Kelsy Burke

Curriculum Vitae September 2026

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EMPLOYMENT

2024-	Professor of Sociology, University of Nebraska—Lincoln Faculty Affiliate: Women's and Gender Studies
2020-2024	Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Nebraska—Lincoln Faculty Affiliate: Women's and Gender Studies
2016-2020	Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Nebraska – Lincoln Faculty Affiliate: Women's and Gender Studies
2013-2016	Assistant Professor of Sociology, St. Norbert College

EDUCATION

2013	Ph.D., Sociology, University of Pittsburgh Ph.D. Certificate, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies Dissertation: "God, Sex, and the Internet: The Faithful, Virtual, and Sexual Lives of Contemporary Evangelical Christians"
2009	M.A., Sociology, University of Pittsburgh Thesis: "Rethinking Social Movement Participation and Non-Participation: How South Dakota Pro-Choice Clergy Perceive, Confront, and Navigate Risk"
2006	B.A., Sociology, Eastern Connecticut State University

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

(* Indicates current/former graduate student co-author)

Books

Kelsy Burke (forthcoming Fall 2027) *Anti-Trans America: The Rise and Fall of a Culture War*. New York: Pantheon.

Kelsy Burke (2023) *The Pornography Wars: The Past, Present, and Future of America's Obscene Obsession*. New York: Bloomsbury Publishing.

- Reviewed in *The Atlantic, LA Review of Books, Reason Magazine, Booklist, Kirkus, Library Journal, Publisher's Weekly, Vox, Washington Independent Review of Books, The Critic*
- Media coverage in *LA Times,* PBS *The Open Mind*, NPR *Consider This*, *RadioWest, Savage Lovecast*, *Air Mail*, *Straight White American Jesus*, *Faithful Politics*, *The Revealer*, *The Lowdown*, *The Avid Reader Show, Books on Pod*, *Nebraska Today, Giddy*, *Reckon News*, Pacifica Radio, Wisconsin Public Radio, Nebraska Public Radio
- Excerpts in *Literary Hub*, *The Revealer*, *Slate*
- Invited talks at University of Notre Dame, Grinnell College, Northwestern University, University of Wyoming, and McMaster University

Kelsy Burke (2016) *Christians under Covers: Evangelicals and Sexual Pleasure on the Internet*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

- Winner of the 2017 Distinguished Book Award from the American Sociological Association Section on Religion
- Media coverage in *Psychology Today*, *VICE*, *California Magazine*, and *The Christian Post*
- Invited talks at Loyola University Chicago, University of Colorado Boulder, University of Pittsburgh, University of Mississippi, University of Cincinnati, University of San Francisco, University of California Berkeley
- Reviewed in *American Journal of Sociology*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *Gender & Society, International Sociology, Sexualities, Sociology of Religion*, *Theology & Sexuality*
- Chapter, "Overcoming the Obscene in Evangelical Sex Websites," reprinted in *Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life: Readings,* 11th edition, edited by David Newman, Jodi O'Brien, and Michelle Robertson (2018, Newbury Park, CA: Sage)

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Philip Schwadel, Kelsy Burke, and Emily Kazyak (2025) "The LGBT Politics of Religious Nones," *Sociology of Religion* 86(3): 356-381.

Tyler Lefevor, Sydney A. Sorrell, Kelsy Burke, and Andrew R. Flores (2024) "The Influence of Religious Affiliation on the Political Views of LGBT Americans," *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 63(3): 695-715.

Emily Kazyak, Kelsy Burke, Maia Behrendt*, and Marissa Oliver* (2024) "Religious Exemption, LGBT Rights, and the Social Construction of Harm and Freedom," *Law and Social Inquiry* 49(2): 980-1003.

Kelsy Burke, Emily Kazyak, and Maia Behrendt* (2023) "'In a Religious Celebration': The Religious Defense of Gay and Lesbian Rights in U.S. Federal Courts," *Journal of Homosexuality* 71(10): 2400-2423.

Emily Kazyak, Kelsy Burke, Marissa Oliver,* and Maia Behrendt* (2023) "Making the Case: Examining Outcomes of Religious-based Claims in Federal Litigation involving LGBT Rights," *Sexuality Research and Social Policy* 20: 1393-1406.

Kelsy Burke, Emily Kazyak, and Marissa Oliver*, and Payton Valkr* (2023) "LG but not T: Opposition to Transgender Rights Amidst Gay and Lesbian Acceptance," *The Sociological Quarterly* 64: 471-492.

Maia Behrendt* and Kelsy Burke (2023) "Moral Narratives, Alcoholics Anonymous, and Lived Religion," *Sociological Spectrum* 43: 196-215.

Kelsy Burke, Emily Kazyak, and Alice MillerMacPhee* (2022) "LGBT Employment Nondiscrimination: Debating Sexuality and Citizenship," *Sexuality Research and Social Policy* 19: 470-482.

Emily Kazyak, Kelsy Burke, Rosalind Kichler*, and Lora McGraw* (2021) "'Pee in Peace' or 'Make Everyone Uncomfortable': Public Perceptions of Transgender Rights," *Socius* 7: 1-16.

Kelsy Burke and Amy McDowell (2021) "White Women Who Lead: God, Girlfriends, and Diversity Projects in a National Evangelical Ministry," *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 7: 86-100.

Kelsy Burke and Alice MillerMacPhee* (2020) "Constructing Pornography Addiction's Harms in Science, News Media, and Politics," *Social Forces* 99 (3): 1334-1362.

Kelsy Burke and Trenton Haltom* (2020) "Created by God and Wired to Porn: Redemptive Masculinity and Gender Beliefs in Narratives of Religious Men's Pornography Addiction Recovery," *Gender & Society* 34: 233-258.

Emily Kazyak, Kelsy Burke, and Mathew Stange* (2018) "Logics of Freedom: Debating Religious Freedom Laws and Gay and Lesbian Rights," *Socius* 4: 1-18.

- Among 25 most downloaded articles from all journals published by American Sociological Association in 2018

Orit Avishai and Kelsy Burke (2016) "God's Case for Sex" (feature article), *Contexts*. 15: 30-35.

- Reprinted in *Sex Matters*: *The Sexuality and Society Reader*, 5th edition, edited by Mindy Stombler et al. (2018, New York: Norton).

Kelsy Burke and Amy Moff Hudec (2015) "Sexual Encounters and Manhood Acts: Evangelicals, Latter-day Saints, and Religious Masculinities," *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 54: 330-344.

- Reprinted in *Sociology of Religion: A Reader*, 3rd edition, edited by William A. Mirola, Michael O. Emerson, and Susanne C. Monahan (2018, New York: Routledge)

Kelsy Burke (2014) "What Makes a Man: Gender and Sexual Boundaries on Evangelical Christian Sexuality Websites," *Sexualities* 17: 3-22.

- Winner of the 2012 Graduate Student Paper Award from the American Sociological Association Section on Sexualities

Kelsy Burke (2012) "Women's Agency in Gender-Traditional Religions: A Review of Four Approaches," *Sociology Compass* 6: 122-133.

Kelsy Burke and Amy McDowell (2012) "Superstars and Misfits: Two Pop-Trends in the Gender Culture of Contemporary Evangelicalism," *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* 24: 67-79.

Invited Book Chapters and Articles

Daniel da Silva Mendes* and Kelsy Burke (Forthcoming) "Sex Education in Brazil from the Perspectives of Teachers and Students" in *Gender and Sexualities in Transnational Perspective*, edited by Nancy Naples and Michael Ryan (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell).

Kelsy Burke and Dawne Moon (2025) "The Pleasure and Danger of Religious Sexualities," *Sex & Sexualities* 1(1): 110-118.

Kelsy Burke (2025) "The Case for a New Mandate? Reflecting on 50 Years of *Contemporary Sociology* with New Editor Kelsy Burke, in Conversation with Paul Starr. *Contemporary Sociology* 54: 1-3.

Inka Winter and Kelsy Burke (2024) "Pornography with Heart: The Holistic Potential of Feminist Porn" in *Sex Work Now*, edited by Bernadette Barton, Barb Brents, and Angela Jones (New York: New York University Press).

Kelsy Burke (2022) "2021 Furfey Lecture: The False Dichotomy of Sex and Religion in America" *Sociology of Religion* 83: 417-433.

Kelsy Burke, Dawne Moon, and Theresa Tobin, (2020) "Shame and Entitlement: Race and the Religious Possibilities for Sexuality in Conservative Christianity" in *Religion is Raced: Understanding American Religion in the 21st Century*, edited by Grace B. Yukich and Penny Edgell. (New York: New York University Press).

Kelsy Burke and Brandi Woodell* (2020) "Religion," in *Companion to Sexuality Studies*, edited by Nancy Naples. (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell).

Kelsy Burke and Emily Kazyak (2019) "Religious Liberty and Nondiscrimination Protection for LGBT People: A View from a Red State" (Trends article) *Contexts* 18: 63-65.

Book Reviews

Kelsy Burke (2023) *The Holy Vote: Inequality and Anxiety among White Evangelicals* by Sarah Diefendorf, *Social Forces* 102(3): e1

Kelsy Burke (2022) *The Struggle to Stay: Why Single Evangelical Women are Leaving the Church* by Katie Gaddini, *Sociology of Religion* 83: 533-535.

Kelsy Burke (2022) *The Pornification of America: How Raunch Culture is Ruining Our Society* by Bernadette Barton, *Contemporary Sociology* 51: 273-274.

Kelsy Burke (2019) *Gay on God's Campus: Mobilizing for LGBT Equality at Christian Colleges and Universities* by Jonathan S. Coley, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 58: 311-313.

Kelsy Burke (2018) *Becoming Un-Orthodox: Stories of Ex-Hasidic Jews* by Lynn Davidman, *Contemporary Sociology* 47: 170-171.

Kelsy Burke (2012) *Making Chastity Sexy: The Rhetoric of Evangelical Abstinence Campaigns* by Christine J. Gardner, *Sociology of Religion* 73: 100-102.

AWARDED RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2025 College of Arts and Sciences Research Travel Grant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($3,750): "Far-Right, Gender, and Femonationalism Colloquium"

2025 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Jack Shand Research Grant ($5,000): "White Evangelicals and Transgender Politics in the United States"

2025 Office of Research and Innovation Book Fellowship, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($19,150): "Anti-Trans America: The Rise and Fall of a Culture War"

2024 College of Arts and Sciences Research Impact and Engagement Grant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($5,000): "Book Development for Public Impact of *Anti-Trans America*"

2024 Louisville Institute Project Grant for Researchers ($30,000): "Immutables: White Evangelicals and Transgender Politics in the United States"

2023 Public Fellows Program in LGBTQ Rights, Public Religion Research Institute ($15,000)

2023 Office of Research Layman Seed Program, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($10,000): "Gender Ideology," Transgender Rights, and Religious Politics in America

2022 Public Fellows Program in LGBTQ Rights, Public Religion Research Institute ($15,000)

2022 College of Arts & Sciences Spark Research Grant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($5,000): The Religious Origins and Evolutions of Trans-Exclusionary Politics

2022 Behavioral Health Project of Excellence, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($5,000): "It's In Your Head:" The Religious Origins and Evolution of Trans Exclusionary Politics

2021 College of Arts & Sciences Research Impact and Engagement Grant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($5,000): Nebraskan Attitudes about LGBT Rights (with Emily Kazyak)

2021 Behavioral Health Project of Excellence, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($5,000): To Your Health: Sexual Risk, Safety, and Consent in Pornography Debates

2019 National Science Foundation (NSF) Social and Economic Sciences (SES) Sociology Program Research Grant ($324,228): Religious Exemption Laws and Minority Rights (Emily Kazyak, PI, and Kelsy Burke co-PI: 50% contribution)

2019 Layman Seed Program, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($10,000): The New Porn Wars: Sex, Science, and Morality in the 21st Century

2019 Behavioral Health Project of Excellence, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($5,000): The Rise of Pornography Addiction as a Behavioral Health Concern

2018 Department of Sociology Haas Faculty Summer Research Award, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($5,000) (with Emily Kazyak)

2017 Department of Sociology Haas Faculty Summer Research Award, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($5,000)

2016 College of Arts & Sciences ENHANCE Grant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($5,000)

2015 Faculty Development Grant for Summer Scholarship, St. Norbert College ($2500)

2015 Student Faculty Collaborative Research Grant, "Religious Campus Climate for LGBTQ Community" with Jessi Wightman, St. Norbert College ($1,500)
2014 Faculty Development Grant for Summer Scholarship, St. Norbert College ($2500)
2012 Andrew Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh ($19,610)
2011 Social Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh ($18,980)
2011 Fichter Research Grant, Association for the Sociology of Religion ($1,100)
2010 Women's Studies Student Research Grant, University of Pittsburgh ($850)
2009 Arts and Sciences Summer Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh ($3,000)
2008 Women's Studies Student Research Grant, University of Pittsburgh ($1,000)
2007 Sociology Social Movements Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh ($17,162)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2026 Member of the Research Leaders Program, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
2025 Fellow for the Academic Leadership Program of the Big Ten Academic Alliance
2025 Affiliated Scholar for the Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI)
2024 Program Member for the Faculty Leadership in Academia: From Inspiration to Reality (FLAIR), University of Nebraska-Lincoln
2022 Outstanding Research or Creative Activity Award (ORCA) for the Social Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Arts and Sciences
2021 Early Career Award Honorable Mention, American Sociological Association Section on Religion
2021 Paul Hanley Furfey Lecture, Association for the Sociology of Religion
2019 College Distinguished Teaching Award, University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Arts and Sciences
2018 Eugene J. Barone Memorial Lecture Award, University of Pittsburgh Department of Sociology
2017 Distinguished Book Award for *Christians under Covers: Evangelicals and Sexual Pleasure on the Internet*, American Sociological Association Section on Religion
2012 Graduate Student Paper Prize co-winner for "Making 'Bad' Sex 'Good': Gender and Sexual Boundaries on Evangelical Christian Sexuality Websites," American Sociological Association Section on Sexualities
2011 Selected participant in Summer Seminar on Debates over Religion and Sexuality, Harvard Divinity School, Harvard University
2010 Tamara Horowitz Graduate Student Paper Prize for "Superstars and Misfits: Two Pop-Trends in the Gender Culture of Contemporary Evangelicalism" (co-authored with Amy McDowell), University of Pittsburgh
2010 Norman P. Hummon Graduate Research Award for "Activism and Risk: A Case Study of South Dakota Pro-Choice Clergy," University of Pittsburgh

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Select Op-Eds and Essays

- "Rightwing gen Z women are celebrating the anti-trans supreme court ruling" (with Katie Gaddini) *The Guardian*, July 1, 2026
- "Why We Must Remember Brandon Teena" *The Nation*, November 20, 2025
- "Religious Opposition to Trans Healthcare Is a Relatively New Phenomenon" *TIME Magazine*, August 7, 2025

- "Republicans are mostly united in their views on LGBTQ+ rights. Democrats are not." (with Joanna Wuest, Andrew Flores, and Suzanna Krivulskaya) *LGBTQ Nation*, October 20, 2024
- "LGBTQ-U and the myth of the woke university" *The Hill*, April 1, 2024
- "Why Evangelical Christian Men Are So Happy to Have Their Porn Habits Monitored" *Slate*, November 8, 2023
- "Treating Pornography Viewership as an Addiction that Requires Faith" *The Revealer Magazine* (published by The Center for Religion and Media at New York University), August 1, 2023
- "Feminists have long supported trans rights" *The Washington Post,* July 27, 2023
- "LGBTQ+ Americans are more religious than our Supreme Court battles let on" (with Andrew Flores, Suzanna Krivulskaya, & Tyler Lefevor) *Religion News Service*, July 7, 2023
- "The Colorado website designer's win is one of dozens of federal cases where religious beliefs and LGBTQ+ rights have clashed – and the pattern might not be what you think" (with Emily Kazyak) *The Conversation*, July 3, 2023 (reprinted in *Edge Media* and *Religion News Service*)
- "What Happens on a Feminist Porn Set" *Slate Magazine*, May 13, 2023
- "Talking Dirty: A sociologist separates fact from fiction in the enduring debate over the dangers of porn" *Air Mail*, May 10, 2023
- "On the Wild West of Internet Regulations and the Birth of Pornhub" *Literary Hub*, April 25, 2023
- "The Deep-Down Truth of Why Evangelical Christians Can't Stand Drag" *Slate Magazine*, (with Dawne Moon) April 17, 2023
- "What's going on with the wave of GOP bills about trans teens? Utah provides clues" (with Tyler Lefevor) *The Conversation*, February 23, 2023 (reprinted in *Edge Media* and *Religion News Service*)
- "Americans' support for transgender rights has declined. Here's why" (with Emily Kazyak) *The Washington Post,* November 8, 2022
- "What I learned when I tried naked yoga" *The Guardian*, July 18, 2022.
- "White conservatives use anti-pornography crusades to secure power" *The Washington Post,* July 6, 2022
- "Billie Eilish's Brain on Porn" *Slate Magazine*, December 17, 2021
- "Conservative Christians and anti-porn feminists want to shut down online pornography. That doesn't make them allies" (with Nancy Whittier) *The Washington Post,* October 4, 2021
- "The OnlyFans Fight Isn't Over" *Slate Magazine*, August 25, 2021
- "From Smith to Fulton: The Shifting Perceptions of Religion and LGBT Rights in the Courts" (with Emily Kazyak) *Berkeley Forum* (Berkeley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs at Georgetown University), July 26, 2021
- "The Dark Tales of the Christian Sex Addiction Industry" *Slate Magazine*, March 23, 2021
- "How Pleading 'Sexual Addiction' Protects Evangelical Men" (with Samuel Perry) *Religion News Service*, March 19, 2021

- "Don't be so shocked at the Falwell claims—research on Christian sex websites reveals an adventurous side to evangelical sexual culture" *The Conversation*, August 31, 2020 (reprinted in *Patheos Religion News Service*)
- "Devil in the detail of SCOTUS ruling on workplace bias puts LGBTQ rights and religious freedom on collision course" (with Emily Kazyak) *The Conversation*, June 22, 2020
- "Sinning Like a Man: The Christian Porn Addiction Industry is Selling a Lucrative, Dangerous Idea" *Slate Magazine*, May 18, 2020
- "Online Pornography: A Religious Man's Cross to Bear" (with Trenton Haltom) *Gender & Society Blog*, December 17, 2019.
- "Nebraskans support LGBT protections" (with Emily Kazyak) *Lincoln Journal Star*, April 10, 2019
- "What I learned from conservative evangelical sex message boards" *Huffington Post*, December 12, 2018
- "Why White Evangelical Women Aren't the Swing Voters They Sometimes Appear to Be" (with Amy McDowell) *Religion Dispatches*, November 2, 2018
- "Why the Christian right opposes pornography but still supports Trump" *The Conversation*, April 5, 2018 (reprinted in *Newsweek*, *Sojourners*)
- "Nebraskans who support and oppose 'religious freedom' laws actually share many of the same values" (with Emily Kazyak) *The Conversation*, February 28, 2018 (reprinted in *Salon*)
- "Christian sex advice websites offer a peek into evangelical politics" *The Conversation*, May 11, 2017 (reprinted by *Newsweek*, *Religion News Services*, *SF Gate*, *Tranzgendr*, *The Raw Story*, *Alternet, The Independent (Singapore)*)
- "Why Beth Moore Walked It Back: This Election Season, It's Tough Being an Evangelical Woman" *Religion Dispatches*, October 19, 2016
- "The Porn Workaround: How Christian Sexuality Websites Avoid Sin" *Religion Dispatches*, January 26, 2016

Research Reports

- "LGBTQ Rights vs. Religious Liberty Cases: Public Opinion and the Law" (with Andrew Flores, Joanna Wuest, and Suzanna Krivulskaya) *Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) Spotlight*, September 19, 2024
- "Protection from Discrimination, or the Right to Discriminate: Changing Public Perceptions of LGBTQ Rights and Religious Freedom" *Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) Spotlight*, December 12, 2023
- "'Identity Politics' and Transgender Equality" *Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) Spotlight*, June 14, 2023
- "'Nones' and LGBTQ Politics" (with Philip Schwadel and Emily Kazyak) *Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) Spotlight*, May 4, 2023
- "Religion, Politics, the News, and Americans' Polarized Attitudes about LGBTQ Rights" *Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) Spotlight*, January 13, 2023

Select Media Appearances and Interviews

- The New York Times, October 7, 2025

- Straight White American Jesus, June 23, 2025
- BBC July 24, 2024
- The New York Times March 17, 2024
- NPR Consider This February 3, 2024
- Reckon News January 31, 2024
- The 19th January 29, 2024
- Sex with Strangers August 17, 2023
- The Lowdown with Ira Wood July 25, 2023
- PBS The Open Mind July 10, 2023
- Savage Lovecast June 20, 2023
- Central Time on Wisconsin Public Radio June 14, 2023
- Books on Pod June 11, 2023
- Pacifica's KFPA June 1, 2023
- The Stranger May 9, 2023
- KUER RadioWest May 4, 2023
- The Avid Reader Show May 1, 2023
- Nebraska Public Radio Friday LIVE! April 28, 2023
- The Attitude with Arnie Arneson March 1, 2023
- The New York Times April 17, 2023
- Straight White American Jesus July 4, 2022
- The Revealer Podcast June 30, 2022
- Conversion Documentary 2022
- Savage Lovecast April 6, 2021
- The Michelangelo Signorile Show March 25, 2021
- Business Insider March 20, 2021
- Nebraska Public Radio August 7, 2020

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

2025 Invited panelist for ASA Sexualities Sections' "Sexualities in Turbulent Times: Capitalist Crises, Democratic Decadence, and Right Wing Proto-Fascism," American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

2025 Webinar for continuing education credit, "The Pornography Wars—Exploring Social and Political Contexts," Association for the Treatment & Prevention of Sexual Abuse

2024 Invited panelist for "The Politics of Religious Freedom: Social Sciences Perspective," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting

2024 "Author Meets Critic for *Guiding God's Marriage: Faith and Social Change in Premarital Counseling* by Courtney Ann Irby," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting

2024 "What to do when research participants threaten to sue you, and other lessons from studying the Right," American Sociological Association Annual Meeting Pre-Conference on Studying the Right

2024 "Author Meets Critic for *Queer Judaism: LGBT Activism and the Remaking of Jewish Orthodoxy in Israel* by Orit Avishai," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting

2023 "Banned in Florida: The Pornography Wars," McMaster University

2023 "The Politics of Gender, Pronouns, and Public Education" invited panelist, Public Webinar hosted by Public Religion Research Institute

2023 "Pornhub's Foes and Woes: Understanding Sexual Politics through Today's Anti-Pornography Movement," Sexualities Project at Northwestern (SPAN) Workshop, Northwestern University

2023 "A Conversation on *The Pornography Wars*," Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting

2021 "Author Meets Critic for *The Pornography Wars: The Past, Present, and Future of America's Obscene Obsession*," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting

2022 "From Porn Stars to Porn Addicts: A Sociology of Pornography Debates," Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Wyoming

2022 "Book Salon for *Camming: Money, Power, and Pleasure in the Sex Work Industry* by Angela Jones," American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

2022 "Author Meets Critic for *The Struggle to Stay: Why Single Evangelical Women are Leaving the Church* by Katie Gaddini," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting

2021 "Religion in the Age of Information" invited panelist, Social Science Matrix at the University of California –Berkeley

2021 "Author Meets Critic for *Studying Lived Religion: Contexts and Practices* by Nancy Ammerman," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting

2021 "Piety, Perversion, and Politics: The False Dichotomy of Sex and Religion in America," Furfey Keynote Lecture at the Association for Sociologists of Religion Annual Meeting, Virtual Conference

2021 "Sociology of Religion in the Public Square: How to Communicate to a Broad(er) Audience," invited panelist at the Association for Sociologists of Religion Annual Meeting, Virtual Conference

2021 "Religion, Sexuality, and Freedom: The Social and Legal Landscapes of Religious Liberty and LGBTQ Rights" (with Dr. Emily Kazyak), Kutak Rock Attorneys at Law LLP

2021 "Religion, Sexuality, and Freedom: The Social and Legal Landscapes of Religious Liberty and LGBTQ Rights" (with Dr. Emily Kazyak), Department of Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies Spring Colloquium University of South Carolina

2021 "Religion, Sexuality, and Freedom: The Social and Legal Landscape of Religious Liberty and LGBTQ Rights" (with Dr. Emily Kazyak), Department of Sociology Spring Colloquium Series Vanderbilt University

2020 "Religion, Masculinities, and the Rise of Pornography Addiction (Spring Colloquium Invited Speaker)" Center for the Study of Religion and Society, University of Notre Dame

2019 "Created by God and Wired to Porn: Pornography Addiction in the Lives of Religious Men," Grinnell College

2019 "Author Meets Critic for *Addicted to Lust: Pornography in the Lives of Conservative Protestants* by Samuel Perry," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting

2019 "Contesting Queer: Lessons from Christian Sex Advice" Invited Session on Religion and Contested Understandings of Gender and Sexuality, American Sociological Association (co-sponsored with the Association for the Sociology of Religion) Annual Meeting

2018 "The Logic of Heterosexuality and Evangelical Christianity," Department of Sociology, Loyola University Chicago

2018 "The Religious Possibilities for Sexual Pleasure," Department of Sociology, University of Colorado Boulder

2018 "Christians under Covers: Evangelicals and Sexual Pleasure on the Internet," Department of Sociology Eugene J. Barone Memorial Lecture, University of Pittsburgh

2018 "Evangelical Christianity and the Logic of Heterosexuality," Department of Sociology, University of Mississippi

2017 "Christians under Covers: Evangelicals and Sexual Pleasure on the Internet," College of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2017 "Oh, God! The Religious Right to Sexual Pleasure on Christian Sexuality Websites," Center for Right Wing Studies, University of California – Berkeley

2017 "What God Knows: Sexual Subversion and Evangelical Christianity on the Internet," University of San Francisco

2016 "Author Meets Critic for *Christians under Covers: Evangelicals and Sexual Pleasure on the Internet*," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference

2015 "Is God Bad for Sex?" (with Orit Avishai), Invited Session on Religion and Sexuality, American Sociological Association (co-sponsored with the Association for the Sociology Religion) Annual Meeting

2014 "Gender and Qualitative Methods in Religion Research," Religious Research Association/Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting

2014 "Making 'Bad' Sex 'Good:' Religion, Masculinity, and Kinky Sex on Christian Sexuality Websites," Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Cincinnati

Conference Papers

(* Indicates current/former graduate or undergraduate student co-author)

2026 "Concerned Young Women: How the Conservative Movement Mobilizes Feminist Rhetoric in Anti-Gender Politics" (with Katie Gaddini), Far-Right, Gender and Femonationalism Symposium, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

2024 "The LGBT Politics of Religious Nones," Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA

2022 "'In a Religious Celebration': Federal Litigation involving Religion-based Claims that support LGBT Rights (with Emily Kazyak and Maia Behrendt*) American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA

2022 "LG but not T: Opposition to Transgender Rights Amidst Gay and Lesbian Acceptance," (with Emily Kazyak, and Cadyn Williamson*) Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM

2021 "Religious Exemption, LGBTQ Rights, and the Social Construction of Harm and Freedom," (with Emily Kazyak, Lora McGraw*, and Maia Behrendt*) American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Virtual Conference

2021 "Feminist perspective on pornography: Comparing anti-pornography feminists' involvement in 80's sex war to current day," (with Jordan Malzer*) Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Virtual Conference

2020 "Bathroom Battles: Public Perceptions of Transgender Rights and the Making of Sex and Gender," (with Emily Kazyak and Rosalind Kichler*) American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Virtual Conference

2019 "Created by God, Addicted to Porn: Redemptive Masculinity and Conservative Christian Narratives of Pornography Addiction Recovery," (with Trenton Haltom*) American Sociological Association Annual Conference, New York

2019 "The White, Cis/Straight Entitlement to Sexual Expression in Evangelical Christianity: A Queer Analysis," Conference on Queer and Transgender Studies in Religion, University of California Riverside

2018 "White Women who Lead: Mobilizing Race and Gender in a National Evangelical Women's Ministry," (with Amy McDowell) American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA

2018 "Queer Citizenship: Debating Discrimination and Religious Exemption," (with Emily Kazyak and Alice MillerMacPhee*) American Sociological Association Section on Sexualities Pre-Conference, Philadelphia, PA

2018 "Intersections of Sex, Gender, Sexuality, and Race in Public Health Research: A Content Analysis of the American Journal of Public Health," (with Alice MillerMacPhee*) Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA

2018 "Dialogues on Feminism and the Sociology of Religion" (with Amy McDowell and Eliza Thor*), Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, Atlanta, GA

2017 "The Value of Pornography Addiction: Religious Discourse, Scientific Literature, and Popular Debates" (with Alice MillerMacPhee*), Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Conference, Washington D.C.

2017 "Nondenominational Evangelical Churches and the Sex/Gender/Sexuality System" (with Amy McDowell), Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Conference, Washington D.C.

2017 "Different Sides, Same Logic: Examining Support for and Opposition to Religious Freedom Laws" (with Emily Kazyak and Mathew Stange*), American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Montreal, Que.

2017 "The Value of Pornography Addiction: Religious Discourse and Scientific Literature" (with Alice MillerMacPhee*), Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, Montreal, Que.

2015 "Pornography, Piety, and Precarity: How Evangelical Christianity Defines and Contests the Erotic," National Women's Studies Association Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI

2015 "Overcoming the Obscene: How Evangelicals Use Religion to Talk about Sex Online," American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL

2015 "TV Ethnography: Using Pop Culture to Teach Gender and Sexuality," Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA

2014 "Does this religion make me look straight? How theories of heterosexuality can inform the study of religion and gender," Religious Research Association/Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN

2014 "Bodies of Christ: Women, Sexual Pleasure, and (what looks like) Feminism in Evangelical Christianity," American Sociological Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA

2013 "Pleasure, Pain, and Piety: Examining Sexual Narratives on Christian Sexuality Websites," Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA

2013 "Teaching about Organized Racism" (with Kathleen Blee), Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA

2012 "Making 'Bad' Sex 'Good': Gender and Sexual Boundaries on Christian Sexuality Websites," American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Denver, CO

2012 "Sexual Encounters for Evangelical and Latter-day Saint Men: A Theory of Men's Sexual Agency in Gender-Traditional Religions" (with Amy Moff Hudec), American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Denver, CO

2011 "Let's (Not) Talk about Sex: Justifying Intimate Conversations among Evangelicals," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV

2011 "Virtual and Virtuous: How Evangelicals Use the Internet to Promote Sexuality," Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality Eastern Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA

2011 "Sex, Sales, and Salvation: An Exploration of Online Christian Sex Toy Stores," Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA

2010 "The Gendered Differences between God and Body: Two Pop-Trends from Evangelical Culture" (with Amy McDowell), American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

2010 "Causation Complication: Lessons from Non-Joiners on Why People Join Social Movements," North Central Sociological Association/Midwest Sociological Society Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

2009 "God's Whistleblowers: How Pro-Choice Clergy Navigate Activism in a High-Risk Environment," Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD

2008 "Activism and Risk: Reflections on Interviewing Progressive South Dakota Clergy," Oral History Association Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA

2008 "Beyond Marriage: Christian Right Claims and Gay Rights Gains," with Kimberly Dugan, North Central Sociological Association Annual Conference, Cincinnati, OH

Campus Talks

2023 "The Pornography Wars," Department of Sociology Colloquium Series, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

2022 "Religious Exemption, LGBT Rights, and the Social Construction of Harm and Freedom" (with Emily Kazyak), Department of Sociology Colloquium Series, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

2021 "Writing Op-Eds," Unruly Sociologists, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

2019 "The Imagined Student: Lecturing Large Classes in an Age of Academic Surveillance," The Century Club sponsored by the Teaching Council, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

2018 "Virtual Ethnography and Collecting Qualitative Data Online," Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research Interest Group, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

2018 "The Rise of Pornography Addiction: Constructing a Social Problem through Media, Science, and Politics" (with Alice MillerMacPhee), Department of Sociology Colloquium Series, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

2017 "An Introduction to NVivo and Qualitative Methods," Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Consortium, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

2016 "Queerly Straight: Gender, Jesus, and the Sexually Normal in Evangelical Christianity," Department of Sociology Colloquium Series, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

2015 "Teaching with Technology: What do Faculty Do?" T3: Transformative Teaching and Technology, St. Norbert College

2015 "The Rights of Free Speech," Panelist for Norman Miller Peace and Justice Center at St. Norbert College

2015 "Selling Sex Toys and Religion Online," 20x20x6 (Pecha Kucha Style) Teaching and Learning Workshop, St. Norbert College

2014 "On (Not) Getting By in America," Junior Knights and Days classroom presentation, St. Norbert College

2013 "Bodies of Christ: Women, Sexual Pleasure, and (what looks like) Feminism in Evangelical Christianity," Social Sciences Research Forum, St. Norbert College

2013 "Resources and issues for graduate students who are parents or are thinking about Becoming parents," Panelist for College of Arts & Sciences, University of Pittsburgh

2013 "Encountering Difficult Situations in the classroom," Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education New Teaching Assistant Orientation, University of Pittsburgh

2012 "Teaching about Organized Racism" (with Kathleen Blee), Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education No Time for Diversity Series, University of Pittsburgh

TEACHING

Teaching Grants and Initiatives

2023 Lead Faculty Facilitator, College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Writing Retreat September 13-17 at Cedar Point Biological Station, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2021	Center for Transformative Teaching Summer Grant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($1000)
2019	Open Educational Resources Kelly Grant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($4000)
2017-2018	Peer Review of Teaching Project, University of Nebraska-Lincoln ($1000)
2015	Sturzl Center Faculty Fellowship for Community Engagement, St. Norbert College ($750)
2015	Digital Learning Initiative Summer Course Redesign Grant for "Sociology in Cyberspace," St. Norbert College ($2500)
2014-2015	Faculty Digital Fellow for Digital Learning Initiative, St. Norbert College ($3500)
2014	Faculty Development Grant for Pedagogical Development, St. Norbert College ($750)

Published Teaching Articles and Activities

Kelsy Burke (2025) Online video for Research Design and Planning Series, Sage Research Methods Online Resources, https://methods.sagepub.com/video/srmpromo/HCwLzO/researching-public-debates-over-contemporary-pornography-qual-methods.

Kelsy Burke and Alexa Trumpy (2016) "Making the Invisible Visible: Shining a Light on Gender and Sexuality in Courses Primarily Focused on Other Topics" in *Teaching Gender and Sex in Contemporary America*, edited by Kristen Haltinner and Ryanne Pilgeram. New York: Springer.

- Appendix Teaching Activity: "Learning and Unlearning a Feminine Voice: Dimensions of Cisgender Privilege and Gender Oppression"

Kathleen Blee and Kelsy Burke (2013) "Teaching about Organized Racism" in *Teaching Race and Anti-Racism in Contemporary America*, edited by Kristen Haltinner. New York: Springer.

- Appendix Teaching Activity: "This is Organized Racism: A Classroom Activity for Teaching about Racist Groups"

Courses Taught at University of Nebraska – Lincoln

- Qualitative Methods, SOCI 407/807; undergraduate graduate: Spring 2026
  Total enrollment = 12
- Writing for Publication (Graduate Seminar) SOCI 995D; Fall 2025
  Total enrollment = 9
- Trans Studies (Graduate seminar in sex and gender), SOCI 907; Spring 2025
  Total enrollment = 8
- Sociological Theory, SOCI 355: Fall 2024, Fall 2026
  Total enrollment = 36
- Sociology of Sexualities, SOCI 411/811; undergraduate/graduate: Fall 2016, Spring 2024
  Total enrollment = 26
- Qualitative Methods, (Graduate seminar) SOCI 902; Spring 2023
  Total enrollment=6
- Introduction to Sociology, SOCI 101; Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022

Total enrollment = 3267
- Sex in Politics and Culture (Graduate seminar in sex and gender), SOCI 907; Spring 2020
  Total enrollment= 15
- Religion, Gender, and Sexualities (special topics, online), RELG 398; Summer 2019
  Total enrollment = 17
- Gender in Contemporary Society, SOCI 200; Spring 2017
  Total enrollment = 36

Courses Taught at St. Norbert College (all undergraduate)
- Introduction to Sociology
- Social Research Methods
- Intersections of Privilege
- Feminist Theory
- Sociology of Cyberspace

Courses Taught at University of Pittsburgh (all undergraduate)
- Marriage
- Wealth and Power
- Basic Applied Statistics (TA)
- Deviance and Social Control (TA)
- Sociology of Everyday Life (TA)

Graduate and Undergraduate Advising at University of Nebraska – Lincoln
- Ph.D. Chair: Daniel Da Silva Mendes, Esihle Lupindo (2025, co-chair with Lisa Kort-Butler), Maia Behrendt (2023), Alice MillerMacPhee (2021), Trenton Haltom (2021, co-chair with Kristen Olson)
- M.A. Advisor: Jade Anderson, Brady McLean, Jessica Morrow (2018), Arianna Saettele, Cadyn Williamson (2021), Sethe Zachman (2024)
- Ph.D. Committee: Lyndie Christensen-Nader, Kristen Horton (2025), Grace Kelly (2023), Samantha Kesselring (2026), Rosalind Kichler (2023), Lorri Merchant (2018), Eli Ornelas (2025), Brittany Piper, Eliza Thor (2024)
- Outside Ph.D. Committee Member: Alexandra Bissell (English UNL), Kamryn Buchanan (Counseling Psychology UNL), Hannah Regan (Sociology Vanderbilt 2022) Braedon Worman (Communications Studies UNL 2023)
- M.A. Committee: Maddi Aponte, Maia Behrendt (2019), Olivia Checkalski (Psychology), Josie Elder, Emilio Leone (2026)
- Undergraduate Sociology Teaching and Research (USTAR) Faculty Sponsor: Claire Bartels (2017-2019), Aleksandr Duncan (2019-2021), Jordan Malzer (2017-2021), Nicholas Martinez (2018-2019); Eliza Thor (2016-2017), Erika Llano (2017-2018)
- Undergraduate Creative Activities and Research Experience (UCARE) Faculty Sponsor: Jordan Malzer (2020-2021), Eliza Thor (2017-2018)

Undergraduate Advising at St. Norbert College
- Primary Advisor for 9 students
- McNair Scholar Faculty Mentor: Nicole Zellner

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Elected Member, Academic Rights and Responsibilities Panel (2021-2024)
- Faculty Senate Representative (Spring 2023)
- Member, Council on Inclusive Excellence and Diversity (CIED) (2022-2023)
- Elected Member, Libraries Committee (2020-2023)
- Judge, Graduate Studies Spring Research Fair (2019)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Arts and Sciences

- Elected Member, Promotion and Tenure Committee (2024--)
- Member, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Committee (2022-2025)
- Invited Teaching Conversation, College of Arts and Sciences Dean Search (ad hoc, 2019)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Sociology

- Undergraduate Chair (2025--)
- Promotion and Tenure Committee Chair (2026--)
- Interim Graduate Chair (Fall 2024)
- Tenure-track search committee member (ad hoc, 2022-2023)
- Executive Committee (2016-2017, 2020-2021, 2021-2022)
- Undergraduate Committee (2021-2024)
- Merit Review Committee (ad hoc, 2020)
- Resources and Planning Committee (2019-2021)
- Graduate Committee (2016-2019)
- Social Inequality Area Committee Member (2016-2022); Chair (2022)
- Religion Comprehensive Exam Committee Member (ad hoc, 2016-2017)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Women's and Gender Studies Program

- Advisory Board (2020-2023)
- Awards and Scholarship Committee (2017-2020)

St. Norbert College

- Women's and Gender Studies Advisory Board (2014-2016)
- Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, sub-chair of Gender and Sexuality (2014-2016)
- Cassandra Voss Center (Gender Center) Advisory Board (2014-2016)
- Academic Technology Advisory Committee (2014-2016)
- Digital Learning Initiative (2014-2016)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Positions

2024- Editor, *Contemporary Sociology*
2021-2024 Book Review Editor, *Gender & Society*

Editorial Boards

2024-2024 *Contexts*
2020-2023 *Contemporary Sociology*
2020-2023 *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*
2017-2022 *Sociology of Religion*
2019-2021 *Gender & Society*

Conference Sessions Organized or Moderated

2026 Organizer and Presider, "Author Meets Critics for *Esther's Army: The Christian Women who Power the American Right*" Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, New York City

2025 Organizer and Presider, "Author Meets Critics for *Choosing Love: What LGBTQ+ Christians Can Teach Us All About Relationships, Inclusion, and Justice*," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

2022 Volunteer Mentor, "Mentoring Graduate Students in Securing Grant Funding," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA

2022 Organizer and Presider, "Author Meets Critic for *The Struggle to Stay: Why Single Evangelical Women are Leaving the Church* by Katie Gaddini,," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA

2019 Organizer and Presider, Regular Paper Session "Religious Identities in Tumultuous Times," American Sociological Association Annual Conference, New York, NY

2019 Volunteer Mentor, "Mentoring Graduate Students in Sociology of Religion," American Sociological Association Annual Conference, New York, NY

2018 Organizer, "Dialogues on Feminism and Sociology of Religion," Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, Atlanta, GA

2017 Co-Organizer and Moderator (with Amy McDowell), "Ethnography, Religion, and Reflexivity: A Panel Discussion," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting, Montreal, Que.

2015 Co-Organizer and Presider (with Kimberly Creasap), "Gender, Pedagogy, and Popular Culture," Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA

2013 Moderator, "Rethinking Lesbian Identity in Rita Mae Brown's Rubyfruit Jungle," Wisconsin Women's Studies LGBTQ Conference, Madison, WI

2013 Organizer, "Sustaining Religion, Sustaining Sexualities," session at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA

2011 Organizer, "Bringing Sexy Back: How Conservative Religions Promote Sexuality," Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV

2010 Organizer (with Amy McDowell), "Communities and Methodological Quagmires," North Central Sociological Association/Midwest Sociological Society Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

Councils, Committees, and other Service

2026—	Council Member (elected), Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
2024-2025	Mentor, ASA Section on Sex and Gender Mentoring Program
2023-	Strategic Planning Committee, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
2022-2023	Nominations Committee, ASA Section on Religion
2021-2022	Early Career Award Committee, ASA Section on Religion
2019-2022	Council Member (elected), ASA Section on Religion
2019	Chair, Student Travel Award Committee, ASA Section on Religion
2019-2020	Advancing Scholarship, Sociologists for Trans Justice
2019	Distinguished Book Award Committee, ASA Section on Culture
2018	Distinguished Book Award Committee, ASA Section on Religion
2012-2013	Sociologists LGBTQ Caucus, American Sociological Association
2013	Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA Section on Sexualities
2012	Simon & Gagnon Lifetime Achievement Award, ASA Section on Sexualities

Memberships

- American Sociological Association (ASA)
  ASA Sections: Collective Behavior and Social Movements; Culture; Race and Ethnicity; Religion; Sex and Gender; Sexualities
- American Association of University Professors (AAUP)
- Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR)
- Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)
- Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS)

Ad Hoc Manuscript Reviews

American Journal of Sociology; Archives of Sexual Behavior; Gender & Society; *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*; *Journal of Homosexuality*; *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion; Journal of Sex Research*; *Men and Masculinities*; *Porn Studies*; *Qualitative Sociology*; *Religions*; *Sexuality Research and Social Policy*; *Sexualities*; *Social Currents*; *Social Forces*; *Social Problems*; *Sociological Focus*; *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*; *Sociology of Religion*; *Sociological Spectrum; Sociology Compass; Symbolic Interaction*

Ad Hoc Grant Proposal Reviews

ASA Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant; National Science Foundation Social and Economic Sciences Division; National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipends Program; National Fund for Scientific Research, Belgium

Ad Hoc Book Proposal and Manuscript Reviews

Columbia University Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, New York University Press, Oxford University Press, Rowman and Littlefield, Routledge, University of California Press, University of Chicago Press, University of North Carolina Press, University Press of Kansas, W.W. Norton & Co.