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**Timothy L. O'Brien**

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Department of Sociology

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**EMPLOYMENT**

2019- Associate Professor (Directory of Undergraduate Studies 2020-present), Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

2015-19 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

2013-15 Assistant Professor, Department of Law, Politics, and Society, University of Evansville.

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. 2013, Indiana University, Sociology  
Minor: History and Philosophy of Science  
Dissertation: "Witnessing Expertise: A Mixed-methods Analysis of Expert Authority in United States District Courts."  
Committee: Thomas F. Gieryn (chair), J. Scott Long, Ethan Michelson, Brian Powell

M.A. 2008, Indiana University, Sociology  
Thesis: "The Evolving Co-Authorship Patterns of Research Scientists."  
Committee: Clem Brooks (chair), Thomas F. Gieryn

B.S. 2005, University of Wyoming, Sociology and Psychology

**PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES**

2020 **O'Brien, Timothy L.**, "Racing Justice: Mass Incarceration and Perceptions of Courts." *Social Science Research* First published: 18 August 2020  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2020.102443>

2020 **O'Brien, Timothy L.**, and Shiri Noy. "Political Identity and Confidence in Science and Religion in the United States." *Sociology of Religion* 81(4): 439–461

2020 **O'Brien, Timothy L.**, "Arresting Confidence: Mass Incarceration and Black–White Differences in Perceptions of Legal Authorities." *Social Science Quarterly* 101(5): 1905-1919.

2019 Noy, Shiri, and **Timothy L. O'Brien**. "Science for Good? The effects of education and national context on perceptions of science?" *Public Understanding of Science* 28(8): 897-916.

- 2018 **O'Brien, Timothy L.**, and Shiri Noy. "Cultural Authority in Comparative Context: A Multi-Level Analysis of Trust in Science and Religion." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 57(3): 495-513.
- 2018 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** "Gender, Expert Advice, and Judicial Gatekeeping in the United States." *Social Science Research* 72: 134-145.
- 2018 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** "Gender and Support for Expert Advisers and Elected Officials in the US Public Sphere." *Public Understanding of Science* 27(2): 243-259.
- 2018 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** "Beyond Reliable: Challenging and Deciding Expert Witness Admissibility in United States Civil Courts." *Law, Probability, and Risk* 17(1): 29-44.
- 2018 Noy, Shiri, and **Timothy L. O'Brien**. "An Intersectional Analysis of Perspectives on Science and Religion in the United States." *The Sociological Quarterly* 59(1): 40-61.
- 2017 Gauchat, Gordon, **Timothy L. O'Brien**, and Oriol Miroso. "The Legitimacy of Environmental Scientists in the Public Sphere." *Climatic Change* 143(3-4): 97-306.
- 2017 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** "Working Knowledge: Organizational Location and the Construction of Expert Authority in Court." *Social Science Quarterly* 98(5): 1677-1690.
- 2016 Noy, Shiri, and **Timothy L. O'Brien**. "A Nation Divided: Science, Religion, and Public Opinion in the United States." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* 2: 1-15.
- 2016 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** "Judging Expertise: Gender and the Negotiation of Expert Authority in Court." *Social Currents* 3(4): 315-331.
- 2016 **O'Brien, Timothy L.**, and Oren Pizmony-Levy. "Going Public, Gaining Credibility: Student Perceptions of Engaged Scholars." *Sociological Perspectives* 59(2): 246-269.
  - Winner of ASA Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Publication Award
  - Winner of SSSP Conflict, Social Action, and Change Division's Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award
- 2016 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** "The Cultural Authority of Stem Cell Researchers." *Stem Cell and Translational Investigation* 3: e1420. DOI: 10.14800/scti.1420.
- 2015 **O'Brien, Timothy L.**, and Shiri Noy. "Traditional, Modern, and Post-Secular Perspectives on Science and Religion in the United States." *American Sociological Review* 80(1): 92-115.
- 2013 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** "Education and Support for Scientists and Elected Officials in Public Policy Decisions." *Science and Public Policy* 40: 340-353.
- 2013 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** "Scientific Authority in Policy Contexts: Public Attitudes about Environmental Scientists, Medical Researchers, and Economists." *Public Understanding of Science* 22(7): 799-816.

- 2012 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** "Change in Academic Co-Authorship, 1953-2003." *Science, Technology, and Human Values* 37: 210-234.

### **BOOK**

- 2019 Massey, Garth, and **Timothy L. O'Brien** (eds.). *Readings for Sociology, 9<sup>th</sup> edition*. New York, NY: WW Norton & Co.

### **BOOK REVIEWS**

- 2019 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** Review of *Morals not Knowledge: Recasting the Contemporary U.S. Conflict between Religion and Science* by John H. Evans. *American Journal of Sociology* 125(2): 590-591.
- 2018 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** Review of *Religion vs. Science: What Religious People Really Think* by Elaine Howard Ecklund and Christopher P. Scheitle. *Social Forces* 97(1): Page e4.
- 2018 **O'Brien, Timothy L.** Review of *Paranoid Science: The Christian Right's War on Reality* by Antony Alumkul. *Sociology of Religion* 79(2): 277-279.

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 2019 American Sociological Society's Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Publication Award for Significant Contributions to Applied and Public Sociology (with Oren Pizmony-Levy)
- 2013 SAGE Teaching Innovations and Professional Development Award.
- 2013 Karl F. Schuessler Award for Graduate Research, Department of Sociology, Indiana University (with Shiri Noy).
- 2012 Karl F. Schuessler Award for Graduate Research, Department of Sociology, Indiana University.
- 2010 North Central Sociological Association Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award.
- 2010 Society for the Study of Social Problems, Conflict, Social Action, and Change Division's Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award (with Oren Pizmony-Levy).
- 2008-12 Travel Award, Department of Sociology, Indiana University.
- 2005 Phi Kappa Phi.
- 2005 Phi Beta Kappa.
- 2004 Alpha Kappa Delta.

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

- 2014 Alumni Research and Scholarly Activity Fellowship, University of Evansville.
- 2012-13 College of Arts and Science Dissertation Year Research Fellowship, Indiana University.
- 2012 Atherton Bean Fellowship, Department of Sociology, Indiana University.
- 2010-11 Advanced Departmental Fellowship, Department of Sociology, Indiana University.
- 2008 Graduate Summer Fellowship, Indiana University.
- 2006-13 Graduate Tuition Scholarship, Indiana University.
- 2001-05 Western Heritage Scholarship, University of Wyoming.

## **GRANTS**

- 2020-20 Principal Investigator (with Shiri Noy). "Religious Identities, Beliefs, and the Moral Meanings of Science and Religion in the United States," Templeton Religion Trust. \$55,000.
- 2020-21 Principal Investigator. "The Legal, Political, and Social Filtering of Expert Witnesses in Court." National Science Foundation (#1946236). \$106,007.
- 2016-17 Research and Creative Activities Support Award, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "Gender and Judicial Gatekeeping in Civil Rights Law" \$10,900.
- 2014 Arts, Research, and Teaching Grant, University of Evansville. \$1,000.
- 2013 Schroeder Family Faculty Development Grant, University of Evansville. \$1,200.
- 2013 Eykamp Center for Teaching Excellence Teaching Conference Grant, University of Evansville. \$1,000.

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- 2017 "Tips from New(ish) Profs: Transitioning from Graduate Student to Faculty Member." Annual Meetings of the Midwest Sociological Society, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2016 "A House Divided: Science, Religion, and Politics in the United States." University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Religious Studies Student Organization Fall Symposium, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2016 "Science, Religion, and Public Opinion in the United States." Public Perceptions of Science and Religion Conference, University of California, San Diego.

- 2016 "Science on Trial: Gender, Educational Credentials, and Expert Witness Credibility." Annual Meetings of the Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta, GA.
- 2015 "Traditional, Modern, and Post-Secular Perspectives on Science and Religion in the United States." Unitarian Universalist Church of Evansville, Evansville, IN.
- 2014 "The Use of Expert Witnesses in Courts." Public Sociology Forum, Department of Sociology, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.

### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- 2020 "Threatening Morality: Religious and Political Opposition to Science in the United States" The 115th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association (with Shiri Noy). Presentation given virtually due to pandemic.
- 2019 "Race, Representation, and Confidence in Government: Evidence from the United States, 1073-2018" The 114th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY.
- 2019 "Ideology, Incarceration, and Confidence in the Justice System: Evidence from an International Survey." Annual Meetings of the Midwest Sociological Society, Chicago, IL.
- 2018 "Political Identity and Trust in Science and Religion" The 113th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA (with Shiri Noy).
- 2018 "Racing Justice: Black-White Differences in Trust in the Supreme Court, 1973-2016" Annual Meetings of the Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2017 "Gender, Deference to Authority, and Judicial Gatekeeping in Civil Rights Litigation." The 112th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Montreal, Quebec.
- 2017 "Beyond Reliable: Challenging and Deciding Expert Witness Admissibility." Annual Meetings of the Midwest Sociological Society, Milwaukee, WI
- 2016 "Cross-National Differences in Attitudes about Science and Religion: A Multi-Level Analysis" The 111th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA (with Shiri Noy).
- 2016 "Toward a Field Approach to the Cultural Authority of Science: Comparing Durkheim and Bourdieu" The 111th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Seattle, WA (with Gordon Gauchat).
- 2015 "Gender and the Negotiation of Expert Authority in Court." The 110th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2014 "Occupational Sector Differences in Expert Witness Admissibility." The 109th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.

- 2013 “Unqualified Testimony or Unequal Treatment? Gender Differences in Legal Designations of Expert Witnesses.” The 69th Annual Meetings of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.
- 2013 “Scientific and Religious Worldviews and Public Opinion in the United States.” The 108th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY (with Shiri Noy).
- 2012 “Conflict and Compatibility Between Science and Religion Among the American Public.” The 107th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Denver, CO (with Shiri Noy).
- 2011 “Organizational Context and the Admissibility of Expert Witnesses into Court.” The 106th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2010 “Economists, Medical Researchers and Public Policy: Differences in Cultural Authority of Social and Natural Scientists.” The 105th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Atlanta, GA.
- 2010 “The Credibility of University Professors: Is there a Penalty on Engaged Scholarship?” The 60th Annual Meetings of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Atlanta, GA (with Oren Pizmony-Levy).
- 2009 “Graduate Training and the Reproduction of Gender Inequality in Scientific Careers.” Annual Meetings of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Bloomington, IN (with Kerry Greer).
- 2009 “Education and Public Attitudes about Scientific Leadership.” The 104th Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- 2008 “The Evolving Collaboration Patterns of Research Scientists.” The 103rd Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association, Boston, MA.
- 2008 “Professional and Personal Identity Centrality in Research Scientists.” The Annual Meetings of the North Central Sociological Association, Cincinnati, OH.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Introduction to Sociology: Indiana University, University of Evansville, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Sociology of Law (undergraduate): University of Evansville, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Research Methods: University of Evansville (undergraduate), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (graduate)

Introduction to Behavioral Statistics (undergraduate): University of Evansville, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Social Theory (undergraduate): Indiana University, University of Evansville

Race and Ethnic Group Relations (undergraduate): University of Evansville

Internship in Sociology (undergraduate): University of Evansville  
Quantitative Research Methods (undergraduate): Indiana University  
Sociological Research Practicum (graduate): Indiana University (co-instructor)

## **GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING**

### University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

*Dissertation committee:* Mathew T. McCarthy (2017), Daniel Bartholomay (2019), Stephanie Baran (2019), Michal Miner (2020)

*MA chair:* Emily Dorshorst (2016), Katie Behl (2018), Robert Koerber (2018), Ryan Paulus (2019), Jesse Campa (2019), Megan Betts (2020), Tiff Weekley (2020)

*MA committee:* Helge Mannharens (2016), Kaylin James (2016), Derek Post (2016), Jenna Nitkowski (2017), Cathryn Miller (2017), Tenshi Kawashimi (2019), Zachary Wagner (2019), Mitch Moyer (2020)

*Preliminary exam committee:* Stephanie Baran (2016), Alexander Bryan (2017), Emily Dorshorst (2018), Yi Yin (2019), Michael Miner (2019), Nevada Hessler (2020), Kristen Schmidt (2020)

## **SERVICE**

### Ad hoc reviewer

American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review; European Sociological Review; Social Forces; Social Currents; Sociological Focus; Socius; The Sociological Quarterly; Science, Technology, and Human Values; Science Communication; Public Administration Review; Public Understanding of Science; Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion; Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

### American Sociological Association (member 2008-present)

2020 Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section, Committee chair, Robert K. Merton Award for Outstanding Book  
2019 Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section, Committee chair, Star-Nelkin Award for Outstanding Paper  
2018 Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section, Committee chair, Hacker-Mullins Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper  
2017-20 Science, Knowledge and Technology Section Council  
2016 Science, Knowledge and Technology Section, Committee, Hacker-Mullins Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper  
2013-20 Science, Knowledge and Technology Section, Membership committee

### University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

2020- Faculty Senator  
2020- Graduate Program Review Committee  
2020- Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Sociology  
2020 Internal Reviewer, UWM Mathematical Sciences Graduate Program Review  
2017-20 Academic Policy Committee (co-chair 2018-19)  
2017-20 Colloquium Committee, Department of Sociology

2017 Merit Review Committee, Department of Sociology  
2016 Internal Reviewer, UWM Bachelor's in Social Work Program  
2016-20 Steering Committee, Religious Studies Program  
2015-17 Undergraduate Committee, Department of Sociology

University of Evansville

2014-15 Faculty Professional Affairs Committee  
2014-15 Academic Services Committee  
2013-14 Curriculum Committee

Indiana University

2010-11 Personnel Committee, Department of Sociology  
2009-10 Undergraduate Affairs Committee, Department of Sociology  
2007-08 Social Affairs Committee, Department of Sociology