

CURRICULUM VITAE  
Stuart A. Wright

## Research Interests

Religion

Law and Public Policy

Social Movements

Terrorism and Political Violence

## Professional Offices and Roles:

- Editorial Board, *Review of Religious Research*, 2019-present
- Robert J. McNamara Award Committee, Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR), 2016-19
- Distinguished Journal Article Selection Committee, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR), 2016-19
- Chair, Publications Committee, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR), 2010-12.
- Executive Council and Chair, Joint Publicity Committee of the Society for Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) and the Religious Research Association (RRA), 1989-2000.
- Board of Directors, Association for the Academic Study of New Religions, 2001-present
- Executive Council, Religious Research Association, 1998-2001.
- Advisor to FBI Crisis Incident Response Group (CIRG) on extremist sects, 1996-1998
- Advisory Board, Religion Crisis Task Force, 1994-2000
- Jefferson County Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee (UPLC), 2000-2014
- Reviewer for National Science Foundation (NSF) grants, 1995-present
- Publicity Chair, Association for the Sociology of Religion, 1993-1996

## Legal Advisory and Consulting Work

Consultant and expert witness in *Tyler Atkins vs. Miranda Clendening*, Superior Court, State of Arizona, County of Santa Cruz, Case no. DO 14-127. Retained by Global Community Communications Alliance in child custody case (April

Expert witness, sworn testimony before the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight and the Committee on the Judiciary, hearings on Waco, Sam Rayburn Building, Washington, DC, July 19, 1995.

Consultant to Chief Investigator, Michael E. Hubbard and Senior Investigative Counsel, Lisa Odle Kaufman, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate hearings on Waco, October 1995.

Consultant for Jenner & Block Attorneys at Law in *Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity v. David Molko and Tracy Leal*, California Supreme Court, Ct. A025338, No. 769-529, (filed October 17, 1988).

Signator to Amicus Curiae brief, *Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity v. David Molko and Tracy Leal*, U.S. Supreme Court, No. 88-1600, October 1988.

Consultant for Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold Attorneys at Law, *Pamela Miller v. Lifespring, Inc.*, California Superior Court, No. 867859 (filed March 22, 1988).

Scholarly Publications:

Stuart A. Wright. Forthcoming. "

"A Conversation with Stuart A. Wright, author of *Storming Zion: Government Raids on Religious Communities*." *Criminal Justice Newsletter*, March 2016, Volume XLI, Issue 2, pp.19-22.

Jennifer Lara Fagen and Stuart A. Wright. 2014. "Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Empowerment in Mormon Fundamentalist Communities," pp. 9-28 in Henrik Bogdan and James R. Lewis (eds.), *Sexuality and New Religious Movements*. New York: MacMillan.

Stuart A. Wright and James T. Richardson. 2014. "The Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints after the Texas State Raid: Assessing a Post-Raid Movement Trajectory." *Nova Religio* 17 (4): 38-48.

Stuart A. Wright. 2014. "Disengagement and Apostasy in New Religious Movements," pp. 706-735 in Lewis Rambo and Charles Farkadian (eds.), *Oxford Handbook on Religious Conversion*. New

Stuart A. Wright. 2007. "The Dynamics of Movement Membership: Joining and Leaving NRMs," pp.187-210 in David G. Bromley (ed.), *Teaching New Religious Movements*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Stuart A. Wright. 2005. "Explaining Militarization at Waco: Construction and Convergence of a Warfare Narrative," pp.75-97 in James R. Lewis (ed.), *Controversial New Religions*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Stuart A. Wright. 2005. "Deconstructing a Modern Witch Hunt: Satanic Cults, Ritual Abuse and Moral Panic," pp. 120-136 in Helen A. Berger (ed.), *Magic and Witchcraft in the New World*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Stuart A. Wright. 2003. "Why Negotiations at Mt. Carmel Really Failed: Disinformation, Dissension and Psychological Warfare," pp.42-56 in David Tabb Stewart (ed.), *Waco: Ten Years After*. Georgetown, TX: Southwestern University Fleming Lecture Series.

Stuart A. Wright. 2003. "A Critical Analysis of Evidentiary and Procedural Rulings in the Branch Davidian Civil Trial," pp. 79-87 in Derek Davis and Barry Hankins (ed.), *New Religious Movements and Religious Liberty in America* (Second Edition). Waco: Baylor University Press.

Stuart A. Wright. 2003. "A Decade after Waco: Reassessing Crisis Negotiations at Mt. Carmel in Light of New Government Disclosures." *Nova Religio* 7 (2): 101-110.

Stuart A. Wright. 2002. "Public Agency Involvement in Movement-State Confrontations," pp.102-22 in David G. Bromley and J. Gordon Melton (eds.), *Cults, Religion and Violence*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Stuart A. Wright. 2002. "A Critical Analysis of Evidentiary and Procedural Rulings in the Branch Davidian Civil Trial," pp. 101-113 in Derek Davis (ed.), *New Religious Movements and Religious Liberty in America*. Waco: Baylor University Press.

Stuart A. Wright. 2001. "Field Notes from Waco: *Isabel Andrade et al v. U. S.*"

Stuart A. Wright. 1997. Guest editor, special issue, "Mass Media and Unconventional Religion."  
*Review of Religious Research* 93 (2).

Stuart A. Wright. 1997. "Media Coverage of Unconventional Religion: Any 'Good News' for  
Minority Faiths?" *Review of Religious Research* 93 (2): 101-115.

David W. Murphree, Stuart A. Wright and Helen R. Ebaugh. 1

Youth Leaving or Remaining in Deviant Religious Groups." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 48 (1): 15-25.

Stuart A. Wright. 1984. "Post-Involvement Attitudes of Voluntary Defectors from Controversial New Religious Movements." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 23 (2): 172-182.

Stuart A. Wright. 1983. "Defection from New Religious Movements: A Test of Some Theoretical Propositions," pp. 106-121 in David G. Bromley and James T. Richardson (eds.), *The Deprogramming/ Brainwashing Controversy: Sociological, Psychological, Legal and Historical Perspectives*. New York: Edwin Mellen.

William V. D'Antonio, William M. Newman and Stuart A. Wright. 1982. "Religion and Family Life: How Social Scientists View the Relationship." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 21 (3): 218-225.

Stuart A. Wright and William V. D'Antonio. 1981. "Reply to Yinger." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 20 (1): 92.

William M. Newman and Stuart A. Wright. 1980. "The Effects of Sermons among Lay Catholics: An Exploratory Study." *Review of Religious Research* 22 (1): 54-59.

Stuart A. Wright and William V. D' Antonio. 1980. "The Substructure of Religion: A Further Study." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 21 (3): 218-225.

#### Books:

Michael Stausberg, Stuart A. Wright, and Carole M. Cusack. 2020. *The Demise of Religion: How Religions End, Die, or Dissipate*. London: Bloomsbury Academic Publishers.

Stuart A. Wright and Susan J. Palmer. 2016. *Storming Zion: Government Raids on Religious Communities*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Stuart A. Wright and James T. Richardson. 2011. *Saints under Siege: The Texas State Raid on the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints*. New York: New York University Press.

Stuart A. Wright. 2007. *Patriots, Politics and the Oklahoma City Bombing*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Stuart A. Wright. 1995. *Armageddon in Waco: Critical Perspectives on the Branch Davidian Conflict*. Chicago: University of Chicago.

Stuart A. Wright. 1987. *Leaving Cults: The Dynamics of Defection*. Washington, D.C.: Society for the Scientific Study of Religion.

C. Kirk Hadaway, Stuart A. Wright and Francis DuBose. 1987. *Home Cell Groups and House Churches: Emerging Alternatives for the Urban Church*. Nashville: Broadman.

Invited Presentations and Lectures:

"Climate Change and Emerging Environmental Threats to the Upper Gulf Coast," presentation at the Social Justice Symposium, Lamar University, October 5, 2019.

"An Analytical Framework for Examining Religious Demise," presentation at Center for Advanced Study symposium, Oslo, Norway, May 16, 2009.

"Factors to Consider in the Trajectory of Violence in Millenarian Movements," invited lecture at



Religious Violence, paper presented at the conference, Dying for Faith: Religiously Motivated Violence in the Contemporary World, King's College, London, September 11, 2006.

"A nalysis of a Burgeoning Racialist Transnational N etwork," invited presentation at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center, Bellagio, Italy, October 18, 2005.

" Between Waco and Oklahoma City: McVeigh, Elohim City and the Patriot Movement," invited lecture sponsored by the Biever Lecture Series and the Religious Studies Department, Loyola University, New Orleans, Feb. 16, 2004.

" Why Crisis Negotiations at Mt. Carmel Really Failed: Disinformation, Dissension and Psychological Warfare," invited lecture sponsored by the Fleming Lecture Series in Religion, Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX, Feb.26, 2003.

" France's A nti-Sect Campaign: Religious Sects, Human Rights and the Media." Workshop presentation at Harvard University, co-sponsored by Kennedy School of Government, Carr Center for Human Rights and Center for the Study of World Religion, October 19-20, 2001, Cambridge, MA.

" Crisis N egotiations with Militant or A pocalyptic Sects." Seminar presented to Beaumont Police Department, Hostage Negotiation Unit, May 10, 2001.

" Problems with Evidentiary and Procedural Rulings in the Branch Davidian Civil Trial," invited presentation to the " New Religious Movements and Religious Liberty in A merica" conference sponsored by J.M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies, Baylor University, Waco, TX, February 23-24, 2001.

" Emerging Religious Liberty Issues in North A merica and Western Europe," invited presentation to the International Conference for Religious Freedom, Berlin, May 10-14, 1998.

"The Social and Political Repercussions of the Federal Siege at Waco," invited lecture to Department of Sociology, California State University at Long Beach, April 24, 1998.

"Religious Movements and Sects: What We Know from 25 years of Social Science Research." Seminar presented to Jefferson County Sheriff's Association, John Gray Institute, Beaumont, TX., July 30, 1993.

"Environmental Threat, Toxic Waste and Public Policy," invited presentation to Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Lamar University, April 25, 1991.

" Environmental A wareness, Community Organization and Pollution." Presentation at the Environmental Issues Workshop, John Gray Institute, Beaumont, Texas, July 30, 1991.

"Environmental Activism, Public Opinion and Hazardous Wastes: Exploring the Siting Impasse." Colloquium presentation to the Department of Sociology, University of





the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Boston, November 5-7, 1999.

"Chen Tao: A Preliminary Case Study in the Failure of Prophecy." Presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Montreal, November 4-6, 1998.

"Hostage-Barricade Incidents Involving Defiant Sects: Another Look at Waco." Presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, San Diego, Nov 7-9, 1997.

"Exploring the Varieties of Apostate Roles." Presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Nashville, Nov 8-10, 1996.

"Death of a Prophet: Charismatic Succession in a Religious Movement" Presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, St. Louis, MO, Oct 27-29, 1995.

"Generational Change and Adaptation in a Controversial NRM." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Albuquerque, NM, Nov 4-6, 1994.

"Local Environmental Protest and Technical Controversy in a Siting Dispute." Presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, August 5-9, 1994.

"Environmental Activism and Clergy Involvement: Re-examining the Religious Meaning of Environmental Threat." Presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Raleigh, NC, October 28-30, 1993.

"Toxic Waste Siting and Community Response: Conflict, Compromise and Cooperation" (with David Murphree). Presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Miami, FL, August 15-19, 1992.

"Grassroots Environmentalism, Knowledge and Toxic Waste Siting." Presented at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Pittsburgh, August 20-24, 1992.

"Cults in the Courtroom: Motives, Confluence and Retrospective Accounts." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Pittsburgh, PA, November 4-6, 1991.

"Cults, Coercion and Psychiatric Inculcation: Debunking Cult-Induced Behavioral Symptoms." Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 26-28, Salt Lake City, 1989.

"Religious Fundamentalist Reactions to Public Education: Preliminary Resuntic Education: Preliminary Gesk0

"The Dynamics of Cult Disengagement: An Analysis of Exiting Modes." Presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 1985, Savannah, GA.

"Deconversion and Reality-Transformation: A Model of Defection." Presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 1981, Baltimore, MD.

"Secularization, Religious Dissent and Unconventional Movements." Presented at the annual meetings of the Southwestern Sociological Association, April 1981, Houston, Texas.

"A Research Note on Yinger's Substructure of Religion" (with William V. D'Antonio). Presented at the annual meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 1979, San Antonio, Texas.

#### Media Interviews and Editorials:

Interview with Andrew Rice, contributing editor to *The New Yorker*, on President Biden's new Attorney General, Merrick Garland and his role in overseeing the Oklahoma City bombing, as well as the government's broader approach to dealing with far-right extremist groups in the 1990s, March 16, 2021.

Interview with Jillian Fertig, The Morning Show on KFDM 6 News regarding far-right political activity in southeast Texas leading up to the presidential election, November 5, 2020.

Video interview with independent filmmaker Ryan Acevedo, making a documentary on the federal raid of the Branch Davidian community in 1993 and its subsequent impact on far-right extremist groups, January 5, 2020.

Interview with reporter for the *Congressional Quarterly*, regarding lessons learned by government from the raids on the Branch Davidians and the Fundamentalist Mormons, June 21, 2019.

Interview with Alex Presley, producer at *Headline News/CNN*

Interview with Brandon Scott, *Beaumont Enterprise*, regarding new campus carry law in Texas, Dec. 28, 2015.

Interview, live in-studio with KDFM Ch.6 concerning Paris attacks and jihadist terrorism, Nov. 18, 2015.

Interview with PBS filmmaker for *American Experience* series regarding the rise of the militant right and the Oklahoma City bombing, July 30, 2015.

Interview, KBMT-TV Channel 12, "Oklahoma City marks 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of OKC bombing," April 15, 2015.

Interview, "America remembers the Oklahoma City bombing 20 years later," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, April 17, 2015.

Guest editorial, "Educated-cities list mislabeled Beaumont," *Beaumont Enterprise*, November 2, 2014.

Interview, "Lesson from Waco: Religion matters when dealing with the nonconventional," *Deseret News*, April 18, 2013.

Interview recorded at MSNBC studio New York commemorating the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of

regarding execution of Timothy McVeigh, June 8, 2001.

Featured guest on call-in show with Tom Wright, KFDM-TV Channel 6, May 10, 2001.





President's "Visionary Projects" grant, \$300,000, 2016-19 (with PI Mary L. Scheer).

"Women's Empowerment in the Muslim Community" (with Jennifer Lara Fagen), Lamar University Research Enhancement grant, \$5,000, 2014-15.

"Exploring Gender Roles and Power in Three Mormon Polygamous Communities." Joseph H. Fichter award to support field research of fundamentalist Mormon communities in Utah and Arizona, \$5,000, 2011.

Jack Shand Travel Grant in support of cross-national research examining government raids on religious communities; travel to Italy, France and Belgium to visit raided communities, obtain interviews and conduct on-site field research, \$5000, summer 2009.

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) grant in support of research in United Kingdom and Italy on transnational network of racial nationalists; conduct interviews, visit archives of monitoring groups, \$5,000, fall 2005.

"A Study of Reactions to a Failed Prophecy in an Apocalyptic Movement." A grant from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) in the amount of \$5,000, 1999-2000.

"A Comparative Study of Siting Conflicts in Two Counties." A grant from the EPA/Gulf Coast

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