

**EMILY SUZANNE JOHNSON**  
**Curriculum Vita**

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**EDUCATION**

- 2014            Ph.D., History  
                  Yale University, New Haven, CT  
                  Dissertation: “Activists, Authors, Apostles:  
                  Women’s Leadership in the New Christian Right”  
                  Committee: Joanne Meyerowitz, Kathryn Lofton, Beverly Gage, R. Marie Griffith
- 2007            B.A., History and Women’s Studies, Double major, with distinction  
                  University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

- 2017–            Assistant Professor, Department of History, Ball State University, Muncie, IN  
                  Affiliate faculty in the Women’s and Gender Studies Program  
                  Affiliate faculty in the African American Studies Program
- 2014–17        Lecturer, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

**FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2020–2022     Young Scholar of American Religion Cohort (Center for the Study of Religion and  
                  American Culture at Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis)
- 2019–2023     Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians
- 2018–            Research Fellow at the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture  
                  (Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis)
- 2013–14        Dissertation Fellowship at the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics  
                  (Washington University, St. Louis)

**AWARDS**

- 2020            Finalist, Outstanding Junior Faculty Award (Ball State University)
- 2017            Lusby-Hodges Teaching Award (Dept. of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee)
- 2017            Outstanding Faculty Award (Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation)
- 2014            Finalist, *Journal of Women’s History* Graduate Student Article Prize

2013 Finalist, Louis Pelzer Prize for Best Graduate Student Essay (Organization of American Historians)

#### GRANTS

2021 Honors Fellowship for work with an undergraduate researcher on the Muncie LGBTQ+ History Project (Ball State University)

2019 Publications and Intellectual Properties Committee Grant (Sponsored Projects Administration, Ball State University)

2018 Aspire Start-Up Award (Sponsored Projects Administration, Ball State University)

2012 John F. Enders Summer Research Fellowship (Yale University)

2011 Funding for Lesbian and Gay Studies Grant (Yale University)

#### BOOK

2019 *This is Our Message: The Politics of Women's Leadership in the New Christian Right*, Oxford University Press (Reviewed/Featured in: *American Historical Review*, *Church History*, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, *Patheos*, *Gender and Religion*, *Reading Religion*, *New Trail Magazine*, *Reading Religion*).

#### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

2018 “God, Country, and Anita Bryant: Women’s Leadership and the Politics of the New Christian Right,” *Religion and American Culture* 28, no. 2 (Summer).

2012 “‘Who Would Know Better than the Girls in White?’ Nurses as Experts in Postwar Advertising, 1945-50,” *Nursing History Review* 20.

#### BOOK CHAPTERS

2021 “Gender and Family,” for *Oxford Handbook on Christian Fundamentalism*, eds. Andrew Atherstone and David Ceri Jones (Oxford: Oxford University Press), forthcoming

2021 “The Rise of the Religious Right,” for *A Companion to American Religious History*, ed. Benjamin Park (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2021), 341–354.

2020 “Palin vs. Clinton: Feminism, Womanhood, and the 2008 Presidential Election,” for *Suffrage at 100: Women and American Politics*, eds. Stacie Taranto and Leandra Zarnow (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 2020), 317–334.

#### WORKS IN PROGRESS

n.d. “No O.J. from the Un-Shine State: The Myth of the 1977 Orange Juice Boycott and Why It Matters,” submitted to the *Journal of American History*.

n.d. *Satan! Twentieth-Century Moral Panics and American Identity* (book project, in progress)

**PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECTS**

- 2018–            LGBTQ+ Muncie Project, local history project currently in the process of collecting oral histories and soliciting donations of archival materials to preserve the queer history of Muncie, Indiana. Includes collaboration with community partners (Ball State University Archives and Special Collections, the Middletown Studies Center, Delaware County Historical Society, and Muncie Public Libraries) and supervision of undergraduate researchers in the Public History program at Ball State.
  
- 2012–13        LGBT Families Project, Yale Research Initiative on the History of Sexualities; Graduate Student Researcher under the direction of George Chauncey; conducted oral history interviews and collected archival materials on the history of LGBT parenting and family advocacy from individuals and groups in New Haven, CT; Boston, MA; and Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN. Worked with Yale’s Archives and Special Collections to preserve these materials in a collection held at the university.

**BOOK REVIEWS**

- 2020            Review of Daniel Vaca, *Evangelicals Incorporated: Books and the Business of Religion in America*, for *Enterprise and Society* (October).
  
- 2018            Review of Stacie Taranto, *Kitchen Table Politics: Conservative Women and Family Values in New York*, for *History: Reviews of New Books* 46, no. 3 (Spring).
  
- 2017            Review of June Melby Benowitz, *Challenge & Change: Right-Wing Women, Grassroots Activism and the Baby Boom Generation*, for *Journal of Social History* 50, no. 3 (Spring).
  
- 2014            “Us vs. Them: The Pitfalls of Righteous Rhetoric” (Review of Leslie Dorrough Smith, *Righteous Rhetoric: Sex, Speech, and the Politics of Concerned Women for America* for *Religion and Politics*, religionandpolitics.org (September 16).
  
- 2012            Review of Michelle Nickerson, *Mothers of Conservatism: Women and the Postwar Right*, for *History News Network* (June 8), <http://hnn.us/article/146694>

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- 2021            “Recalling the Mayoress: Power, Politics, and Historical Memory in Hunnewell, KS (1911),” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting (April)
  
- 2020            “Gendering the U.S. Media,” Roundtable presenter, Berkshire Conference on Women, Genders, and Sexualities, Baltimore, MD (May) conference cancelled due to COVID-19.
  
- 2020            “10 Sexual Positions that will Save America,” American Society for Church History Annual Meeting, New York City (January)

- 2020 “‘That’s How Jesus Loves’: Tammy Faye Bakker, Televangelism, and AIDS,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York City (January)
- 2019 “Author Meets Critics: Emily Suzanne Johnson’s *This Is Our Message: Women’s Leadership in the New Christian Right*,” American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA (November)
- 2019 “A Day Without Sunshine: The Myth of the 1977 Orange Juice Boycott and Why it Matters,” Queer History Conference, San Francisco, CA (June)
- 2019 “Situating the Radical Right,” Roundtable presenter, Remaking Political History Conference, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN (June)
- 2019 “Sex Advice and Political Battle Cries: Evangelical Women’s Literature and the Rise of the New Christian Right,” Midwest American Academy of Religion, Muncie, IN
- 2016 “Defining Marriage, Performing Wifehood: Women and National Authority in the New Christian Right,” American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX (November)
- 2016 “Leading Ladies: Conservative Christian Women’s National Political Leadership,” Organization of American Historians, Providence, RI (April)
- 2015 “A Day without Sunshine: Boycotts, Counter-Boycotts, and the Cultural Politics of the 1970s Religious Right,” Southern American Studies Association, Atlanta, GA (February)
- 2015 “Science, Compassion, and Ex-Gay Ministries: Understanding the Logic of Anti-Gay Activism in the 1970s,” American Historical Association, New York City (January)
- 2014 “Sacred and Sinful: Sex, Gender, and Women’s Leadership in the New Christian Right,” European Social Science History Conference, Vienna (April)
- 2013 “Whither America? Anita Bryant and the Patriotic Ideal of the New Christian Right,” Western Historical Association Annual Meeting, Tucson, AZ (October)
- 2013 “Saran Wrap and Sodomites: Sexual Revolutions and the New Christian Right,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA (January)
- 2012 “Feminism, Antifeminism and the Politics of Gender in the United States,” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Meeting, Oakland, CA (November)
- 2009 “‘Who Would Know Better than the Girls in White?’ Nurses as Experts in Postwar Magazine Advertising, 1945–1950,” Joint Atlantic Seminar on the History of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA (October)

**INVITED TALKS**

- 2021 Invited Talk at Queer and Trans Family and Friends of Pendleton, IN (January)

- 2020           Introductory Video for Judy Chicago’s “Signing the Dinner Party” from *A Retrospective in a Box*, for the exhibit 20/20: Twenty Women Artists of the Twentieth Century, David Owsley Museum of Art, Ball State University (September 24–November 25)
- 2020           Expert panelist at a screening of *The Vote* documentary, hosted by WIPB (Indiana Public Radio), David Owsley Museum of Art, Ball State University (September)
- 2019 & 2020   “Women’s Leadership in the New Christian Right,” HIST483 Class at Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, Virtual Class Visit (December)
- 2019           “Women’s Leadership in the Religious Right,” speaker at the League of Women Voters annual garden party, Muncie, IN (September)
- 2019           “Queer Muncie: A History,” with Muncie Public Library, at Mark III Taproom, Muncie, IN (June) – covered in the *Muncie Star Press*
- 2019           “Women and the Religious Right: A Modern History,” Muncie Public Library, Muncie, IN (May)
- 2019           “The Green New Deal in Historical Context,” as part of a panel on the Green New Deal at Muncie Public Library, Muncie, IN (April) – covered in the *Muncie Star Press*
- 2018           “‘A Day Without Sunshine’: Boycotts, Counter-Boycotts and Historical Memory in LGBT and Conservative Christian Communities,” Notre Dame University, South Bend, IN (November)
- 2018           “The Year(s) of the Woman in American Politics,” Big Questions, Big Ideas Series at Muncie Public Library, Muncie, IN (October)
- 2015           “A Woman’s Place: Conservative Christian Women’s National Political Leadership,” The Newberry Seminar on Women and Gender, Chicago, IL (January)
- 2012           “Submission and the American Presidency: Tracing a Prehistory of Michele Bachmann and Sarah Palin,” Chester Ronning Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life, Camrose, Alberta, Canada (March)
- 2010           “‘Who Would Know Better than the Girls in White?’ Nurses as Experts in Postwar Advertising,” Barbara Bates Center for the History of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania (February)

**CAMPUS AND DEPARTMENTAL TALKS**

- 2019           “Religion Conversation Hour: Women, Gender, and the New Christian Right,” Religious Studies Department, Ball State University (April)
- 2019           “‘That’s How Jesus Loves’: Tammy Faye Bakker and the AIDS Crisis,” History Club, Ball State University (April)

- 2018 “A Day Without Sunshine: Truth, Storytelling, and How We Do History,” History Club, Ball State University (March)
- 2014 “‘Ladies, Not Libbers’: Concerned Women for America and Evangelical Anti-Feminism in the 1980s,” Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Colloquium, Washington University in St. Louis (February)
- 2013 “‘That’s How Jesus Loves’: Christian Conservatism and the Sexual Politics of Tammy Faye Bakker,” Colloquium at John C. Danforth Center Study on Religion and Politics, Washington University in St. Louis (November)
- 2011 “Protect America’s Children: Anita Bryant and New Christian Right Maternalism,” Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Colloquium, Yale University (November)
- 2011 “Women’s Leadership in the New Christian Right: Preliminary Findings,” American Religious History Working Group, Yale University (May)
- 2010 “Consent and the Historical Profession,” Keywords Panel at the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Colloquium, Yale University (February)

**PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP**

- 2020 “In *Mrs. America*, Conservative Activist Phyllis Schlafly Takes Center Stage,” for *Religion and Politics*, religionandpolitics.org (May 5)
- 2019 “The Myth that has Shaped the Christian Right and the LGBTQ Rights Movement for Four Decades,” for the *Washington Post*, washingtonpost.com (June 21)
- 2019 “Women Have Been the Heart of the Christian Right for Decades,” for *The Conversation*, theconversation.com (June 6); picked up by *UPI*, *Good Magazine*, *The Raw Story*, and others.
- 2019 “National Women’s History Month: A Brief History,” for *OUPblog* by Oxford University Press, blog.oup.com (April 19)
- 2019 “How Women Built and Sustained the Religious Right,” for *Religion and Politics*, religionandpolitics.org (April 16)
- 2018 “Women are deeply divided on Brett Kavanaugh. Here’s why,” for the *Washington Post*, washingtonpost.com (October 1)
- 2018 “‘For Such a Time as This’: Conservative Evangelical Women and the Trump Presidency,” for *Religion and Politics*, religionandpolitics.org (March 6)
- 2018 “How white evangelicals learned to love Donald Trump,” for the *Washington Post*, washingtonpost.com (February 1)

- 2015 “Donald Trump and the Evangelical Vote,” for *Religion and Politics*, religionandpolitics.org (December 8)
- 2015 “Religion and the GOP Presidential Hopefuls (2-part series),” for American Society for Church History’s *History of Christianity* blog, churchhistory.org (May 20 & July 20)
- 2015 “Facing Our Demons: What Does Satan Have to Do with Equal Rights?” for American Society for Church History’s *History of Christianity* blog, churchhistory.org (March 25)
- 2014 “The New Pew Study: A Victory in the War on Christmas?” for American Society for Church History’s *History of Christianity* blog, churchhistory.org (December 19)
- 2014 “A Theme Park, A Scandal, and the Fading Ruins of a Televangelism Empire,” for *Religion and Politics*, religionandpolitics.org (October 28)
- 2014 “The Devil May Care: *Left Behind* and Modern American Evangelicalism,” for American Society for Church History’s *History of Christianity* blog, churchhistory.org (October 21)
- 2014 “Looking for a Better Movie: Evangelicals and Mass Media,” for *Religion in American History Blog*, usreligion.blogspot.com (March 10)

#### **INTERVIEWS, MEDIA APPEARANCES & COMMENT**

- 2020 Quoted in: Melissa Borja, “American Girl, American Religion, and Potential Plots for Courtney, SoCal Gamer Girl of the ‘80s,” *Patheos* (September 30)
- 2020 Welcome Video for Muncie Pride, on behalf of the Muncie LGBTQ+ Oral History Project (September)
- 2020 Muncie LGBTQ+ History Project featured in: Robbie Moscato-Goodpaster, “Along for the Pride: What to Expect at Muncie’s First Pride,” *The Ball State Daily* (August 20)
- 2019 “Author Interview: Emily S. Johnson’s *This Is Our Message: Women’s Leadership and the New Christian Right*,” Interview with Lindsey Jackson for *Journal of Religion and Culture* 28, no. 1–2
- 2019 “Orange Juice and Anita Bryant: Historian Emily Johnson Talks Evangelical Women, Cocktails, and Sex,” interview with Lauren McIvor Thompson for *Nursing Clio* (September 5)
- 2019 “Emily S. Johnson’s *This Is Our Message: Women’s Leadership and the New Christian Right*,” interview with Stephen Colbrook for *New Books in History Podcast* (July 8)
- 2019 “The Political and the Personal: An Interview with Emily S. Johnson about Conservative Women’s Leadership,” interview with Andy Seal, *U.S. Intellectual History Blog*, Society for U.S. Intellectual History, s-usih.org (July 29–30)

- 2019 “Women Have Actually Been at the Center of Anti-Feminism for Decades,” interview with journalist Shelby Black for *The Observer*, [observer.com](http://observer.com) (June 21)
- 2019 Quoted in: Leila Fadel, “The Culture Wars Live On Between the LGBTQ Rights Movement and the Religious Right,” *All Things Considered*, NPR, also available at [npr.org](http://npr.org) (June 20)
- 2019 Quoted in: Ryan Koronowski, “The Religious Right Calls for a ‘Special Day of Prayer’ Devoted to Trump,” *Think Progress*, [thinkprogress.org](http://thinkprogress.org) (June 2)
- 2017 Interviewed/featured in: “Touch Me! I’m Yours!” *Sexing History Podcast*, episode 5, [sexinghistory.com](http://sexinghistory.com) (October 6)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### BALL STATE UNIVERSITY:

#### CLASSES:

- Honors Colloquium: Muncie LGBTQ+ Oral History Project (Fall 2021)  
American Apocalypse, graduate seminar (Spring 2020)  
Immersive Learning: Muncie LGBTQ+ Oral History Project (Spring 2020)  
U.S. Histories of Sexuality (Fall 2019, Spring 2021)  
U.S. History, 1877 to Present (every semester since Fall 2017)  
Women in American History (Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021)  
Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies (Fall 2018, Fall 2019)

#### INDEPENDENT STUDIES:

- Queer Theory/Queer History (Summer 2021)  
Women and Religion in U.S. History (Summer 2020)  
Food and Religion in U.S. History (Summer 2020)  
Gender and Feminism in U.S. Film History (Summer 2019)  
Religion and Southern Nationalism (Fall 2018)  
Cold War Masculinities in Politics and Popular Culture (Summer 2018)  
Gender and Family in the Cold War United States (Spring 2018)

#### UNDERGRADUATE CAPSTONE PROJECTS (SUPERVISED):

- Historical Memory and the Reagan Presidency: An Oral History Research Project (Spring 2020)  
Women and the U.S. Astronaut Program (Spring 2019)  
Women in the U.S. Air Force (Spring 2018)

#### GRADUATE CAPSTONE PROJECTS (SUPERVISED):



Disney Princesses and Princess Performers: A Historical/Sociological Study (Ongoing)  
Harold Rugg and the History of History Education (Ongoing)

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE:

American Religious History (Spring 2015, Summer 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2017)

American Apocalypse (Spring 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2017)

Women and Gender in American Religious History (Fall 2014)

Research Seminar in American Religious History (Spring 2016)

Comparing World Religions: Food, Ritual, and Culture (Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2017)

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION:

- 2020            Commenter, “Urban Vice: Sex, Regulation, and Public Morality in the Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century City,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York City
- 2019–20        Pre-publication manuscript reviewer for University of Georgia Press, Oxford University Press
- 2015–21        Pre-publication article reviewer for *Fieldwork in Religion*, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, *Religion and American Culture*, and *Teaching History*
- 2013–14        Editorial Assistant, *Women’s History Review*

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT/UNIVERSITY:

- 2021            Secretary, Evaluation Methods Committee, American Association of University Professors, Ball State University
- 2020–2021     Founding Member, Ad-Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, History Department, Ball State University
- 2020–2021     Host, Monthly History Trivia Nights, History Department, Ball State University
- 2020–2021     Chair, Sharon Seager Committee for Women’s and Gender History, Ball State University
- 2018–2021     Guest Speaker in HIST200, Ball State University
- 2018–2021     Student History Conference Committee, Ball State University (chair, 2019–2020; secretary, 2020–2021)
- 2020            Search Committee, African American history position, Ball State University
- 2018–2019     Cofounder and organizer, Gender and Sexualities Working Group, Ball State University

- 2019 Appearance in “Major in a Minute” video describing the value of a history degree, Ball State University
- 2019 Presenter at History Department Award Ceremony, Ball State University
- 2019 Ad Hoc Committee on revising the History capstone course (HIST470), Ball State University
- 2019 Represented History Department at Ball State University’s “Iron Chef Pedagogy Competition”
- 2019 Ad Hoc Committee on tenure policies and procedures for joint hires in History and Women and Gender Studies, Ball State University
- 2015–2016 Developed outreach campaign for Religious Studies Department, to increase enrollment and attract new majors and minors, University of Tennessee
- 2014 Organizer, “Religion and Sexual Revolutions” graduate student conference, including a keynote lecture by Rebecca L. Davis (University of Delaware) at the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2010–12 Colloquium Co-Organizer; Program in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; Yale University
- 2010–11 Co-Organizer, American Religious History Working Group; Department of Religious Studies; Yale University

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Historical Association  
American Academy of Religion  
American Society for Church History  
Organization of American Historians

### **LANGUAGES**

French: Speaking, Reading, and Writing Proficiency  
Spanish: Reading Proficiency