

# Dr. Ryan P. Burge

Assistant Professor of Political Science and Graduate Coordinator, Eastern Illinois University

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## Education

Ph.D. Political Science, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, 2011.

*Dissertation:* Religion and Political Behavior: Studies of Political Tolerance, Voting, and Public Opinion

*Director:* Dr. J. Tobin Grant

*Fields:* American Politics, Public Administration, Comparative Politics

M.A. Political Science, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, 2007.

*Thesis:* Religiosity and Anxiety: A New Approach.

*Adviser:* Dr. J. Tobin Grant

B.A. History/Political Science, Greenville College, 2004.

*Minors:* Religion/Philosophy.

## Scholarship - Peer Reviewed Articles

Bramlett, Brittany and Ryan P. Burge. 2020. "God Talk in a Digital Age: How Members of Congress Use Religious Language on Twitter" *Politics & Religion*. Forthcoming.

Burge Ryan P. 2020. "How Many 'Nones' Are There? Explaining the Difference in Survey Estimates" *Review of Religious Research*. 62(1):173-190. DOI: 10.1007/s13644-020-00400-7

Perry, Samuel and Ryan P. Burge. 2019. "How Religion Predicts Pet Ownership in the United States." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 59(1):190-201.

Burge, Ryan P. and Miles Williams. 2019. "Is Social Media A Digital Pulpit? How Evangelical Leaders Use Twitter to Encourage the Faithful and Publicize Their Work." *Journal of Religion, Media, and Digital Culture*. 8(3):309-339.

Friesen, Amanda, Ryan P. Burge, and Kylee Britzman. 2019. "Digital Segregation: Gender, Occupation and Access to Politics." *Social Science Computer Review*. DOI: 10.1177/0894439319851164

Burge, Ryan P. and Miles Williams. 2019. "Gender in the Pulpit: The Differences in Speaking Style for Men and Women" *Journal of Communication and Religion*. 42(1): 63-82.

Burge, Ryan P. 2018. "Authority, Authoritarianism, and Religion." In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford University Press. DOI: 10.1093/9780190228637.013.667

Burge, Ryan P. 2018. "To Be of One Mind?: How LGB Evangelicals Navigate the Political World" *Politics, Groups, and Identities*. DOI: 10.1080/21565503.2018.1518784

- Burge, Ryan P. and Andrew Lewis. 2018. "Measuring Evangelicals: Practical Considerations for Social Scientists." *Politics & Religion*. 11(4): 745-759.
- Eisenstein, Marie, George Yancey, and Ryan P. Burge. 2017. "Christian Theology and Attitudes Toward Political-Ideological Groups." *Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion*. 13(6): 1-13.
- Burge, Ryan P. and Paul A. Djupe. 2017. "An Emergent Threat: Christian Clergy Perceptions of the Emerging Church Movement" *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. DOI: 10.1111/jssr.12324.
- Burge, Ryan, Paul A. Djupe and Brian Calfano. 2016. "The Delegational Pulpit? Clergy Identifying as Congregational Political Representatives." *Representation*. 52(1): 43-69. DOI: 10.1080/00344893.2016.1244112.
- Burge, Ryan P. and Paul A. Djupe. 2016. "Emergent Fault Lines: Clergy Attitudes Toward the Emergent Church Movement." *Journal of Religious Leadership*. 15(1): 5-30.
- Burge, Ryan P. and Paul A. Djupe. 2015. "Emergent Church Practices in America: Inclusion and Deliberation in American Congregations" *Review of Religious Research* 57(1): 1-22. DOI: 10.1007/s13644-014-0157-2
- Burge, Ryan and Paul Djupe. 2014. "Truly Inclusive or Uniformly Liberal: An Analysis of the Politics of the Emerging Church." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 53(3): 636-651. DOI: 10.1111/jssr.12129
- Burge, Ryan. 2013. "Using Matching to Investigate the Relationship Between Religion and Tolerance." *Politics & Religion*. 6(2): 264-281. DOI: 10.1017/S1755048312000569

## Scholarship - Book Chapters

- Burge, Ryan P. 2018. "We Find Truth by Talking: Comparing Authority in Evangelicalism and the Emergent Church." In *The Evangelical Crackup: Will the Evangelical-Republican Coalition Last?* eds. Paul Djupe and Ryan Claassen. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 160-173.
- Burge, Ryan, Paul A. Djupe and Brian Calfano. 2015. "The Political Tolerance of Clergy and its Democratic Roots." In *Religion and Political Tolerance in America: Advances in the State of the Art*. ed. Paul Djupe. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 21-33.

## Research Grants

- Student Impact Grant (with Hannah Smothers). 2019. The Graduate School - Eastern Illinois University. (\$1,500)
- Principal Investigator (with Paul Djupe). 2019. The Social and Political Implications of Non-Denominational Protestantism. The Louisville Institute: Project Grant for Researchers. (\$14,000)

## Scholarship, Non-Peer Reviewed, Online Publications

Founding Editor of *Religion in Public*, a venue for scholars of religion and politics to make their work accessible to a general audience. Full post list here.

Occasional Contributor to *Christianity Today*

"Where Do White Evangelicals Get Their Coronavirus News? The White House". May 14, 2020.

"Churches Should Not Be the First to Reopen". April 23, 2020.

- "Will COVID-19 Lead to a Long-term Shift in Church Attendance?". March 24, 2020.
- "Faith Over Fear? No, It's Political Ideology that Keeps People Unafraid of COVID-19". March 15, 2020.
- "The Possible Decline of the Nones Isn't a Boost for Evangelicals" March 3, 2020.
- "Learning About Other Faiths Doesn't Lead Evangelical Students to Lose Theirs" February 26, 2020.
- "Despite Stigma, More Divorced Evangelicals Are Going to Church." February 4, 2020.
- "More Non-Evangelicals Are Calling Themselves Born Again." January 21, 2020.
- "Religion, Retention, and Why We Stay or Go." December 9, 2019.
- "Biblical Literalism among American Protestants." December 4, 2019.
- "Jesus Came to Proclaim Good News to the Poor. But Now They're Leaving Church." November 27, 2019.
- "Are Evangelicals More Empathetic?" July 16, 2019.
- "A Deeper Look at Immigration and Potential Targets of the ICE Raids". July 14, 2019.
- "Only Half of Kids Raised Southern Baptist Stay Southern Baptist". May 24, 2019.
- "Are Evangelicals More Altruistic than Other Groups?". April 25, 2019.
- "Is Religious Decline Inevitable in the United States?". April 17, 2019.
- "Race, Religion, and the Future of American Evangelicalism". April 1, 2019.
- "Evangelicals Show No Decline, Despite Trump and Nones". March 21, 2019.
- "Study: Clinton Voters Twice as Likely to Leave Evangelicalism as Trump Voters". April 30, 2018. (with Paul A. Djupe)
- "50 Years After MLK, Sunday Segregation Isn't Theological". April 4, 2018.
- "Congrats, Billy: Stats Show Your Evangelical Movement Is Still Going Strong". March 2, 2018.
- "Where Protestants and Catholics Go When They Leave Their Churches". February 20, 2018.
- "Plenty of the 'Nones' Actually Head Back to Church". February 6, 2018.
- "Almost No One in the US Believes in a Consistent Ethic of Life." September 13, 2017.
- "Young, Female, and Pro-Trump." July 26, 2017.

Occasionally Contribute Analysis and/or Commentary to *The Washington Post*

- "About three-quarters of U.S. Catholic parishes applied for government paycheck protection" May 8, 2020.
- "White evangelicals fear atheists and Democrats would strip away their rights. Why?" December 23, 2019. (with Paul Djupe.)
- "Why young white evangelicals aren't likely to leave the Republican Party." September 3, 2019. (with Jeremiah Castle and Paul Djupe.)
- "Mormon Leaders Explicitly Ban Guns from Houses of Worship." August 26, 2019.
- "In God's Country" August 14, 2019.
- "Organized Religion is Losing Its Followers.". April 15, 2019
- "Talk of a rising religious left is unfounded. It already exists.". April 11, 2019
- "Are nonreligious Democrats emerging as a counterweight to the evangelical right?.". April 1, 2019
- "Regular churchgoing doesn't make Trump voters more moderate. It makes them more enthusiastic for Trump." October 9, 2018 (with Paul A. Djupe)

"Romney is running for Senate. Even if he wins, the Mormon Church has already lost powerful status in D.C." February 16, 2018.

"Hate saying 'Merry Christmas' now? Everyone has Trump on the brain." December 22, 2017.

"A sin issue or a gun issue? Why evangelicals are deeply skeptical of gun-control laws." November 6, 2017.

"Some evangelicals question whether they have overlooked the rural church." December 15, 2016.

#### Occasionally Write for *Religion News Service*

"Survey shows faith can prosper in online services" May 13, 2020.

"Why this Baptist pastor signed up his church for a Paycheck Protection Program loan" April 21, 2020.

"Why mainline Protestants might fear COVID-19 the most" March 11, 2020.

"Democrats lost white Christians. Can they win them back?" February 19, 2020.

"Is the rise of the nones slowing? Scholars say maybe" February 11, 2020.

"The age of nones may favor churches that welcome doubters" January 14, 2020.

"Atheists prefer cats, Christians love dogs, study shows" January 7, 2020.

"Where will the next decade take religion? Experts predict the future of faith" January 2, 2020.

"Will young white evangelicals turn their backs on Trump?" December 16, 2019.

"Postcards from the Protestant decline in America" December 10, 2019.

"How many Americans believe Trump is anointed by God?" (with Paul Djupe) November 25, 2019.

"People of faith are heard online - but the partisans are winning." November 18, 2019.

"Why Joe Biden, blue-collar Catholic icon, may not be enough for the Dems to win." October 22, 2019.

"Democratic Party is at an inflection point when it comes to courting religious voters." October 1, 2019.

"For many religious Americans, the word 'liberal' has become taboo." September 11, 2019.

"By their tweets you will know them: The Democrats' continuing God gap." August 30, 2019.

"Just like political parties, religious groups see their rivals as extremists" August 9, 2019.

"Why do evangelicals support Trump? Blame the suburbs" July 30, 2019.

"Rise of the 'nothing in particulars' may be sign of a disjointed, disaffected and lonely future" July 3, 2019.

"Most Southern Baptist women would welcome a woman pastor. It's unlikely to happen." June 11, 2019.

"Why politics may kill white churches." *Religion News Service*. May 29, 2019.

"Gallup: Number of Americans who belong to a church or house of worship plummets" April 18, 2019.

"Nones now as big as evangelicals, Catholics in the US." March 21, 2019.

#### Other Media Appearances

"Some evangelicals fear the 'mark of the beast' from a coronavirus vaccine" *Yahoo! News* May 14, 2020.

"University professors say more churchgoers believe Trump is 'anointed by God'" *Fox News* May 13, 2020.

- "Trump Is Staking Out His Own Universe of 'Alternative Facts'" *New York Times* May 13, 2020.
- "The Ride Home with John and Kathy" *WORD FM* April 24, 2020.
- "Freethought Radio" *Freedom from Religion Foundation* April 16, 2020.
- "Nearly A Fifth Of Religious Americans Say They Are Still Attending Services, Despite The Coronavirus Pandemic" *Buzzfeed News* March 27, 2020.
- "Schools, libraries and gyms are shut down. Why are some churches still open?" *Deseret News*. March 27, 2020.
- "In God We Divide" *New York Times* March 25, 2020.
- "Republicans and Democrats responded very differently to the rise of COVID-19. Is unity still possible?" *Deseret News*. March 20, 2020.
- "The fight against coronavirus faces another threat: declining faith in medicine" *America Magazine*. March 10, 2020.
- "Behind the Steep Decline in Church Attendance Among Women" *Barna*. March 4, 2020.
- "Want some good news about the future of faith? Look to Generation Z." *Deseret News*. March 1, 2020.
- "Does religion influence your choice of pet?" *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*. February 28, 2020.
- "CBN Newswatch" February 24, 2020.
- "For many young evangelicals in Iowa, climate is front and centre." *Al-Jazeera*.. February 1, 2020.
- "Anti-Trump Evangelicals Are Trying To Figure Out What To Do Next". *BuzzFeed News*. January 24, 2020.
- "Ruh-Roh: Study says dog owners more faithful churchgoers than cat owners". *Baptist News Global*. January 14, 2020.
- "Atheists put their faith in 'godlike' cats". *The Times of London*. January 6, 2020.
- "Trump seeks to shore up evangelical support at 'prosperity gospel' church". *Reuters*. January 3, 2020.
- "One surprisingly simple reason evangelicals love Trump." *Vox*. December 27, 2019.
- "Holiness in the midst of pain: Reflections on a year of difficult events". *Deseret News*. December 22, 2019.
- "The Bad Christian Podcast - Rise of the Nones". December 11, 2019.
- "The Evangelical Identity Crisis". *Barna Research* December 3, 2019.
- "Wisconsin Public Radio's Central Time". November 21, 2019.
- "The Overstated Collapse of American Christianity" *New York Times* October 29, 2019.
- "Young People Will Come Back to Church, Right?" *Barna* October 21, 2019.
- CBN Newswatch October 17, 2019.
- "Losing Our Religion: Finding Meaning Beyond the Pew." *NBC News Left Field* October 9, 2019.
- "Piqued by Trump, Colorado Democrats make a play for religious voters" *Denver Post* September 29, 2019.
- "Professor Reacts to President Trump Impeachment Inquiry" *WAND News* September 25, 2019
- "The Church Where You Don't Have to Believe in God." *The Times of London* September 14, 2019.
- "Losing Faith." *World Magazine* September 5, 2019.
- "We Aren't Seeing White Support for Trump for What It Is." *New York Times* August 28, 2019.

- "More Americans identify with no religion that ever before but three states see evangelical growth: study" *Fox News* July 15, 2019.
- "Who Do Non-Religious Democrats Prefer?" 538 June 3, 2019.
- "Why Democrats Struggle To Mobilize A Religious Left" 538 May 29, 2019.
- "Dubious Faith." *Daily Mail*. May 8, 2019.
- "Washington Journal" *C-SPAN* April 21, 2019.
- "At Easter, faith leaders reflect on the future of their churches amid declining attendance" *Deseret News*. April 18, 2019.
- "President Donald Trump wants to add a citizenship question to the census. What about a question on religion?" *Deseret News*. April 11, 2019.
- "Is America becoming Godless?" *The Daily Mail*. April 4, 2019.
- "The Power of the Pulpit" *Governing Magazine*. April 2019.
- "Christianity is losing ground in the US, new survey says" *New York Post*. April 3, 2019.
- "On Paper, the Election Is the Democrats to Lose" *New York Times*. March 27, 2019.
- "Atheists Now Nearly as Numerous as Evangelicals." *BeliefNet*. March 2019.
- "Younger evangelicals look an awful lot like older evangelicals post-2016." *Vox*. November 12, 2018 (with Jeremy Castle and Paul Djupe.)
- Contributor to Southern Illinois Wonders Series*. Radio Program for WSIU focusing on "The Southern Baptist Division of 1993."

## Scholarship, Non-Peer Reviewed, Print Publications

- Burge, Ryan and Ed Stetzer. "Research Report: Reltrad Coding Problems and a New Repository." *Politics & Religion*. 9(1): 187-190. DOI: 10.1017/S1755048315000929.
- Burge, Ryan. "Book Review: The Deconstructed Church." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 54(1): 179-180. March 2015.
- Focus Group Coordinator and Polling Coordinator for a survey of Democrat staffers in Illinois State Capitol* Report submitted to Senate President John Cullerton.
- Burge, Ryan. *The Movement of Opinion Toward Spending Cuts, Revenue Increases, and Political Reform In Illinois: Results and Analysis of The Fourth Annual Simon Poll*. Results available in The Simon Review Paper #27, January 2012.
- Demographic and Religious Support for Reform Proposals in the State of Illinois*. Paper accepted for publication in the proceedings of the Conference for Ethics and Politics in Illinois, Chicago, IL. September 2012.

## Current Projects

- "#Evangelical: How Twitter Discusses American Religion." *Book Chapter for Edited Volume Submitted*.
- "Is Becoming Born-Again a Transformative Experience?" *Under Review*.
- "Conflicted Partisans: When One's Political Identity is Accompanied by Discontent" (with Clarisse Warren) *Under Review*.

“Deus Ex Machina: Using an Algorithm to Create Religious Categories” *Under Review*.

“Find the Missing Atheists. ” (with Hannah Smothers) *Under Review*.

“The Prosperity Gospel of Coronavirus Response.” *Under Review*.

“How Do LGBT Voters Navigate the Political Landscape? An Analysis of Vote Choice and Public Opinion in 2016.” (with Austin Mejdritch)

## Conference Activity and Invited Talks

*The Social and Political Implications of a Born-Again Identity*. University of Chicago - American Politics Workshop. May 2020. - Canceled due to COVID-19.

*Winter Seminar for Grant Awardees*. Louisville Institute. Louisville, Kentucky. January 2020.

*An Analysis of the 21st Century Church: Who Left and Who Stayed?* Send Institute - North American Mission Board. Atlanta, Georgia. January 2020.

*The Public Consequences of the “Me” Church: How Non-Denominational Churches Undercut Democratic Participation*. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Conference. St. Louis, MO. October 2019.

*Does Faith Have a Future?: A Symposium on God, Religion, and the ‘Nones.’* Fordham University. New York, NY. October 2019.

*Is Becoming Born-Again a Transformative Experience? Results from Two Sets of Panel Data*. Presented at the Younger Scholars in the Sociology of Religion Conference. South Bend, IN. April 2019.

*This is 50: Women, Abortion Attitudes, and Partisan Strength across Age Groups*, Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2019.

*Thoughts and Prayers: An Analysis of How Members of Congress Use Religious Language on Twitter*, Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2019.

*An Evangelical Crackup?: A Roundtable on the Book and Its Implications*, Discussion at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2019.

*ABCUSA Clergy and Congregations: Theology, Ideology, and Demography*, The Board of General Ministries for the American Baptist Church. Portland, Oregon. June 28th, 2017.

*Ormond Church/State Lectureship*, Greenville College, Greenville, Illinois. April 26th, 2017

*The State of Clergy in the American Baptist Churches in the USA*, National Leadership Council Annual Meeting for the American Baptist Church. Green Lake, Wisconsin. April 6th, 2017

*Who’s in Charge Here? Religious Authority Values in Democratic Society*. Paper Presented at the Indiana Academy of Social Sciences Annual Conference, Evansville, IN. October 2015.

*The Delegational Pulpit? Clergy Identifying as Congregational Political Representatives*. Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2015.

*Seeds in Rocky Soil: The Interaction of Religious and Secular Beliefs on Environmental Support*. Paper Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC. August 2014.

*Seeds in Rocky Soil: The Interaction of Religious and Secular Beliefs on Environmental Support*. Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2014.

*Communitarianism and Christianity: Understanding the Link between Religious Giving to Secular Causes.* Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2013

*Behavior, Belief, Belonging, and Opinion.* Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2012

*Pizza and Politics.* Presentation on Religion, Politics and the 2012 Presidential Campaign. Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, Carbondale, IL. February 2012

*Behavior, Belief, or Belonging? Using Matching Analysis to Examine the Relationship between Religion and Voting Behavior.* Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. March 2011

*Blue State Religion and Politics.* Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2010

*Reevaluating the Link between Religion and Tolerance.* Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2010

*A Proposed Research Design for Doctoral Dissertation.* Presented at the Southern Illinois University Conference on Religion and Politics, Carbondale IL. April 2009

*Religiosity and Anxiety: A New Approach.* Paper Presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. April 2008

## Academic Positions

*Assistant Professor and Graduate Coordinator,* Department of Political Science, Eastern Illinois University. (August 2019 to Present)

*Instructor,* Department of Political Science, Eastern Illinois University. (August 2012 - December 2015 and August 2016 to July 2019)

*Adjunct Instructor,* Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. (Spring 2016)

*Adjunct Instructor,* Department of History/Political Science, McKendree University. (July 2012)

*Post Doctoral Fellow,* Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. Advisor on polling, public opinion, and Illinois politics. (2011 Academic Year)

*Instructor,* Department of Political Science, Southern Illinois University- Carbondale. (Spring, Fall 2010 and Spring 2011)

*Teaching Assistant,* Department of Political Science, Southern Illinois University- Carbondale. Introduction to American Politics (Spring 2008, Summer 2008, Fall 2008, Spring 2009, Fall 2009.) Lecturing Instructor- Dr. Ken Mulligan

*Instructor,* Department of Social Science, Southeastern Illinois College, Harrisburg, IL. Introduction to American Politics (Fall 2007).

*Teaching Assistant,* Department of Political Science, Southern Illinois University- Carbondale. Introduction to American Politics (Spring 2007 and Fall 2008.) Lecturing Instructor- Dr. Debra Moore

*Teaching Assistant,* Department of Political Science, Southern Illinois University- Carbondale. Introduction to American Politics (Fall 2006). Lecturing Instructor- Dr. Randy Burnside



## Courses Taught

Introduction to American Government	Interest Groups and Lobbying
Introduction to Public Administration	Interest Groups and Social Movements
Introduction to Public Policy	The Presidency (Graduate)
Introduction to International Relations	Religion and Politics
Court Management and Criminal Justice	Organizational Theory
The American Presidency	Introduction to Research Methods
Congress	Senior Capstone
American Foreign Policy	Research Methods
International Organizations	Research Methods (Graduate)
Proseminar in International Relations (Graduate)	Research Methods (Graduate) - Online
State and Local Government (Graduate) - Online	Political Behavior - Online
	Proseminar in American Politics (Graduate) - Online

## Service

Graduate Curriculum Committee (2017-2018 Academic Year)

Masters Thesis Advisor: Steve Anderson (Fall 2014), Brenda Cuellar (Fall 2017), Austin Mejdich (Summer 2018), Kamrul Islam (Spring 2019), Burcu Yildiz (Spring 2019), Emma Solmon (Fall 2019), Kate Arnold (Fall 2019)

Capstone Advisor: Jack Cruikshank (Spring 2017), Raphael Molina (Summer 2017), Courtney Sage (Summer 2017)

Masters Thesis Committee Member: Ryan Piers (Spring 2013), Samantha White (Spring 2014), Phillip Roughton (Fall 2014), Samantha Sarich (Spring 2015), Arianne Gouveia (Summer 2015), John Proffitt (Fall 2015), Miles Williams (Fall 2016), Samantha White (Summer 2018), Logan Studer (Summer 2019)

Mentoring and Recruitment Committee Member (2013-2014, 2014-2015 Academic Year)

Reviewer: *American Political Science Review*, *Politics and Religion*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Political Behavior*, *Sociology of Religion*, *Review of Religious Research*, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, *Political Behavior*, *American Politics Research*, *Political Research Quarterly*

Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2013

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