcoming in 2009. "The Sanctuary Movement." In the *Oxford International Encyclopedia of Peace*. Edited by Nigel Young. New York: Oxford University Press.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 2005. "The Continuing Relevance of Coser's Theory of Conflict." *Sociological Forum* 20(2): 323-325.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 1997. "Nicaragua, Nonviolence and Revolution." Pp. 351-353 in *Protest, Power, and Change: Nonviolent Action from ACT-UP to Women's Suffrage*. Edited by Roger S. Powers and William B. Voegelé. New York: Garland Publishers.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. 1997. "The U.S. Sanctuary Movement." Pp. 456-458 in *Protest, Power, and Change: Nonviolent Action from ACT-UP to Women's Suffrage*. Edited by Roger S. Powers and William B. Voegelé. New York: Garland Publishers.

Book Reviews

Forthcoming in 2009. Review of Paul Christopher Johnson's *Diaspora Conversions: Black Carib Religion and the Recovery of Africa* (University of California Press). *American Journal of Sociology* 114(6).

Forthcoming in 2009. Review of David Cortright's *Peace: A History of Movements and Ideas* (Cambridge University Press). *Peace Review*.

Forthcoming in 2009. Review of David Smilde's *Reason to Believe: Cultural Agency in Latin American Evangelicalism* (University of California Press). *Sociology of Religion*.

2008. Review of Heidi Swarts' *Organizing Urban America: Secular and Faith-Based Progressive Movements* (University of Minnesota Press). *Mobilization* 13(4): 447-448.
2008. Review of Paul Almeida's *Waves of Protest: Popular Struggle in El Salvador, 1925-2005* (University of Minnesota Press), *Canadian Journal of Sociology* 33(3): 730-732.
2007. Review of T.V. Reed's *The Art of Protest: Culture and Activism from the Civil Rights Movement to the Streets of Seattle* (University of Minnesota Press), *Social Forces* 86(2): 877-879.
2005. Review of Allen D. Hertzke's *Freeing God's Children: The Unlikely Alliance for Global Human Rights* (Rowman & Littlefield), *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 44(1): 115.
2004. Review of Thomas J. Linneman's *Weathering Change: Gays and Lesbians, Christian Conservatives, and Everyday Hostilities* (New York University Press), *American Journal of Sociology* 110(1): 252-254.
2003. Review of Robert Wuthnow and John H. Evans (eds.) *The Quiet Hand of God: Faith-Based Activism and the Public Role of Mainline Protestantism* (University of California Press). *Contemporary Sociology* 32(6): 754-756.
2002. Review of John Burdick and W.E. Hewitt (eds.) *The Church at the Grassroots in Latin America: Perspectives on Thirty Years of Activism* (Praeger), *Contemporary Sociology* 31(2): 196-197.
2000. Review of Philip D. Oxhorn and Graciela Ducatenzeiler (eds.) *What Kind of Democracy? What Kind of Market? Latin America in the Age of Neoliberalism* (Penn State Press), *Contemporary Sociology* 29 (4): 662-663.
1999. Review of Jackie Smith, Charles Chatfield, and Ron Pagnucco (eds.) *Transnational Social Movements and Global Politics* (Syracuse University Press), *Contemporary Sociology* 28 (1): 94.

Works in Progress

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. *Revolutionary Nonviolence: Democratic Uprisings in the Late 20th Century*. Book manuscript. Anticipated date of completion: August 2009.

Nepstad, Sharon Erickson. "The Benefits of Repression: How Sanctions Can Strengthen Social Movements." To be submitted to *Social Problems*.

Grants

2004. "Prophetic Provocation: War Resistance in the Plowshares Movement" \$2,000 funded by the Presidential Scholarship Grant, Duquesne University.

2003. "The European Plowshares Movement." \$1,800, funded by the Philip H. and Betty L. Wimmer Family Foundation Award, Duquesne University.

2001. "Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges: Creating Peace in Cyprus." \$26,350 funded by AMIDEAST for a conflict resolution training for Greek & Turkish Cypriots.

2000. "Swords into Plowshares: Radical Politics and the Catholic Left." \$4,800 funded by Duquesne University's Faculty Research Fund.

Scholarly Presentations

2009. "Religion and Mutiny in 20th Century Nonviolent Uprisings." To be presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, San Francisco.

2008. "What Makes Nonviolence Work? Comparing the Democracy Movements in China and East Germany." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Boston.

2007. "Cultural Dilemmas in Cross-national Collective Action: The Case of The International Plowshares Movement" (with Stellan Vinthagen). Presented at the Collective Behavior and Social Movements Workshop of the American Sociological Association, Hofstra University.

2006. "Kill a Leader, Murder a Movement? Leadership and Assassination in Social Movements" (with Clifford Bob). Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Montreal.

2005. "The Latent Functions of Social Movement Repression." Accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia.

2004. "Alternative Meanings of Conversion in the Catholic Left." Presented at the annual meeting of the Latin American Studies Association, Las Vegas.

2004. "Who Leads? Sources of Social Movement Leadership" (with Cliff Bob). Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco.

2003. "Politicizing the Cultural Resources of Christianity: Progressive Religion in the Central America Solidarity Movement." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Atlanta.

2002. "Persistent Resistance: Community and Abeyance in the Plowshares Movement." Presented at the annual meeting of American Sociological Association, Chicago.

2002. "The Political and Religious Resistance of the Plowshares Movement." Presented at the Collective Behavior and Social Movements Workshop of the American Sociological Association. Notre Dame University.

2001. "Changing Perspectives: Political Socialization and Ideological Transformation." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Anaheim.

2000. "Creating Transnational Solidarity: The Use of Narrative in the U.S.-Central America Peace Movement." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Washington DC.

1998. "The Social Structure of Moral Outrage in Recruitment to the U.S.-Central America Peace Movement." Presented at the Collective Behavior and Social Movements Workshop of the American Sociological Association, University of California-Davis.

1997. "The Role of Social Ties in High-Risk Activism: The Case of Nicaragua Exchange." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Toronto.

1996. "Micro-mobilization and the Diffusion of Injustice Frames in the Central America Peace Movement." Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York.

1996. "Biographical Availability and Stability in the U.S. Central America Peace Movement" (with Christian Smith). Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York.

1995. "Indignation and Action: The Development of Insurgent Consciousness in the Central America Peace Movement." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Washington DC.

1995. "Catholicism in the Nicaraguan and Cuban Revolutions." Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society Meeting, Chicago.

1994. "Recruitment into High-Risk Activism: An Examination of the Nicaraguan Solidarity Movement. Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Los Angeles.

1993. "The Great and Little Traditions in Sandinista Nicaragua: Roman Catholicism, the Popular Church, and Political Protest." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Miami.

1992. "Conflict Reduction in Nicaragua" (with Paul Wehr). Presented at the annual meeting of the Peace Studies Association, Boulder.

Invited Presentations

2008. "Revolutionary Nonviolence: Success and Failure in Late 20th Century Democracy Movements." Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame.

2008. "The Religious Roots of Resistance in the Plowshares Movement." Interdisciplinary Workshop on American Religion, University of Notre Dame.

2005. "Social Movement Leadership" with Clifford Bob. Pittsburgh Social Movements Forum, University of Pittsburgh.

2004. "Catholics, Peacemaking, and Social Action: What North America Can Learn from Central America." Loyola Marymount University.

2002. "Community and Persistence in the Catholic Left and the Plowshares Movement." Pittsburgh Social Movements Forum, University of Pittsburgh.

2002. Author Meets Critic panel participant for Stephen Hart's *Cultural Dilemmas of Progressive Politics* (University of Chicago Press). Annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, Chicago.

2002. "Plowshares Theology and Practice." Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University.

2001. "Sustaining Religious Resistance to War: The Role of Catholic Left Communities in the Plowshares Movement." Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University.

1994. "The State of Contemporary Cuba." Educational Ethnography Forum, University of Colorado.

Scholarly Awards

2009. Nominee for the Outstanding Book Award for *Religion and War Resistance in the Plowshares Movement*, American Sociological Association section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements, and the Peace, War, and Social Conflict section.
2008. Winner of the Faculty Senate Award for Excellence in Scholarship, University of Southern Maine.
2006. Nominee for the Outstanding Book Award, American Sociological Association section on Sociology of Religion.
1996. Nominee for the 1996 Feminist Scholars Elizabeth Mathiot Memorial Award, University of Colorado.
1995. Winner of the Graduate Student Research and Creative Work Award, University of Colorado.
1995. Winner of the Merle Adams Outstanding Graduate Student Theory Paper Award.

Teaching

Teaching Awards

2007. Nominee for the Emerging Teacher-Scholar Award, University of Southern Maine.
2003. Nominee for the 2003 Omicron Delta Kappa Nominee, Teacher of the Year Award, Duquesne University.
1995. Co-winner of the Pew Teaching Leadership Award.
- 1992-1993. Winner of the Graduate Teacher Excellency Award, University of Colorado-Boulder.

Published Teaching Resources

2003. Syllabus for Community Organizing and Social Movements, printed in the American Sociological Association Teaching Resource Guide, *Social Movements and Collective Action*, edited by Bob Edwards, Marieke Van Willigen, and Tisha Yelverton.
2003. Syllabus for Introduction to Peace and Justice Studies, printed in the American Sociological Association Teaching Resource Guide, *Teaching the Sociology of Peace and War: A Curriculum Guide*, edited by John McDougall and Morten Ender.

Courses Taught

Undergraduate

Introduction to Sociology
Sociology of Religion
Social Movements
Introduction to Peace Studies
Peace and Conflict in Northern Ireland
Nonviolent Social Change
American Religious Peace Movements
Qualitative Research Methods

Graduate

Social Movements
Theories of Conflict
Nonviolent Social Change

Teaching Presentations and Workshops

2001. "Presenting your Teaching Experience in the Job Search" with Laurel Willingham-McClean. Duquesne's Center for Teaching Excellence, Pittsburgh.
1996. "Incorporating Race, Class, and Gender into Your Curriculum" with Suzanne Leahy and Rose Ann Rentería. Workshop for the Pew Annual Conference on Training and Employment of Graduate Teaching Assistants, Denver.
1995. "Tricks of the Teaching Trade." Workshop for Graduate Instructors sponsored by the Teaching Excellence Program, University of Colorado-Boulder.

Academic Mentoring

Masters Thesis Supervision (Duquesne University)

Jane Walsh (2005), "Migrant Mobilization: Factors Contributing to the Success of the Coalition of Imokalee Workers."

Nancy Matteuzzi Bruni (2005), "Political Neutrality and Humanitarian Aid: Practical Implications of Organizational Ideology."

Erin Lyttle (2004), "Navigating a Chartered Course: A Comparison of Governance and Instructional Philosophy in Pittsburgh Public Schools."

Damon Bethea (2004), "Faith-Based Organizing and Partnership in a Pittsburgh Neighborhood: A Look at East Liberty."

Nicole Johnson (2003), "Liberation Theology in Post-Revolutionary Nicaragua."

Erin Rizer (2003), "Bound by Apron Strings: A Study of the Perpetuation of Traditional Gender Role Stereotypes in Primetime Television Commercials."

Jason Sullivan (2001), "Sintierra: An Evaluation of the Paraguayan Landless Peasant Movement."

Lori Schreier (2001), "Assessing the Use and Impact of Emotional Intelligence in Mediation and Mediation Training."

Eric Wiesen (2000), "Understanding and Overcoming the Structural Obstacles to Successful and Sustainable Rural Community Development Work in the Third World."

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees

Nathan Harrington (2005), "Central America Solidarity: Twilight of a Movement or a New Globalization from Below?" Bates College.

Jill Anderson (1999), "The Promise Keepers, Gender Attitudes, and the Patriarchal Bargain." Regis University.

Service

To the Profession

American Sociological Association Service

Peace, War and Social Conflict Section

Section Chair, 2004-2005

Council Member, 2001-2004

Session Organizer and Presider, 2002-2004

Chair of the Nominations Committee, 2004-2005

Distinguished Career Award Committee, 2004-2006

Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section

Publications Committee member, 2008-2011

Program Committee, 2006-2007

Sociology of Religion Section,

Student Paper Awards Committee, 2002 and 2003.

Regular Session Organizer, 2006 Annual Meeting

Peer Reviewer

Article manuscript reviewer for the following journals: *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Problems*, *Sociological Inquiry*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Mobilization*, *Review of Religious Research*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Research in Social Movements*, *Conflict, and Change*, *Latin American Research Review*.

Book manuscript reviewer for the University of California Press and Rowman & Littlefield Press.

To the University of New Mexico Sociology Department

Member of the Executive Council, 2009-2010

To the Duquesne Sociology Department

Member of the Executive Advisory Council, 2002-2004

Member of the Faculty Search Committee, 2003-2005

Representative to the Presidential Advisory Committee, 2004-2005

Member of the Curriculum Committee, 2004-2005

To Duquesne's Graduate Center for Social and Public Policy

Member of the Curriculum Committee, 1999-2000, 2003-2004

Chair of the Peace Studies Curriculum Subcommittee, 1999-2000 and 2003-2004

Member of the Director Search Committee, 2000-2001

Member of the Recruitment Committee, 2002-2003, 2004-2005

Member of the Committee on the Center for Catholic Social Thought, 2003

Member of Faculty Search Committee for Conflict Resolution & Peace Studies, 2002-2003

To Regis University

Director, Peace and Justice Studies, 1997-1999

Presidential Advisory Committee, 1998-1999

To the Community

Member of the Board of Directors, *Sexto Sol Center for Community Action* (a center for consulting on sustainable development, environmental reclamation projects, community organizing, and research.) Chiapas, Mexico, 1997-present.

Consultant, *Bold Leaders Project* (youth training program in Northern Ireland.) 1998-2000.

Steering Committee member, *Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center*, Boulder, Colorado, 1993-1999.

President, Co-founder, Trainer, and Mediator, *VORP of Boulder County* (Victim Offender Reconciliation Program, a mediation program for juvenile offenders), Boulder, Colorado, 1991-1996.

Staff and member of the Board of Directors, *INVST* (community organizing and nonviolence trainer for the International and National Voluntary Service Training Program at the University of Colorado.) 1993-1995.

Conflict Resolution Training Workshops:

- “Introduction to Conflict Resolution.” Magee Hospital’s Womancare International, Russian & Belarussian Program, 2001.
- “Handling Conflict Constructively.” Johns Hopkins University Institute for the Academic Advancement of Youth, 2001.
- “Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges: Creating Peace in Cyprus.” Cypriot Student Fulbright Scholars, Duquesne University, 2001.

Professional Organization Memberships

American Sociological Association
Association for the Sociology of Religion
American Academy of Religion

Additional Professional Experience

2002. Research interviewer for “Religious Responses to September 11th.” Principal investigators: Daniel Myers and David Sikkink, Notre Dame University

1998. Participant in a faculty educational seminar on the peace process in Northern Ireland, sponsored by the University of Ulster, Coleraine, Northern Ireland.

1995-1996. Research team member for “Assessing Evangelical Identity and Influence in a Rapidly Changing Society.” Principal investigator: Christian S. Smith, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

1994. Participant in a seminar on women’s issues in contemporary Cuban society, by invitation of the Cuban Women’s Federation, Havana.

1993. Independent study at the Proyecto Linguistico de Español, Quezaltenango, Guatemala.

1989. Participant in a study seminar in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Honduras, Center for Global Education, Minneapolis.

1986-1990. Peace and Justice Advocate, German/English translator, Church and Peace, Laufdorf, Germany.

1985-1986. Research team member for “Cultural Impact on Images of God.” Principal investigator: Michael Roe, Seattle Pacific University.