

The American Families of Faith Project

Our Scholarship on Religion and Family Life: A 25-Year Stewardship Report (1998-2023)

David C. Dollahite, PhD & Loren D. Marks, PhD

BYU School of Family Life



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<https://americanfamiliesoffaith.byu.edu>

This report reflects our desire to give an account of the first 25 years of our work on religion and family life. It reports our scholarship (traditional and public) and the impact of that work. We take seriously that the great majority of student (and all of faculty) funding at BYU comes from consecrated contributions of faithful tithe payers and generous donors.

In the mid-1990s, when we began our work on religion and family life, we faced significant uncertainties and challenges. In 1995, a leading scholar referred to religion as “the anti-tenure topic.” After hearing us present our findings on how faith helped Latter-day Saint fathers of children with special needs, a respected BYU colleague similarly said, “That is very interesting research. It is too bad it will never be published.” It was a reasonable prediction.

We feel greatly blessed that not only was that work published, but with the assistance of roughly 300 students and more than 20 colleagues we have now produced 170 scholarly publications related to religion and family life and more than 180 academic and professional presentations at national and international conferences. A list of these publications as well as funding information about the project can be found in the appendices at the end of this report.

We have marshalled empirical evidence from the best available research in the social sciences, medicine, and religious studies to document the value of religious involvement in strengthening individuals, couples, families, and communities. Our own work shows how and why religious commitments and actions can improve personal wellbeing, marriage, and family life. We strive to help people live their faith in ways that bless their marriages and families.

Since our first joint publication in 1998, we have worked to understand and document the nexus of faith and family life to help religious families. That first article was based on interviews that we conducted when Loren was an undergraduate family life student doing research with Dave, who was then a relatively new BYU professor.

We now co-direct the *American Families of Faith* Project, a national research project in which we and more than 20 key collaborators have conducted in-depth, qualitative interviews with about 300 married couples with children (about 700 individuals) from 33 states in 8 regions of the United States. Over half the families are from various racial/ethnic, national, and cultural minorities. The sample includes about 30 couples/families from each of the following religious-ethnic groups: Asian Christian, Black Christian, Catholic & Orthodox Christian, Evangelical Christian, Hispanic Christian, Jewish, Latter-day Saint, Mainline Protestant, and Muslim. We have recently added interviews with about 35 Unaffiliated couples and 32 Interfaith couples.

The mission of the *American Families of Faith* project is to engage in rigorous scholarship that explores the nexus of faith and family life to discover and share research-based ideas about ways of “living faith” in ways that benefit one’s marriage and family life by (a) facilitating joy, relational quality, and relational stability, and (b) by helping individuals, couples, and families thrive in a culture that is increasingly challenging for families of faith.

In addition to our “traditional,” peer-reviewed scholarship, we have labored in recent years to produce “public scholarship” based on the research we have done. This is because in 2017, Elder Dallin H. Oaks (then President of the Council of the Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) charged BYU faculty to share work related to the central aims and purposes of BYU and the Church with broader audiences, especially work on God-ordained marriage and family life. Thus, in the last five years we have published more than 50 public scholarship articles in outlets including *The Atlantic*, *Deseret News*, *First Things*, *LDS Church News*,

Liahona, *Public Discourse*, *Public Square*, and *RealClearReligion*. We have enjoyed sharing research-based ideas about families of faith with a far wider array of readership.

Increasingly, many prefer to get their content by audio and visual means beyond the written word (including social media). Thus, we brought on Laura McKeighen as *American Families of Faith* project Outreach Director. She has helped us produce 17 podcasts, 27 audio articles, 20 videos, and more than 400 posts on social media. The podcasts, audio articles, and videos are available on our *American Families of Faith* [YouTube](#) channel. The sites hosting our podcast include [PodBean](#), [Spotify](#), [Stitcher](#), [Apple](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [iHeart Radio](#), [Podchaser](#), [TuneIn](#), and [Podcast Republic](#).

The purpose of this report is to document our scholarship efforts. The next page and the appendices document highlights, impact, and support of our scholarly work. The bulk of the report provides brief summaries of the public scholarship products with easy access through QR codes. This report shares the first several sentences of each public scholarship article and brief summaries of other products.

We are delighted that the faculty of the School of Family Life recently voted unanimously to revise its policies regarding rank and status (promotion and tenure) to now include the following language supporting public scholarship:

Public scholarship plays an important role and is valued in SFL. Faculty in SFL are encouraged to seek revelation for how they can “define, document, and defend the faith” in ways that “show empathy and understanding for everyone while maintaining loyalty to prophetic leadership and devotion to revealed doctrine” (Elder Jeffrey R. Holland). SFL faculty are particularly well positioned to lead the charge outlined in the university strategic plan to be “leader[s] in topical areas that are central to the Church’s purposes” (Strategic Plan Action 1.F) with respect to marriage and family, even when such inquiries or the findings we produce are unpopular or unwelcomed in either public or academic spheres (see Elder Dallin H. Oaks, BYU Leadership Conference, 2017).

This means that the kind of work that we have been doing is now even more encouraged and supported. This leads us to wonder what else we might do. We have plans to write more books for general and Latter-day Saint audiences and to continue to create content intended to creatively help those of the rising generation, including efforts to help those who are less religious learn ways to create and maintain strong marriages and families.

Our work is intended to assist in the fulfillment of the Lord’s promise to Abraham that in his seed, all the families of the earth will be blessed (see Genesis 12:3; Acts 3:25; Abraham 2:11). As co-directors of the *American Families of Faith* Project, we hope you find ideas in these pages that will assist you in your efforts to bless and strengthen marriages and families through the power of religious beliefs, practices, and communities.

We offer you, the reader, an invitation: Our years together as active scholars and authors are numbered. We are almost certainly in the final quarter of our time together. We want to optimize our last years to do the most meaningful and consequential work we can and to share that work with far more people—particularly those of the rising generation and those who are struggling to make faith and religion part of their lives. Therefore, we invite both our Church and University leaders, our colleagues, friends, and students, to suggest ways that we can do better in the future. Please email us with any suggestions you have to help us address more important issues, reach more people, or improve and expand in other needed ways.

Dave

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Highlights & Impact of the American Families of Faith Project (1998-2023)

- Nearly 300 diverse students have worked on the *American Families of Faith* project.
- More than 170 scholarly publications on religion and family (including 7 books).
- Our scholarly publications have been cited more than 5,900 times in academic research publications making us one of the most influential research projects on religion and family.
- About 55% of scholarly publications were published with current/former students.
- More than 60 students have been co-authors on these publications (Loren, himself, was Dave's undergraduate and graduate student).
- We have collaborated with about 150 valued colleagues. More than 75% of our published articles included coauthors from 37 universities other than BYU.
- We have collaborated with students and colleagues (including clergy) from several diverse faith communities from each of the Abrahamic traditions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
- Articles have appeared in journals from 13 different disciplines/fields (i.e., clinical psychology, developmental psychology, family studies, finance, gender studies, health, law/public policy, methodology, family psychology, race, religious studies, sexuality, and sociology).
- Of the total scholarly publications (i.e., peer reviewed articles and chapters) that have resulted from the AFF project, more than half were lead-authored by someone other than Dave/Loren, and about half included a female author/co-author.
- More than 180 presentations at academic and professional conferences including the annual conferences of the National Council on Family Relations, Society for Research on Child Development, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, American Psychological Association. More than half included a student or former student as lead presenter. Nearly 70% were at national and international conferences.
- We were invited to give three special sessions at the National Council on Family Relations
- Our student teams have won four Student "Paper of the Year" awards at national scholarly associations.
- Four of our students have received University-level doctoral fellowships at other universities.
- Eleven students who have worked on the AFF project have become university faculty members.
- Former AFF students are working in many jobs/careers including Correlation Research Division of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Qualitative Research for the University of Utah Medical Center; Oregon Health Sciences Institute; State of Louisiana.
- We were invited to write the first ever college textbook on Religion and Family Life (and were recently invited to update it to a 2nd Edition).
- We were invited to write an article on Family Home Evening for *The Atlantic* magazine (860,000 total subscribers). That article was *The Atlantic's* "top-viewed" article for a time.
- Many of our public scholarship articles have been syndicated by *RealClearReligion*.
- Three volumes on the family proclamation have been edited and used as textbooks at BYU and BYU-I. The first of these (*Strengthening Our Families*) sold over 100,000 copies.
- We were invited by editors of a special issue of the online scholarly journal *Religions* to do a diversity, equity, and inclusion audit of the *American Families of Faith* project to serve as an example for the profession.
- We produced a special issue of the scholarly journal *Marriage and Family Review* devoted entirely to the American Families of Faith project. We chose to have BYU graduate and undergraduate students serve as lead authors on nine of the eleven articles. It was later published as a book (*Strengths of Diverse Families of Faith*) with us as the editors.

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ARTICLES

It Doesn't Take Life-Changing Drama to Find Humility

Laura McKeighen, David Dollahite, & Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

(November 21, 2022)

A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens, contains a wealth of wisdom in human character and transformation. Newfound generosity, empathy, and compassion emerge as delightful Christmas gifts following Ebenezer Scrooge's transformation—along with one easily overlooked virtue: humility. Before his eventful night begins, Scrooge is full of pride and self-interest. By the time morning light breaks, he is jumping from bed in order to humbly respect, serve, and connect with the people in his life. He transforms from a lonely and arrogant man to someone who humbly cherishes his relationships with “the least of [his] brethren” (i.e., “Tiny Tim” Cratchit).

[Read More Here](#)



The Healing Power of Humility in Parent-Child Relationships

Laura McKeighen, David Dollahite, & Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

(October 6, 2022)

In a memorable address entitled *Beware of Pride*, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and religious leader President Ezra Taft Benson stated, “Pride adversely affects all our relationships—our relationship with God and His servants, between husband and wife, parent and child.” In what follows, we explore more closely the evidence in family narratives that demonstrates the healing force of humility to combat the stumbling block of pride in parent-child relationships.

[Read More Here](#)



Will My Kids Keep the Faith? Parents' Hopes and Children's Choices

**Laura McKeighen, Loren Marks,
& David Dollahite**

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(May 5, 2022)

Among all the many things parents aspire for in a child, one of the strongest desires and greatest dreams of many parents is that their faith will be passed down. In the Abrahamic religions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, parents are instructed to teach their children to love God with all their hearts (Deuteronomy 6:4-8). In the American Families of Faith research project, we asked 396 highly religious but racially, ethnically, and regionally diverse parents in the United States, "How important is it to you that your children follow in your faith?" The majority of parents responded that it was indeed important or very important.

[Read More Here](#)



Sacred Experiences with Jewish Friends

David Dollahite

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(March 14, 2022)

After a very long and extremely ugly history, antisemitism in America has been increasing tragically as Jewish people are experiencing greater levels of assaults, harassment, and vandalism. Indeed, according to the FBI, nearly 60% of hate crimes in 2020 targeted Jews. And, Bari Weiss has identified antisemitism as the result of various political and societal ideologies.

While anti-Mormonism is real, Latter-day Saints have experienced only a tiny fraction of the persecution our Jewish friends have been subjected to over their three-millennia-long history. But as members of a misunderstood minority faith, it behooves us to join in solidarity with our Jewish friends however and whenever we are able.

[Read More Here](#)



How Can I Talk to My Teen about Religion?

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Liahona

(March 2022)

Despite what many adults and social scientists think, youth and young adults are very interested in talking with their parents about spiritual and religious matters. As part of our American Families of Faith project, we interviewed parents and youth from various denominations across the United States to discover what's happening in our conversations with youth and how we can improve those conversations.

[Read More Here](#)



Learning to be a Good "Latter-day Saint Boy" from Friends of Other Faiths

Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(February 24, 2022)

I grew up as an actively involved member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Oregon, land of the religious "Nones." In my circle of high school friends, almost none were church people of any stripe, with the exception of a cute girl I dated until her pastor delivered a scathing and apparently convincing sermon on the "evils of Mormonism" that irreparably divided us. As I learned at a tender age, sometimes religion unites, sometimes it divides.

Yet I also learned that vital religious and life lessons can come from widely varied sources.

[Read More Here](#)



Attending Religious Services of Other Faiths

David Dollahite

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(February 3, 2022)

In this essay, I will share some experiences from attending religious services of various faiths and what we learned from those experiences. I focus on worship services and celebrations and what I enjoyed and appreciated most about sharing sacred moments of community with others across a range of world faiths and denominations. I express my appreciation and admiration for the wonderful people of God who welcomed me to their sacred services and thus their sacred ground.

[Read More Here](#)



"Thank you, I'd be honored": Worshipping with Friends of Other Faiths

Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

(January 21, 2022)

In my 50 years as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, I have known and loved persons from a variety of faiths who have influenced my life for good. I have even confessed that during my youth in Oregon, thanks to a wealth of diverse friends, I may have learned more about being a "good Latter-day Saint boy" from those outside of my faith than from those inside my faith.

[Read More Here](#)





What is Holy Envy and Can it Heal Our World?

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Public Square Magazine & RealClearReligion

(December 3, 2021)

Although it happened more than 30 years ago, many of us have watched Michael Jordan line up, lope, and then explode from the free-throw line, soar and then hammer home a slam-dunk contest winning marvel. In a later interview, Jordan said, “It may only be for a second, but it’s flying and I think other people wish they could do it.” Yes, we do. It’s called envy, and we’ve all got a little of it.

Many are familiar with envy as one of the “Seven Deadly Sins,” so how can envy be something that might help or even heal brokenness in the world? Let’s turn to another person who soared in a different way.

[Read More Here](#)



Evangelical Christian Families: “God Wants Us... To Be Strong”

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(November 19, 2021)

Carl Trueman recently wrote, “The family is a mess. Religious institutions lack authority. The nation-state is no longer a source of unity but a theater of conflict in which we fight about what is and is not America And yet that basic human need to belong persists ...” In addition to the “basic human need to belong,” William James identified a profound human need for faith that he conceptualized as “the will to believe.”

[Read More Here](#)



Muslim Families: A Closer Look at Answering to Allah

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(November 5, 2021)

Twenty years ago, as we prepared to commence our national American Families of Faith research project in early 2001, we could not have imagined what September 11 of that year would bring. One of us (Dave), was bound for Massachusetts to interview exemplary religious families there. The other (Loren) was interviewing families around the University of Delaware, positioned midpoint between the twin towers of New York City and the Pentagon in D.C., all of which were attacked on 9/11.

[Read More Here](#)



Latter-Day Saint Families: Eternal Perspectives

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(October 11, 2021)

In her book, *The New Religious Intolerance*, Martha Nussbaum has written that “any self-knowledge worth the name tells you that others are as real as you are, and that your life is not just about you, it is about accepting the fact that you share a world with others, and about taking action directed at the good of others.”

[Read More Here](#)



Mainline Protestant Families: Loving God and Family Members

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(September 27, 2021)

I(Dave) was raised in a Mainline Protestant Church, Holy Innocents Episcopal Church in Marin County, California. I served as an acolyte (altar boy) for three years (age 9-12) and assisted the Priest by carrying the large wooden and gold cross during the “processional” into the sanctuary at the beginning of the service and the “recessional” out of the church at the end of the service, lighting and extinguishing the candles, and in serving communion. Other than our priest overdoing the incense a bit for my taste/smell, I have very fond memories of those services and of the people I knew in the Episcopal Church.

[Read More Here](#)



Jewish Families: How Teachings and Traditions Strengthen Marriage and Family Life

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(September 14, 2021)

In various publications, we are on record about our profound respect for the Jewish faith and Jewish families. This includes an article in the official newspaper of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints where Dave encouraged fellow Latter-day Saints to “learn from our Jewish friends about how to make the Sabbath a delight.”

[Read More Here](#)



Strong Black Families: God, Relationships, and Deep Faith

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(August 20, 2021)

When Loren taught a graduate course in family at Louisiana State University, the mostly white class of graduate students had just finished reading nearly 400 pages about Black families in America. Katrina Hopkins, an exceptional young woman from Portland, Oregon, asked, “Why is it that when I read about Black families, I hear about criminality and incarceration and non-marital childbearing and the lack of marriageable males, but I do not get to read about strong, marriage-based Black families like the one I grew up in?”

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Catholic and Orthodox Christian Families: Confession and Forgiveness

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(August 4, 2021)

My (Dave’s) mom was raised by an Irish Catholic mother. My Catholic mom and my Baptist dad met in the middle and were married in the Episcopal Church (where I was raised and served as an altar boy). I enjoyed a childhood that was blessed by some wonderful Catholic adults and kids. Growing up I was fortunate to be coached in various sports by wonderful Catholic men such as Joe Lordan, Tony Damato, and Manny Berreta. My best friend, Rob Guidi, and his family were Catholic. Mrs. Guidi, my second Mom, was very Catholic and crossed herself whenever she drove by St. Rita Catholic church, the church her family attended.

[Read More Here](#)



The Inner Logic of Religion(s)

**Gregory Wurm, David Dollahite,
& Loren Marks**

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(July 7, 2021)

In this essay, we discuss the “inner logic” of religion(s). That is, how religious thinking and acting is important to understand on their own terms and not simply as merely psychological or sociological in nature. Unfortunately, across the social sciences, a typical approach to the study of religion and religions is to reduce religion to sociology or to psychology by imposing sociological or psychological perspectives onto religion.

[Read More Here](#)



Living a New Faith in a New Land

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Public Square Magazine & RealClearReligion

(July 20, 2021)

Our friend and colleague Yaxin (yah-SHEEN) Lu was born and raised in mainland China and hit young adulthood during the era of the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989. It served as a stark reminder that freedom—political, religious, or ideological—was severely constrained. Yaxin converted to Christianity and a combination of faith, family, hope, and opportunity for her and her husband—also a Christian convert—led them to the United States. Their decision to act on the belief that God had more than one child for her and her husband burned the bridge between her and her native land, given the one-child policy of the time.

[Read More Here](#)



Strengths in Diverse American Families of Faith

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Public Square Magazine

RealClearReligion

(June 17, 2021)

Despite living in the Age of the Internet, with the seeming promise of increased access to information yielding increased understanding, tolerance, and civility among people, we seem to be moving in the opposite direction. Sadly, we live in an era of ignorance, misunderstanding, suspicion, and hostility across racial, ethnic, religious, political, and national boundaries with only a small degree of what religious studies scholar Stephen Prothero calls religious literacy.

[Read More Here](#)



Seeing persons, not masks: How compassion and community can prevail in pandemic-era worship services

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Deseret News

RealClearReligion

(June 5, 2020)

As millions of Americans are returning to public gatherings for worship, there is controversy about the wearing of masks in religious settings. There are diametrically opposing, strongly-held views about this practice.

Yet, we think wearing facial coverings at religious services is a wise and compassionate thing to do and a charitable exercise of one's personal liberty.

[Read More Here](#)



Holy Envy: What We Learn By Studying Other Faiths

David Dollahite

RealClearReligion

(May 4, 2020)

In the spring of 2020, around 5,300 colleges and universities across America will grant degrees to almost 3.9 million graduates. Sadly, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, few graduates will be able to gather in caps and gowns and walk across the podium to receive their diplomas while proud parents and other family members celebrate their accomplishment.

[Read More Here](#)



Holy Weeks in the Shadow of Death

David Dollahite

RealClearReligion

(April 17, 2020)

This past week, Jews celebrated a Passover and Christians celebrated a Holy Week different from all others. Now, Saudi officials are encouraging the more than 1 million Muslims planning to undertake the five-day Hajj to Mecca in July to consider postponing their sacred pilgrimage.

Throughout the earth, the multi-day sacred celebrations and gatherings that bring joy and peace to millions of Jews, Christians, and Muslims have been interrupted by the shadow of shutdowns caused by the specter of COVID-19.

[Read More Here](#)



Genuine Faith Practiced at Home Is a Powerful Antidote to Apocalyptic Fear

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Institute for Family Studies

(April 2, 2020)

Heightened uncertainty, anxiety, and fear abound during this global pandemic. Religious gatherings often bring a sense of peace and safety, but in this case, congregating for worship can spread the very virus everyone hopes they and their loved ones will avoid. Whether you believe that houses of worship should remain open during this trying time, or that they should close, our research has found that meaningful religious practice at home is both possible and powerful.

[Read More Here](#)



Apocalyptic Fear and Authentic Faith

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Mercatornet

RealClearReligion

(March 25, 2020)

Just four days after going under coronavirus shutdown, Magna, Utah, was at the epicenter of a 5.7 earthquake on March 18. Greg Schulz, a Magna municipal administrator quipped, “I have a standing order: if we have another Horseman of the Apocalypse ride over the hill, I’m shooting him.”

A sense of humor can be a potent antidote to what ails us. A sense of the sacred can also help.

[Read More Here](#)





Healthy Religion is Good for American Families

David Dollahite & Loren Marks
Deseret News & RealClearReligion
(February 29, 2020)

In a recent Washington Post piece, columnist Max Boot wrote about the effects of religion on economic, physical and social well-being, drawing on data from a global survey and comparing the most religious and least religious countries. He concluded, “There is little evidence that a decline in religiosity leads to a decline in society — or that high levels of religiosity strengthen society. ... If anything, the evidence suggests that too much religion is bad for a country.”

[Read More Here](#)



Romantic Love and Religion – A Match Made in Heaven?

David Dollahite & Loren Marks
RealClearReligion
(February 14, 2020)

Valentine’s Day has become the high holy day of the cult of romantic love. It began as a pagan celebration that, in the 5th Century, became a Christian religious holiday still observed across the world by a variety of faith communities. In contemporary America, however, it has shed most Christian associations, and now billions of dollars (and countless anxieties) are spent on a day that embodies our culture’s extraordinary emphasis on romantic love.

[Read More Here](#)



Rock and Religion: The Pursuit of Everlasting Love

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Public Square Magazine

(February 13, 2020)

For two decades, we have interviewed religious wives and husbands in long-term happy marriages and we asked them how they kept their love alive. We heard relational and religious answers that reflected a variety of wisdom.

Like most Americans of our generations (X and the Boomers), we also grew up hearing the voices of classic rock and roll. Rock also has its own kind of wisdom about keeping love alive—though often profane and crass—and it too enshrines a kind of sacred quest for Everlasting Love. On Valentine’s Day these two visions of love collide, converge, and clash in unique and surprising ways.

[Read More Here](#)



The Best Practices—and Benefits—of Religious Parenting

David Dollahite, Loren Marks, & Hal Boyd

Public Discourse

(February 6, 2020)

Surveying the growing body of social science research helps bring greater clarity to the complex, and largely beneficial, interactions between religion and family life. The research also suggests evidence-based best practices for effectively integrating faith and family life, including religious-spiritual authenticity, nurturing parent-child relationships, balancing religious firmness and flexibility, and encouraging youth to have spiritual experiences, sacrifice meaningfully, and pray earnestly—all while parents preach a bit less and listen a bit more.

[Read More Here](#)



The Family That Prays Together Flourishes Together

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Institute for Family Studies (p. 40-43)

(2019)

Near the end of the Global Family and Gender Survey (GFGS), participants wrote open responses regarding “the most important way(s) religion helps or harms marriage and family relationships.” Myriad beliefs were mentioned—particularly the power of shared religious beliefs in marriages, couples, and families. The importance of attending faith community worship services—especially “together”—was also mentioned by many. However, when referring to the ways in which religion is “helpful,” participants most frequently mentioned praying and/or prayer (135 times).

[Read More Here](#)



Why Do They Tithe? Perspectives on Giving Back to God

**Loren Marks, David Dollahite,
& Jeffrey Dew**

Meridian Magazine

(December 11, 2019)

In December, articles and blogs address various aspects of Christmas. We would like to address another important December event for members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—tithing settlement. While few people have as many positive nostalgic memories of tithing settlement as they do of Christmas, there are profound spiritual aspects of tithing as a way of giving back God in gratitude for what God has given us.

[Read More Here](#)



What We Can Learn from Ritual and Tradition in American Jewish Families

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Meridian Magazine

(September 23, 2019)

The prophet Joseph Smith said, “One of the grand fundamental principles of Mormonism is to receive truth, let it come from whence it may.”[1] While we should cherish the guidance we receive from our own religious beliefs, scriptures, and church leaders, we may benefit from welcoming virtuous direction, inspiration, and comfort from many different sources.

[Read More Here](#)



Faithful Fathering: Ten Narratives of Wisdom from Fathers of Different Faiths

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Meridian Magazine

(June 13, 2019)

Over the past 25 years, we have interviewed more than 300 diverse fathers[1] about the challenges and blessings of striving to be a faithful father. From thousands of pages of transcriptions and field notes we have gleaned 10 insights that have left us pondering the world’s most profound job: that of parent.

[Read More Here](#)



Family Prayer: A Sacred Time and a Sacred Space – Findings from a National Study

Loren Marks, David Dollahite,
& Joe Chelladurai

Meridian Magazine

(March 24, 2019)

We’ve all heard that familiar saying, “the family that prays together, stays together.” How does the nature and experience of family prayer create strong families? What can we learn from families that pray together? To understand this aspect of family life, from our National Study on Strong Religious Families, we conducted a study exploring how family prayer influenced family relationships. We reported our findings in a recently-published article in the *Journal of Family Psychology*.

[Read More Here](#)



What Religious Parents Say Matters Most in Raising Faithful Children

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Meridian Magazine

(October 18, 2018)

Although we refer to ourselves as human beings, social scientists spend relatively little time exploring matters of being—the deeper “existential” issues dealing with what it means to be, to become, or to act on deeply held beliefs and responsibilities.

In this article, we explore the answers given by practicing Christian, Jewish, and Muslim parents of adolescents to the question, “What do you consider to be the most important things for you to be or do as a mother/father of faith?” We believe this question addresses the three dimensions of identity-centered religious calling, being, and action in ways that evoke deep thought about things that matter most to religious parents.

[Read More Here](#)



How to Have a Positive Religious Conversation with Your Youth

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Meridian Magazine

(January 23, 2018)

According to teenagers themselves, what is the most meaningful religious activity they engage in with their parents? Our research-based answer may surprise you. It surprised us, but as the fathers of a total of 12 children—we are grateful to know.

The Lord also commanded his ancient disciples to converse about the things of God in many situations and places:

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.
(Deut. 6:7)

[Read More Here](#)



The Burdensome Myth of Romantic Love

**David C. Dollahite
& Betsy VanDenBerghe**

First Things

(February 14, 2018)

A collection of Einstein's letters auctioned off in 1996 contains a list of marital expectations for his wife, Maliva Maric. The list includes daily laundry "kept in good order," "three meals regularly in my room," a desk maintained neatly "for my use only," and the demand that she quit talking or leave the room "if I request it." The marriage ended in divorce, but the list lives on as an illustration not only of Einstein's darker domestic side, but also of assumptions commonly held about marriage in 1914.

[Read More Here](#)



Making the Sabbath a Delight: Seven Lessons from Strong Jewish Families

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Meridian Magazine

(February 20, 2018)

In speaking about our friends of other faiths, President Gordon B. Hinckley stated, "Look for their strengths and their virtues, and you will find strength and virtues that will be helpful in your own life." [1] As keeping the Sabbath day holy has become a profound point of emphasis over the past three years, our apostles have followed this prophetic admonition by repeatedly pointing to our observant Jewish brothers and sisters as a model of "delighting in the Sabbath." Most notably, in a 2015 General Conference address, Elder Quentin L. Cook recalled the Jewish Sabbath celebration he and his wife Diane attended in the home of their friends, the Abrams.

[Read More Here](#)



Living Into Fatherhood

Loren Marks & Davidollahite

RealClearReligion

(June 15, 2018)

Over the past three decades, as part of the American Families of Faith Project, we have interviewed nearly 250 diverse fathers about the challenges and blessings of striving to be a faithful father. From thousands of pages of transcriptions and field notes we have gleaned 10 one-liners that have left us pondering the world's most profound job: that of parent.

[Read More Here](#)



Behind the Veil: Meanings of Hijab for Muslim Wives and Husbands in the United States

Loren Marks & Davidollahite

Meridian Magazine

(June 16, 2018)

Covering or veiling something tends to arouse human curiosity. We want to know, what is behind the veil? Symbolically, this is one question we have addressed with the Muslim women and men we have interviewed in our national American Families of Faith research project. Our central related question was: "What does the practice of hijab (or veiling) mean to Muslims in the United States?" Much has been written about hijab by Western journalists, observers, and philosophers. Their representations of Muslim women's hijab have frequently depicted the practice as a manifestation of oppression, subjugation, and abuse of women.

[Read More Here](#)



Mormons' Weekly Family Ritual Is an Antidote to Fast-Paced Living

Davidollahite & Loren Marks

The Atlantic & RealClearReligion

(March 29, 2018)

Every Monday evening, Mormons around the world pause, as families. Together they pray, sing, play games, eat snacks. This is all standard fare for many American households, but the difference is that for Mormons, it's built into every Monday night (or sometimes another night) and it has an official, deceptively generic-sounding name: family home evening.

[Read More Here](#)



Understanding the Relationship Struggles in Religious Households

David Dollahite & Loren Marks

Meridian Magazine
(April 4, 2018)

Religion both helps and harms individuals and families as illustrated in history, contemporary events, and the personal experience of those who engage in lived religion. One phenomenon we have recently identified and explored in our interviews with 200+ American Families of Faith is that religion both generates and helps with what we call relational struggles in families. Although the majority of our work focuses on how religious often helps, in this article, we investigate what the 200 religiously and racially diverse families we have interviewed have taught us about the first half of this duality—that religion is associated with (and may even create) several relational struggles and problems when we do not live our faith out wisely.

[Read More Here](#)



A Meaningful Gift for Your Father

David Dollahite

Meridian Magazine
(June 13, 2018)

When Father's Day rolls around each year, we think about what to get dad—what gift to offer our father. Advertisements abound for the perfect gift: a cool tie; something related to his favorite hobby; a barbeque so he can grill up burgers and steaks; and many others. Those kinds of gifts are fine. But I want to suggest something different.

[Read More Here](#)



The Abiding Power of Sacred Family Rituals

Loren Marks & David Dollahite

Meridian Magazine
(August 16, 2018)

“What is the best thing I can do as a parent to bring our family closer together?” . . . “How can I best strengthen my child's faith?” As scholars and researchers of family and religion, questions like these are sometimes directed our way. Our two decades of interviewing about 200 very strong, “exemplar” families of various faiths from around the United States have revealed some answers to these difficult but vital questions. Across religion, race, and region, mothers and fathers (and their children) have emphasized the power of sacred family rituals. Drawing from the diverse families who taught us, we explore, explain, and illustrate why sacred family rituals matter, with the hope that your family and ours will more effectively harness this power in our own homes and families.

[Read More Here](#)



PODCASTS

Why This Project? | Highlights 01

Loren Marks & David Dollahite
Podbean

Why the American Families of Faith Project: Enriching & Strengthening Families

In the social sciences there tends to be a focus on weaknesses and why things go wrong. The American Families of Faith Project brings a much needed balance to the study of marriages and families by focusing on the features and origins of relational strengths and health.

[Listen Here](#)



What is Holy Envy? | Highlights 02

David Dollahite & Loren Marks
Podbean

Dr. Loren Marks and Dr. David Dollahite, co-directors of the American Families of Faith project, share thoughts about how their study of various families of faith has led them to a sense of deep admiration or “holy envy” for religious practices from other faiths.

[Listen Here](#)



Holy Envy: Jewish Families | Highlights 03

David Dollahite
Podbean

Dr. David Dollahite, co-director of the American Families of Faith project, reflects on his sense of "holy envy" for Catholic and Orthodox Christian families in the United States. A simple, regular, patterned approach to asking and granting forgiveness smooths relationships within many of these families.

[Listen Here](#)



Holy Envy: Asian Christian Families | Highlights 04

Loren Marks
Podbean

Dr. Loren Marks, co-director of the American Families of Faith project, reflects on his "holy envy" for Asian Christian families in the United States. Their courage to embrace change in a new land, sincerely follow their beliefs, and serve through pragmatic collectivism are a few of the strengths to be admired among the Asian Christian community.

[Listen Here](#)



Holy Envy: Catholic & Orthodox Christian Families | Highlights 05

David Dollahite
Podbean

Dr. David Dollahite, co-director of the American Families of Faith project, shares his thoughts on the familial power of sacred rituals among Jewish families. Through many wonderful experiences of participating in Shabbat observance with Jewish families, he has developed a deep sense of "holy envy."

[Listen Here](#)



Strengths in Diverse American Families of Faith | Episode 01

Loren Marks & David Dollahite
Podbean

In this episode, we explain the research process of the American Families of Faith project and discuss the concept of "holy envy" for our friends of various faiths.

[Listen Here](#)



Black Christian Families | Episode 02

David Dollahite & Loren Marks
Podbean

In this episode, we discuss the general life strengths, marital strengths, and parenting strengths of Black Christian families. Prayer and having faith in (and a personal relationship with) God are two of the permeating strengths of Black Christian families. The majority of Black Christians we interviewed believed God was present and actively involved in their lives--a belief that positively influenced marriage and family relationships, commitment, and cohesion.

[Listen Here](#)



Jewish Families | Episode 03

Loren Marks & David Dollahite
Podbean

In this episode, we discuss the general life strengths, marital strengths, and parenting strengths of Jewish families belonging to various branches of Judaism. The fabric of ritual and tradition is interwoven in marriage and family life for the observant Jewish families who shared their experiences with us. These rituals, traditions, and observances seem to foster a sense of duty and unity among families in the Jewish community.

[Listen Here](#)



Surmounting the Empathy Wall | Episode 04

David Dollahite & Loren Marks
Podbean

In this episode, we briefly share the unique strengths of seven of the religious-ethnic communities featured throughout this podcast. We reflect on our experiences of learning from many exemplar families and find ourselves experiencing both deep respect and holy envy.

[Listen Here](#)



The Inner Logic of Religion(s) | Episode 05

Loren Marks & David Dollahite
Podbean

In this episode, we discuss how religious thinking and acting is important to understand on its own terms and not simply as merely psychological or sociological in nature. Compared with most of the other episodes of this podcast, this one is unique in that it focuses on some very big ideas about understanding and exploring religion from a social science perspective but in ways that are true to religion.

[Listen Here](#)



Asian Christian Families | Episode 06

David Dollahite & Loren Marks
Podbean

In this episode, we discuss the general life strengths, marital strengths, and parenting strengths of Asian American Christian families. For many of these families, their religious beliefs, practices, and faith community play a significant role in the complex and interrelated process of religious, cultural, and familial adaptation and acculturation. Asian American Christian families live a life where faith is not only influential, it is central.

[Listen Here](#)



Catholic & Orthodox Christian Families | Episode 07

Loren Marks & David Dollahite
Podbean

In this episode, we discuss the general life strengths, marital strengths, and parenting strengths of Catholic and Orthodox Christian families. For many of these families, their religious faith is a source of comfort and strength as they seek personal growth and interact with family members and others in society. At the core of the transformative influence of faith in the family lives of Catholics and Orthodox Christians is the concept of forgiveness.

[Listen Here](#)



Evangelical Christian Families | Episode 08

David Dollahite & Loren Marks
Podbean

In this episode, we discuss the general life strengths, marital strengths, and parenting strengths of Evangelical Christian families. These families perceive that hallmarks of Evangelical Christian faith such as reliance on Holy Scripture and a personal relationship with God are foundational for building and maintaining healthy relationships.

[Listen Here](#)



Latter-day Saint Families | Episode 09

Loren Marks & David Dollahite
Podbean

In this episode, we discuss the general life strengths, marital strengths, and parenting strengths of families in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. For Latter-day Saint families, the doctrine that marriage and family life can be perpetuated beyond the grave is a central part of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. This eternal nature of the family is a key component driving family relations among Latter-day Saints.

[Listen Here](#)



Mainline Protestant Families | Episode 10

David Dollahite & Loren Marks
Podbean

In this episode, we discuss the general life strengths, marital strengths, and parenting strengths of Mainline Protestant families. For some Mainline Protestant believers, God's relationship with them serves as a model for their relationships with their spouses and children. In addition to giving meaning to their lives and providing a unique set of tools and resources to draw from, Mainline Protestant families draw additional power and strength from their relationship with God.

[Listen Here](#)



Muslim Families | Episode 11

Loren Marks & David Dollahite
Podbean

In this episode, we discuss the general life strengths, marital strengths, and parenting strengths of Muslim families. Our experience was that many of the families who shared their homes and stories with us were of a quality of character that any neighborhood or nation might welcome. Their relationships seemed structured but strong; hierarchical but warm. For many of these families, actively living what they believe and teach to their children is extremely important. They feel that Allah is involved in their daily struggles and marriage is a gift.

[Listen Here](#)



Meet the Hosts: Loren and Dave | Episode 12

David Dollahite & Loren Marks
Podbean

In this episode, we introduce ourselves to our listeners. We are a couple of guys who grew up in California and Oregon and are now professors of family life at Brigham Young University. We study how couples and families from many faiths draw on their religious beliefs, spiritual practices, and faith communities to strengthen their marriage and family life.

[Listen Here](#)



AUDIO ARTICLES

For those who prefer interacting with audio rather than visual content, the following public scholarship articles have been read and recorded as audio articles.

Sabbath Observance: Families Can Learn to Make the Sabbath ‘A Delight’ | Audio Article 01

David Dollahite
Podbean

The Lord views Sabbath observance as a path toward spiritual joy and pleasure and He desires for us to approach Sabbath observance with an attitude of delightful enjoyment. [We] can learn from our Jewish friends about how to make the Sabbath a delight by together choosing ways to make it special, joyous, spiritual and peaceful.

[Listen Here](#)



Making the Sabbath a Delight: Seven Lessons from Strong Jewish Families | Audio Article 02

Loren Marks
Podbean

Seven Jewish-inspired ideas to help us more fully delight in the Sabbath.

[Listen Here](#)



How to Have a Positive Religious Conversation with Your Youth | Audio Article 03

David Dollahite
Podbean

Youth and young adults are very interested in talking with their parents about spiritual and religious matters—especially if parents are willing to actually have a conversation rather than another “parent-preaching” session.

[Listen Here](#)





Understanding the Relationship Struggles in Religious Households | Audio Article 04

Loren Marks

Podbean

Religion both generates and helps with what we call relational struggles in families. ...In this article, we investigate...the first half of this duality—that religion is associated with (and may even create) several relational struggles and problems when we do not live our faith out wisely.

[Listen Here](#)



The Burdensome Myth of Romantic Love | Audio Article 05

David Dollahite

Podbean

As people abandon religious institutions, they start expecting romantic relationships to satisfy a host of needs that formerly were satisfied through religion.

[Listen Here](#)



Living Into Fatherhood | Audio Article 06

Loren Marks
Podbean

We have gleaned 10 one-liners that have left us pondering the world's most profound job: that of parent.

[Listen Here](#)



Mormons' Weekly Family Ritual Is an Antidote to Fast- Paced Living | Audio Article 07

David Dollahite
Podbean

More than 100 years after family home evening was conceived, it has taken on new relevance in a modern, fast-paced culture. ... [interview participants] routinely brought up the difficulties of maintaining familial closeness as technology and media have hastened the pace of life.

[Listen Here](#)



Behind the Veil: Meanings of Hijab for Muslim Wives and Husbands in the United States | Audio Article 08

Loren Marks
Podbean

What does the practice of hijab (or veiling) mean to Muslims in the United States? ... In a spirit of fostering awareness, understanding, and respect for those of another faith, we share with you what our interview participants themselves entrusted to us, in their own voices.

[Listen Here](#)



A Meaningful Gift for Your Father | Audio Article 09

David Dollahite
Podbean

When Father's Day rolls around each year, we think about what to get dad —what gift to offer our father. Advertisements abound for the perfect gift: a cool tie; something related to his favorite hobby; a barbeque so he can grill up burgers and steaks; and many others. Those kinds of gifts are fine. But I want to suggest something different.

[Listen Here](#)



The Abiding Power of Sacred Family Rituals | Audio Article 10

Loren Marks
Podbean

Drawing from the diverse families who taught us, we explore, explain, and illustrate why sacred family rituals matter, with the hope that your family and ours will more effectively harness this power in our own homes and families.

[Listen Here](#)



Family Prayer: A Sacred Time and A Sacred Space – Findings from a National Study | Audio Article 11

David Dollahite
Podbean

We've all heard that familiar saying, "the family that prays together, stays together." How does the nature and experience of family prayer create strong families? What can we learn from families that pray together?

[Listen Here](#)



What Religious Parents Say Matters Most in Raising Faithful Children | Audio Article 12

Loren Marks
Podbean

"[We asked religious Christian, Muslim, and Jewish parents of adolescents], 'What do you consider to be the most important things for you to be or do as a mother/father of faith?' [We found] that both mothers and fathers have similar desires to be good examples. Mothers and fathers of faith both reportedly rely on their religion to show them what (and how) they should try to be. Parents reportedly strived to model their relationship with their children in a manner consistent with their belief in God. Many reportedly drew on a commitment to God and their religious faith as a guide for what they should be as parents.

[Listen Here](#)



What We Can Learn from Ritual and Tradition in American Jewish Families | Audio Article 13

David Dollahite
Podbean

In reference to those of different faiths, President Gordon B. Hinckley said, "Look for their strengths and their virtues, and you will find strength and virtues that will be helpful in your own life." In striving to live a good, faithful life and foster loving family relationships in an ever-changing world, there is indeed much strength and virtue that we can gain from our Jewish friends and their examples.

[Listen Here](#)



Faithful Fathering: Ten Narratives of Wisdom from Fathers of Different Faiths | Audio Article 14

Loren Marks
Podbean

Over the past 25 years, we have interviewed more than 300 diverse fathers about the challenges and blessings of striving to be a faithful father. From thousands of pages of transcriptions and field notes we have gleaned 10 insights that have left us pondering the world's most profound job: that of parent.

[Listen Here](#)



The Best Practices—and Benefits—of Religious Parenting | Audio Article 15

David Dollahite
Podbean

The research . . . suggests evidence-based best practices for effectively integrating faith and family life, including religious-spiritual authenticity, nurturing parent-child relationships, balancing religious firmness and flexibility, and encouraging youth to have spiritual experiences, sacrifice meaningfully, and pray earnestly—all while parents preach a bit less and listen a bit more.

[Listen Here](#)



Why Do They Tithe? Perspectives on Giving Back to God | Audio Article 16

Loren Marks
Podbean

In December, articles and blogs address various aspects of Christmas. We would like to address another important December event for members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—tithing settlement. While few people have as many positive nostalgic memories of tithing settlement as they do of Christmas, there are profound spiritual aspects of tithing as a way of giving back to God in gratitude for what God has given us.

[Listen Here](#)



Romantic Love and Religion— A Match Made in Heaven? | Audio Article 17

David Dollahite
Podbean

Catholic thinker Michael Novak locates the myth of romantic love in our unfulfilled passion. He distinguishes romantic love from an embodied, other-oriented Christian love. But it's worth exploring the possibility that elements of the same basic human desire lie at the core of both: a deep and abiding need for profound and lasting—indeed eternal—emotional and spiritual intimacy, the dream of shared meaning and unified fulfillment of our deepest hopes with the “one.”

[Listen Here](#)



Rock and Religion: The Pursuit of Everlasting Love | Audio Article 18

Loren Marks
Podbean

For two decades, we have interviewed religious wives and husbands in long-term happy marriages and we asked them how they kept their love alive. We heard relational and religious answers that reflected a variety of wisdom.

Like most Americans of our generations (X and the Boomers), we also grew up hearing the voices of classic rock and roll. Rock also has its own kind of wisdom about keeping love alive—though often profane and crass—and it too enshrines a kind of sacred quest for Everlasting Love. On Valentine's Day these two visions of love collide, converge, and clash in unique and surprising ways.

[Listen Here](#)



Apocalyptic Fear and Authentic Faith | Audio Article 19

David Dollahite
Podbean

Religious gatherings often bring a sense of peace and safety, but in this case, religious gatherings can spread the very virus everyone hopes they and their loved ones will avoid. Whether you believe that houses of worship should remain open during this trying time, or that they should close, our research has found that meaningful religious practice at home is both possible and beautiful.

[Listen Here](#)





Healthy Religion is Good for American Families | Audio Article 20

Loren Marks

Podbean

A large body of social science research indicates that high levels of healthy religiosity provide many personal and relational benefits that merely nominal levels of religious belief and involvement does not. To settle for the dangerous single story that religion is bad may be at least as unfortunate as the provincial narrative that religion is an unmitigated good. Our carefully measured, double story is that high levels of healthy religion is good for America's families while what James called "sick-souled" religion is bad for everyone.

[Listen Here](#)



Holy Weeks in the Shadow of Death | Audio Article 21

David Dollahite

Podbean

In my experience, both 9/11 and COVID-19 involve grief over profound losses, anxieties and fears about the future, suspicions of others, and divisions across political lines, as well as increased prayers for self and others, increased desire to understand those who are suffering or are different, and greater efforts to build bridges across various divides.

To encourage hope during these difficult times, I would like to share some personal memories from the first Holy Week following 9/11.

[Listen Here](#)



Genuine Faith Practiced at Home Is a Powerful Antidote to Apocalyptic Fear | Audio Article 22

Loren Marks
Podbean

The diverse families of faith we have interviewed practiced a wide range of religious rituals and activities at home. These practices reportedly deepened their faith in God and strengthened their sense of connection with their family members. Such patterns of home-based worship take on pointed relevance in our current COVID-19 context where houses of worship have been closed.

Prayer, studying scripture, singing hymns, lighting candles, discussing spiritual topics, storytelling, a shared meal—all of these shared acts can be elements of family worship. And service to others in the human family comprises yet another way for families to worship God together.

[Listen Here](#)



Holy Envy: What We Learn By Studying Other Faiths | Audio Article 23

David Dollahite
Podbean

The term holy envy was developed by the late Krister Stendahl, who was Dean of the Harvard Divinity School and then Church of Sweden Bishop of Stockholm. This concept is core to the multi-faith research my colleagues and I do in the American Families of Faith project. At the end of the semester, students write a paper on holy envy. This assignment asks students to “List and briefly discuss the 5 most important, personally meaningful, and/or helpful ideas you learned this semester about how those of other faiths practice their religion about which you felt some kind of holy envy.

[Listen Here](#)



Will My Kids Keep the Faith? Parents’ Hopes and Children’s Choices | Audio Article 24

Laura McKeighen
Podbean

The balance between parents’ profound desires for children to remain faithful and their simultaneous desire to honor their children’s agency showed up over and over in our own American Families of Faith project. As we’ve probed deeper into parents’ wishes to have their children remain in their religion, we discovered different ways parents navigated this significant wrestle.

[Listen Here](#)



Perceptions of Nonreligious Parents | Audio Article 25

Laura McKeighen
Podbean

Although religious intolerance and marginalization still exist today, research suggests that perhaps one of the most marginalized groups is those who report no religion. Through interviews with 31 nonreligious couples, we investigated what nonreligious parents want religious people to understand about them and their families.

[Listen Here](#)



Strengths in Diverse American Families of Faith | Audio Article 26

Loren Marks
Podbean

A sad irony of life in contemporary America is that large numbers of people who devote a great deal of time, effort, and money to get into fictional alternate worlds, while at the same time, most Americans seem unable or unwilling to devote much effort to better understanding the religious worlds of their fellow citizens. Thus, many Americans spend hundreds of hours watching and reading about fictional worlds, yet know very little about the religious worlds of their neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family members.

[Listen Here](#)



The Inner Logic of Religion(s) | Audio Article 27

David Dollahite
Podbean

In this [audio article], we discuss the “inner logic” of religion(s). That is, how religious thinking and acting is important to understand on their own terms and not simply as merely psychological or sociological in nature. Unfortunately, across the social sciences, a typical approach to the study of religion and religions is to reduce religion to sociology or to psychology by imposing sociological or psychological perspectives onto religion.

[Listen Here](#)



VIDEOS

Faith is Central for Many Asian American Christian Families

YouTube
(1:30 min)

In our research, we strive to present a strengths-based portrayal of exemplar Asian American Christian immigrant families by allowing participants to represent themselves, their marriages, their families, their faith, and their lived experience in their own voices.

[View Here](#)



Sanctified Marriage

YouTube
(1:20 min)

Religious involvement can help to sanctify your marriage. Spending sacred time together, creating a shared holy vision/purpose, developing desirable interpersonal traits, seeking and receiving divine guidance, and as a resource for resolving conflicts are all elements that can serve as a spiritual foundation for a strong marriage.

[View Here](#)



Developing Interpersonal Traits Can Bless Marriage

YouTube
(1:02 min)

Developing interpersonal traits through religious beliefs and practices can bless your marriage. An American Families of Faith participant shares how partnering with God to focus on his personal, emotional, and intellectual traits is blessing his relationships.

[View Here](#)



Holy Envy: Asian Christian Families

YouTube
(7:03 min)

Dr. Loren Marks, co-director of the American Families of Faith project, reflects on his "holy envy" for Asian Christian families in the United States. Their courage to embrace change in a new land, sincerely follow their beliefs, and serve through pragmatic collectivism are a few of the strengths to be admired among the Asian Christian community.

[View Here](#)



Holy Envy: Jewish Families

YouTube
(3:35 min)

Dr. David Dollahite, co-director of the American Families of Faith project, shares his thoughts on the familial power of sacred rituals among Jewish families. Through many wonderful experiences of participating in Shabbat observance with Jewish families, he has developed a deep sense of "holy envy."

[View Here](#)



God is the Third Party in Marriage

YouTube
1:02 min)

During good times and difficult times, God can supply general guidance in marriage. When couples have difficult times in their marriages, they can gain strength by believing that God sanctions their marriage and remembering the times when He intervened to help their relationship.

[View Here](#)





Religious Involvement Can Promote Marital Strength and Fidelity

YouTube
(1:08 min)

Religious beliefs, practices, and community can strengthen marriage and provide a significant protective factor against marital infidelity. What helps highly religious couples maintain a strong marriage and remain faithful in that marriage? A combination of relationship with God, strengthened moral values, improved relational quality, and a sanctified marriage.

[View Here](#)



What is Holy Envy: Climbing the Empathy Wall

YouTube
(8:37 min)

Dr. Loren Marks and Dr. Davidollahite, co-directors of the American Families of Faith project, share thoughts about how their study of various families of faith has led them to a sense of deep admiration or “holy envy” for religious practices from other faiths. The “empathy wall” is an obstacle to a deep understanding of someone else that can make us feel indifferent or even hostile to those that hold different beliefs.

[View Here](#)



Attending Worship Services Builds Stronger Relationships

YouTube
(1:00 min)

Attending mosque, church, or synagogue as a family can positively impact your most important relationships. By focusing on what's most important during worship services, forgiveness can pave the way to stronger family relationships.

[View Here](#)



Why the American Families of Faith Project: Enriching & Strengthening Families

YouTube
(6:10 min)

In the social sciences there tends to be a focus on weaknesses and why things go wrong. The American Families of Faith Project brings a much needed balance to the study of marriages and families by focusing on the features and origins of relational strengths and health.

[View Here](#)



Religious Youth Make Sacred Sacrifices

YouTube
(2:31 min)

Are there ways that the children in your family are asked to sacrifice for their faith? When we asked a sample of religious youth this questions, we found six areas in which they sacrificed.

[View Here](#)



Sacred Sacrifices of Youth

YouTube
(1:00 min)

Why are religious youth willing to sacrifice for their faith? Some youth see it as giving up something good (or bad) for something better!

[View Here](#)



God's Guidance and Marriage

YouTube
(1:02 min)

Are you inviting God to be a direct guide in your marriage?

[View Here](#)



Religious Faith: Parents Teach and Children Choose

YouTube
(1:57 min)

Even in the most faithful and relationally warm families, the approach which parents take in religious education and socialization has a big impact. This video shares six tips on how to balance your desire for religious continuity with your children's agency.

[View Here](#)



Religion Has a Positive Influence on Marital Conflict

YouTube
(1:22 min)

In marriage, as in any meaningful relationship, conflict is a certainty. Religiosity can have a positive influence on marital conflict. Conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and reconciliation can all be aided through religious practices and beliefs.

[View Here](#)



Power of Prayer

YouTube
(1:00 min)

Prayer can get you through anything
and everything!

[View Here](#)



Ingredients of a Great Marriage

YouTube
(51 sec)

Some key virtues can positively
influence a couple's marriage.
Love, respect, patience, and
forgiveness are some of the
foundational ingredients that can
make a great marriage.

[View Here](#)



God is Always Going to Be There

YouTube
(44 sec)

God is always there to cheer us on!

[View Here](#)



Appendix A: Peer-Reviewed Articles, Books, and Chapters on Religion and Families

*Denotes student co-author

2023 (or in press)

- Dollahite, D. C., Hatch, T. G., & Marks, L. D. (2023). The American Jewish family. In Oliver Leaman (Ed.) *Handbook of Jewish ritual and practice* (pp. 273-296). Routledge.
- Dollahite, D. C., *Hendricks, J. J., & Marks, L. D. (in press). A diversity, equity, and inclusion audit of the American Families of Faith Project: Exploring lifespan spiritual development in religiously and racially diverse families. *Religions*.
- *Gale, M., *Hendricks, J. J., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (in press). Perspectives on lifespan religious and spiritual development from scholars across the lifespan. *Religions*.
- Hatch, T. G., & Marks, L. D. (2023). Sanctuary in time: Shabbat as the soul of modern Jewry and the essence of “doing” Judaism.” In O. Leaman (ed.), *Handbook of Jewish Ritual and Practice* (pp. 361-370). Routledge.
- Marks, L. D., Dollahite, D. C., *Kelley, H. H., *Kimball, E. R., & James, S. (2023). Exploring COVID-19’s influence on family communication: Negative, positive, or both? *Marriage & Family Review*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/01494929.2023.2170014>

2022

- *Chelladurai, J. M., *Kelley, H. H., Marks, L. D., Dollahite, D. C. (2022). Humility in family relationships: Exploring how humility influences relationships in religious families. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 36, 201-211. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/fam0000860>
- *Clarke, R. W., Leavitt, C. E., *Allsop, D. B., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2022). How sexuality and religion intersect in highly religious families: Implications for clinicians. *Sexual and Relationship Therapy*, 37, 342-359. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14681994.2021.2014052>
- Dollahite, D. C., *Kelley, H. H., James, S., & Marks, L. D. (2022). Changes in home-centered religious practices and relational wellbeing following the initial onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Marriage and Family Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01494929.2022.2141942>
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Appendix B:
Professional Presentations and Activities on Religion and Family
(Reverse Chronological Order)

2023

Dollahite, D. C., Hendricks, J. J., & Marks, L. D. (2023, March). *A Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Audit of a Two-Decade National Research Project*. Poster presented at the Biennial Conference of the Society for Research in Child Development. Salt Lake City, UT.

2022

Dollahite, D. C. (2022, October 7). *How Transcendent Spiritual Experiences Can Help Families During Adversities*. Invited presentation at the Family Life Conference on Spirituality and Family Life. Salt Lake City, UT.

Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2022, March). *Relational Strengths in American Families of Faith*. Invited presentation given at the International Conference on New Findings in Religion and Family Relationships. Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. (Presented virtually)

Dollahite, D. C., Kelley, H. H., James, S., & Marks, L. D. (2022, November). *Changes in Home-centered Religious Practices and Relational Wellbeing during the COVID-19 Pandemic*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Family and Religious Research Association. Baltimore, MD.

Kelley, H. H., Dollahite, D. C., James, S., & Marks, L. D. (2022, November). *Changes in Spiritual Practices and Relational Wellbeing during the COVID-19 Pandemic*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Family and Religious Research Association. Baltimore, MD.

Marks, L. D., Dollahite, D. C., Kelley, H. H., & James, S. (2022, November). *Changes in Dinner during the COVID-19 pandemic: Does the Family that Eats Together Stay Together?* Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Family and Religious Research Association. Baltimore, MD.

2021

Cannon, D. H., Willis, J., Kimball, E. R., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2021, March). *Strong Black Families: Unique Strengths and Challenges to Religious Black Families*. Poster presented at Utah Council on Family Relations, Logan, UT.

Cannon, D. H., Willis, J., Kimball, E. R., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2021, April). *Strong Black Families: Unique Strengths and Challenges to Religious Black Families*. Poster presented at the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Student Research Conference, Provo, UT.

Dollahite, D. C., Kelley, H. H., James, S., & Marks, L. D. (2021, November). *Changes in Home-centered Religious Practices and Relational Wellbeing during COVID-19*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations. (held virtually)

- Hendricks, J. J., Johnson, Z., Glazier, M., Herbst, J. B., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2021, November). *Navigating an Interfaith Marriage: Challenges and Potential Tools for Stability and Quality*. Paper presented at the virtual 2021 National Council on Family Relations.
- Kimball, E. R., Kelley, H. H., Hendricks, J., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2021, April). *Exiting Religion: Why Individuals Leave Religion*. Poster presented at the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Student Research Conference, Provo, UT.
- Marks, L. J., Kelley, H. H., Dollahite, D. C., James, S., & Marks, L. D. (2021, March). *Change in Financial Stress and Relational Wellbeing during COVID-19: Exacerbating and Alleviating Influences*. Poster presented (live online) at the annual Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Research Conference.
- Stanford, W. D., Hendricks, J. J., Futris, T. G., Marks, L. D., Dollahite, D. C. (2021, October 22–24). *Sources of Example, Guidance, and Influence for Interfaith Couples*. [Paper presentation] Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association 2021 Annual Conference, Portland, Oregon.
- Stanford, W., Glazier, M., Hendricks, J., Herbst, J., Marks, L. D., Dollahite, D. C. (2021, November 2–5). *How Faith Helps and Hinders in Interfaith Marriages*. [Paper presentation] National Council on Family Relations 2021 Annual Conference, (conference held virtually).
- Willis, J., Kimball, E. R., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2021, April). *Strong Interfaith Families: The Dating and Marriage Decision of Interfaith Couples*. Poster presented at the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Student Research Conference, Provo, UT.

2020

- Dollahite, D. C., Marks, L. D., & Kelley, H. H. (2020, March 18). *Positive religious youth development (results from four studies)* [poster presentation]. Society for Research on Adolescence Biennial Meeting Pre-Conference on Adolescent Religious and Spiritual Development. San Diego, CA.
- Hendricks, J. J., Chelladurai, J. M., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2020, March). *Exploring the Motivations, Outcomes, and Relational Implications of Repentance in Religious Families*. Poster presented at the 2020 APA Section 36 Conference, Denver, CO.
- Kelley, H. H., Maxfield, S., Mann, T., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2020, April). *Surmounting the Empathy Wall: What Nonreligious Families Want Religious People to Know about Them*. Poster presented at the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Student Research Conference, Provo, UT.
- Kimball, E. R., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2020, April). *Should I Stay or Should I Go? Why Highly Religious Individuals Stay Religious*. Poster presented at the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Student Research Conference, Provo, UT.
- Marks, L. D., Dollahite, D. C., & Kelley, H. H. (2020, March 18). *Key concerns for parents of religious youth (results from three recent studies)* [poster presentation]. Society for Research on Adolescence Biennial Meeting Pre-Conference on Adolescent Religious and Spiritual Development. San Diego, CA.
- Phillips, T., Wheeler, B., *Page, M., *Kimball, E., Marks, L., *Long, A., & *Smith, J. *Family Home Evening: Challenges and Benefits*. Proposal presented (on-line) at the 2020 National Council on Family Relations, St. Louis, MO.

2019

- Allsop, D. B., Leavitt, C. E., Driggs, S., Clarke, R., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2019, November). *Religion and Sex: Family Perspectives on the Connection between Sexual Relations and Religious Faith*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS), Denver, CO.
- Allsop, D. B., Leavitt, C. E., Driggs, S., Clarke, R., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2019, March). *A qualitative investigation of religion and sexual belief and practice: Family perspectives*. Paper presented at the Meeting of the Utah Council on Family Relations, Orem, UT.
- Barrow, B. H., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2019, April). *Processes in balancing parental desire for religious continuity and children's religious choices*. Poster presented at the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Research Conference, Provo, UT.
- Barrow, B. H., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2019, March). *Processes in balancing parental desire for religious continuity and children's religious choices*. Poster presented at the Meeting of the Utah Council on Family Relations, Orem, UT.
- Chelladurai, J. M., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2019, April). *Family Life Virtues in Religious Families*. Poster presented at Mary Lou Fulton Conference, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT.
- Chelladurai, J. M., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2019, March). *Family Life Virtues: Qualitative Findings from a National Study on Religious Families*. Paper presented at the Meeting of the Utah Council on Family Relations, Orem, UT.
- Chelladurai, J. M., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2019, November). *Love: Why and how religion influences love in family life?* Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2019, January). *Development of the American Families of Faith Project*. Invited talk to faculty and students of the BYU Psychology Department, Provo, UT. January 24, 2019.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2019, January). *The American Families of Faith Project*. Invited talk to the Family Science Student Club at Utah Valley University. Orem, UT. January 25, 2019.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2019, March). *How Sacred Experiences Can Provide Reasons for Eternal Hope*. Invited paper given at the BYU Wheatley Institution Reason for Hope Lecture Series, Provo, UT, March 14, 2019.
- Dollahite, D. C., Marks, L. D., & Chelladurai, J. M., (2019, November). *Faith in God: How does faith in God influence family life?* Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.
- Kirchner, E. R., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2019, March). *Balancing expectations and relationships: How religion encouraged both expectations and relational compensators*. Poster presented at the Utah Council of Family Relations, Orem, UT.
- Kirchner, E. R., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2019, March). *Balancing expectations and Relationships: How religion encouraged both expectations and relational compensators*. Poster presented at the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Student Research Conference, Provo, UT.

- Marks, L. D., Dollahite, D. C., & Chelladurai, J. M. (2019, November). *Hope: How does religion foster hope for individuals and families?* Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.
- Rose, A. H., Dollahite, D. C., Lee, H., Little, T. D., & Dyer, W. J. (2019, November). *Familial Religious Importance and Practices: A Triadic Exploration of Religiosity Within Family Processes*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.

2018

- Barrow, B. H., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2018, March). *"Come back and fix the rift": relational reconciliation in religious families*. Paper presented at the Meeting of the Utah Council on Family Relations, Provo, UT.
- Chelladurai, J. M., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2018). *Family Life Virtues in Religious Families*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations. San Diego, CA.
- Cherry, K. E., Stanko, K. E., Sampson, L., Galea, S., & Marks, L. D. (2018, November). *Spirituality, humor, and resilience after natural and technological disasters*. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.
- Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2018, November). *Two Decades of Studying American Families of Faith: What We Have Learned*. Talk given at a Special Session of the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations. San Diego, CA. November 7.
- Marks, L. D. (2018, October). *Sexual revolution or sexual integrity: What will you choose?* Invited Plenary Address presented at Sexual Integrity Conference, Las Vegas, NV.
- Dollahite, D.C. (2018, April). *The American Families of Faith project: Discoveries at the Nexus of Religion and Relationships*. Paper given at the Eighth International Conference on Religion and Spirituality in Society. University of California at Berkeley. April 17-18.

2017

- Barrow, B. H., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2017, April). *Reconciliation in religious families*. Poster presented the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Research Conference. BYU, Provo, UT.
- Dalton, H., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. (2017, November). *Sacrifice & self-care as relational processes: The connections and tensions*. Poster presented at the 2017 National Council on Family Relations conference, Orlando, FL. [For this paper, Hilary Dalton received the Student and New Professional Outstanding Paper Award, Religion, Spirituality & Family Section of the National Council on Family Relations.]
- Dalton, H., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2017, April). *Transcendent matters: Family relationships associated with how one experiences God*. Poster presented the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Research Conference, Provo, UT.
- Dalton, H., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2017, March). *Transcendent matters: Family relationships associated with how one experiences God*. Paper presented the Utah Council on Family Relations, Salt Lake City, UT.

- Dollahite, D. C. & Marks, L. D. (2017, November). *Generative Devotion Amid Religious and Relational Dualities at the Faith-family Nexus*. Paper presented at the Theory Construction and Research Methods Workshop of the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2017, October). *Interactions between Religious Socialization Practices and Relationship Processes in Diverse American Families*. Invited Plenary Address given at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Study of Human Development Conference on Creativity, Spirituality, and Health Across the Lifespan. Providence, RI.
- Phillips, T., Long, A, Wall, S. & Marks, L. (2017, November). *Strategies and methods for overcoming stressful situations and challenges*. Poster presented at the 2017 National Council on Family Relations conference, Orlando, FL.
- Kelley, H., Reimschuessel, J., Marks, L., & Dollahite, D. C. (2017, April). *The divisive side of religion: A qualitative study*. Poster presented the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Research Conference, Provo, UT.
- Kelley, H., Reimschuessel, J., Marks, L., & Dollahite, D. C. (2017, March). *The divisive side of religion: A qualitative study*. Poster presented the Utah Council on Family Relations, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Stanko, K. E., Sampson, L., Marks, L. D., Cherry, K. E., & Galea, S. (2017, March). *Religious coping and prevalence of post-traumatic stress symptoms in survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita*. Poster presented at the Life Course and Aging Center Conference, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Tuft, A., Marks, L., & Dollahite, D. C. (2017, April). *Time for a change: Continuous and discontinuous transformation in highly religious families*. Poster presented at the Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Research Conference, Provo, UT.
- Tuft, A., Marks, L., & Dollahite, D. C. (2017, March). *Time for a change: Continuous and discontinuous transformation in highly religious families*. Paper presented the Utah Council on Family Relations, Salt Lake City, UT.

2016

- Dalton, H., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. (April, 2016). *A qualitative study of sacrifice and self-care*. Paper presented the Utah Council on Family Relations, Ogden, UT.
- Dalton, H., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. (April, 2016). *A qualitative study of sacrifice and self-care*. Poster presented the Mary Lou Fulton Conference, Provo, UT.
- Dollahite, D. C. (August, 2016). *“Being, identity, and calling in Christian, Jewish, and Muslim mothers of youth.”* Paper presented at the Oxford Round Table Conference on Religion, Women, and History. Oxford University, Oxford, England.
- Pearl, K., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. (April, 2016). *Relational struggles in religious families: How the fire of faith sometimes burns*. Paper presented the Utah Council on Family Relations, Ogden, UT.
- Phillips, T., Marks, L. D., Long, A, Smith, J., Goodman, M., Wheeler, B., & Wall, S. (November, 2016). *Family Home Evening as a model for promoting healthy families*. Poster presented at the 2016 National Council on Family Relations conference, Minneapolis, MN.
- Stanko, K. E., Sampson, L., Marks, L. D., Cherry, K. E., & Galea, S. (November, 2016). *Religious coping and prevalence of post-traumatic stress symptoms in survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita*. Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA.

- Rose, A. H., Marks, L. D., Miller R. B., & Card N. A. (April, 2016). *Longitudinal analysis of religiosity and marital satisfaction: A predictive latent growth curve approach*. Poster presented at the Connecticut Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Annual Conference, Hartford, CT.
- Tuft, A., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. (April, 2016). “*We learn and grow together*”: *Transformational processes in religious families*. Poster presented the Utah Council on Family Relations, Ogden, UT.
- Tuft, A., Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. (April, 2016). “*We learn and grow together*”: *Transformational processes in religious families*. Poster presented the Mary Lou Fulton Conference, Provo, UT.

2015

- Cherry, K., & Marks, L. (August, 2015). *Long-term psychological outcomes in older adults after disaster: Relationships to religiosity and social support*. Paper presented at the Hurricane Katrina at 10 Years Conference, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Dollahite, D. C. (October 2015). “*Religion and family: Introduction to the American Families of Faith project*.” Presentation given at the World Congress of Families IX. Salt Lake City, Utah. October 28, 2015.
- Dollahite, D.C., Dalton, H., & Marks, L.D. (2015, March). *Duality and divergent outcomes at the nexus of faith and family life*. Paper presented at the Division 36 Midyear Conference of the American Psychological Association. Provo, UT.
- Dollahite, D.C., Dalton, H., & Marks, L.D. (2015, October). *Duality and divergent outcomes at the nexus of faith and family life*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association. Newport Beach, CA.
- Hatch, T. G., & Alghafli, Z., & Marks, L. D. (November, 2015). *Ramadan and Shabbat in Muslim and Jewish families: A comparative, qualitative study*. Paper presented the National Council on Family Relations, Vancouver, BC.
- Hatch, T., Marks, L., & Dollahite, D. C. (November, 2015). “*They teach us:*” *Family influences on Jewish observance in the home*.” National Council on Family Relations, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

2014

- Chandler, M. A., Knell, A. L., Parsons, T. M., Hardy, S. A., & Dollahite, D. C. (2014, November). “*Everyone’s doing it!*”: *Parental reports of adolescent motivations for sobriety*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Association for Moral Education, Pasadena, California.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2014, August). Invited participation in “Author Meets Critiques” Symposium (Provided review/critique of *Families and Faith: How Religion Is Passed Down Across Generations* by Vern L. Bengtson) at annual conference of the Association for Sociology of Religion, San Francisco, CA.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2014, August). Presented paper *Mormon American Families* to the Mormon Scholars Foundation Summer Symposium on Mormon Culture. Provo, Utah.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2014, March). *The American Families of Faith project: what we have learned so far*. Invited Lecture. Utah State University, Logan, UT, March 19, 2014.

- Dollahite, D.C., Dalton, H., & Marks, L.D. (2014, November). *Why religion helps and harms: Toward a practical paradigm of paradox at the nexus of faith and family life*. Paper presented at the Theory Construction and Research Methods Workshop of the National Council on Family Relations annual conference. Baltimore, Maryland.
- Hatch, T. G. & Marks, L. D. (November, 2014). *Sacred practices in Jewish families: A qualitative study*. Paper presented the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, MD.
- Knell, A. L., Parsons, T. M., Chandler, M. A., Hardy, S. A., & Dollahite, D. C. (2014, April). *"Let's talk about sex": The identification of motivational pillars in parental facilitation of adolescent abstinence*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Utah Council on Family Relations, Provo, Utah.
- Knell, A. L., Parsons, T. M., Chandler, M. A., Hardy, S. A., & Dollahite, D. C. (2014, November). *"Let's have the talk": Parental strategies used to promote adolescent abstinence*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Association for Moral Education, Pasadena, California.
- Lu, Y., & Marks, L. D. (March, 2014). *Chinese immigrants and religious conversion: qualitative study*. Paper presented the National Council on Family Relations, Baltimore, MD.
- Ryker, K., Lyon, B., Nezat, P. F., Sampson, L., Holland, K. R., Kytola, K. L., Marks, L., & Cherry, K. E. (March, 2014). *Assessing religiosity after disaster: The Religiosity Questionnaire*. Poster presented at the Life Course and Aging Center Conference, Baton Rouge, LA.

2013

- Dollahite, D. C., Goodman, M. A., Marks, L. D. (2013, November). *Religion and Transformative Processes in Marriage: A Qualitative Study*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Religious Research Association and Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Boston, MA.
- Johnson, N., Anderson, S. G., Christensen, J. B., Hardy, S. A., Dollahite, D. C. (2013, April). *Adolescent motivations for abstinence and prosocial behavior*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, Washington.
- Lawrence, M., Lambert, N. M., Dollahite, D. C., Marks, L. D. (2013, November). *The power of prayer in transforming perceptions*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, San Antonio, Texas.
- Lu., Y., Hatch, T., Marks, L. D., & Cherry, K. (February, 2013). *"Faith Keeps You Strong": Religious Coping in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita*. Life Course and Aging Center Conference, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Lu., Y., Hatch, T., Marks, L. D., & Cherry, K. (November, 2013). *"Faith keeps you strong": Religious coping in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita*. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA.
- Porter, E., Lambert, N. M., Dollahite, D. C., Marks, L. D. (2013, November). *The transformative power of prayer: How prayer changes affect*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, San Antonio, Texas.
- Woodbury, R. D., Johnson, N., Hardy, S. A., & Dollahite, D. C. (2013, April). *Parents' and adolescents' perceptions of religious norms*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle, Washington.

2012

- Christensen, J., Hardy, S. A., Dollahite, D. C. (2012, November). *General motivation domains and behavioral specificity across domains*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Association for Moral Education, San Antonio, Texas.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2012, July). *Research on How and Why Religion Benefits Diverse Couples and Families*. Presentation given at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Fertility Care Professionals in Salt Lake City, Utah. July 11-14, 2012.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2012, June). *Generative, destructive, and self-oriented faith: Conceptual models of ways of being religious*. Presentation given to faculty and students of the Center on Adolescence, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA.
- Dollahite, D. C., Hawkins, A. J., & Parr, M. (2012, November). *"Something more": The meanings of marriage for religious couples in America*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association. Phoenix, AZ.
- Goodman, M. A., Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2012, November). *Religion and Transformative Processes in Marriage: A Qualitative Study*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Phoenix, AZ.
- Holdaway, A., Christensen J., McMurdie, C., Hardy S. A., & Dollahite D. C. (2012, November). *Religiosity, spirituality, and adolescent motivations*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Association for Moral Education, San Antonio, Texas.
- Johnson, N., Anderson, S., Hardy, S. A., & Dollahite, D. C. (2012, November). *Adolescent prosocial and abstinence motivations and behavior*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Association for Moral Education, San Antonio, Texas.
- Lu, Y., Marks, L. D., Apavaloie, L., & Alghafli, Z. (November, 2012). *The role of the Chinese Christian Church in Chinese immigrant families*. Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, AZ.
- Marks, L. D. (November, 2012). *Religion and individual well-being: A primer and overview*. Special session invited speaker at the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, AZ.
- McMurdie, C., Christensen, J., Holdaway, A., Hardy, S. A., & Dollahite, D. C. (2012, November). *Do you see what I see? Examining how people perceive the influence of religion*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Association for Moral Education, San Antonio, Texas.
- Shichida, T., Dollahite, D. C., & Carroll, J. S. (2012, November). *Mutuality and transcendent unity: Marital connection types based on religious orientation*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and Religious Research Association, Phoenix, AZ.

2011

- Dollahite, D. C., Marks, L. D., & Lawrence, F. (2011, November). *In God We Trust: A National Qualitative Study of Why Americans Make Religious Contributions*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL.

- Fackrell, T., Poulsen, F., Busby, D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2011, November). *Coming to Terms with Parental Divorce: Associations with Marital Outcomes and the Role of Gender and Religiosity*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL.
- Forest, P., Presley, R., Fontenot, P., Garrison, M. E. B., Marks, L. D., & Cherry, K. (February, 2011). *Spiritual and secular coping strategies influence post-Katrina resilience*. Life Course and Aging Center Conference, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Goodman, M., Dollahite, D. C., Marks, L. D., & Layton, E. (2011, June). *Faith in Marriage and Family*. Paper presented at Christian Scholars Conference, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- Lu, Y., & Marks, L. D. (March, 2011). *Chinese Christian immigrants: A qualitative study of faith and marriage*. Presented at the South Eastern Council on Family Relations, Birmingham, AL.
- Marks, L. D., Burr, W. R., & Day, R. (November, 2011). *Meta-theoretical issues and controversies: Beyond the 2005 sourcebook*. Paper presented at the Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.

2010

- Burr, W. R., Marks, L. D., Day, R. D. (November, 2010). *The sacred in families: Ways religion helps and harms families*. Presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2010, February). *How the Faiths of Abraham Bless the Families of the Earth. Evidence from Recent Research with Christians, Jews, and Muslims*. Invited lecture as part of the “House of Learning” lectures series, BYU, Provo, UT. February 11, 2010.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2010, May). *Mormonism and modernism: Why many LDS families thrive in postmodern America*. Invited plenary address given at a conference on “The Family and Human Relationships in History, Literature, Art, and Philosophy” at Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA, May 22, 2010.
- Dollahite, D. C., Layton, E., Bahr, H. M., Walker, A. B., & Thatcher, J. Y. (2010, November). *Giving up something good for something better: Sacred sacrifices made by religious youth*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Minneapolis, MN, November 3, 2010.
- Layton, E., Dollahite, D. C., & Hardy, S.M. (2010, November). *Anchors of religious commitment in adolescents*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Minneapolis, MN, November 4, 2010.
- Marks, L. D. (September, 2010). *“In God we trust”: Perspectives on finances, family relationships, and faith*. Presented to University Methodist Women’s Organization, Baton Rouge, LA.

2009

- Dollahite, D. C. (2009, November). *How Faith Works and Why Religion Matters to Diverse Religious Couples and Families*. Invited presentation in a “Special Session” at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, San Francisco, CA.

- Dollahite, D. C., Layton, E., Bahr, H. M., Walker, A. B., & Thatcher, J. Y. (2009, March). *Giving up something good for something better: Sacred sacrifices made by religious adolescents*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Society for Research on Adolescence. Philadelphia, PA.
- Dollahite, D. C., & Thatcher, J. Y. (2009, April). *Talking about religion: How religious youth and parents discuss their faith*. Paper presented at a Symposium on Spiritual and Religious Development at the Biennial Conference of the Society for Research on Child Development, Denver, CO.
- Lambert, N., Fincham, F., & Marks, L. (June, 2009). *Does talking to God make people less inclined to drink?: The association between prayer and alcohol consumption*. World Congress on Positive Psychology. Philadelphia, PA.
- Laird, R., Marrero, M., & Marks, L. (April, 2009). *Does opportunity, propensity, or proximity account for the association between religiosity and behavior problems?* Paper presented at the Society for Research on Child Development, Denver, CO.
- Lu, Y., & Marks, L. D. (November, 2009). *The influence of religion on Chinese Christian immigrants: A qualitative study of marriage*. Presented at the National Council on Family Relations, San Francisco, CA.

2008

- Marks, L. D. (April, 2008). *Strengthening families: Lessons learned from happy, enduring African-American marriages*. LSU AgCenter State Conference. Baton Rouge, LA.
- Marks, L. D., Chaney, C., Hopkins, K., & Sasser, D. (February, 2008). *A qualitative study of strong, happy, enduring African-American marriages*. Society for Cross-Cultural Research, 37th Annual National Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Marks, L. D., Hopkins, K., Chaney, C., & Sasser, D. (November, 2008). *Religion and strong, happy, enduring African-American marriages*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Little Rock, Arkansas.

2007

- Dollahite, D. C. (2007, July). *The Connections between Faith and Marriage and Family*. Invited paper presented at the World Family Policy Forum, Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School, July 9-11, 2007, Provo, UT.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2007, March). Development of the Electronic Teen-Adult Worldwide Conversation Network (E-TAWCN). Roundtable discussion at the Biennial Society for Research on Child Development Pre-Conference on Religious and Spiritual Development, Boston, MA.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2007, October). *The benefits of qualitative methods for research on religion*. Invited presentation at conference on Religious Practice and Civic Life: What the Research Says, hosted by The Heritage Foundation, Child Trends, and the Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion. Washington, D.C., October 4, 2007.
- Dollahite, D. C., & Thatcher, J. Y. (2007, March). *Methodological issues in studying Parent-child communication about religion*. Paper presented at the Biennial Society for Research on Child Development Pre-Conference on Religious and Spiritual Development, Boston, MA.

- Lambert, N. M., & Dollahite, D. C. (2007, November). *The three-fold cord: Marital commitment in religious couples*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Pittsburgh, PA.
- Lambert, N. M., & Dollahite, D. C. (2007, November). *The use of qualitative and quantitative data in the development of the Faith Activities in the Home Scales (FAITHS)*. Paper presented at the Theory Construction and Research Methods Pre-conference of the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Pittsburgh, PA, November 6, 2007.
- Loser, R. W., Klein, S., Dollahite, D. C., & Hill, E. J. (2007, November). *Religion and the everyday ritual of home life*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Pittsburgh, PA.
- Marks, L. D. (November, 2007). *Why do highly religious marriages last?: Experiences and explanations from a National Qualitative Sample*. Paper presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Washington, DC.
- Walker, A. B., & Dollahite, D. C. (2007, November). *Contemporary sacrifices by Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and Mormon youth*. Poster presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations. Pittsburgh, PA, November 8, 2007.

2006

- Dollahite, D. C., & Carroll, J. S. (September, 2006). *"Who's My Daddy?" How the Legalization of Same-Sex Partnerships Would Further the Rise of Ambiguous Fatherhood in America*. Paper presented at the Symposium: "What's the Harm?" How Legalizing Same-Sex Marriage Will Harm Society, Families, Adults, Children and Marriage, September 15-16, 2006, Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School.
- Dollahite, D. C., & Lambert, N. M. (2006, November). *Forsaking all others: Marital fidelity in religious couples*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, Minneapolis, MN.
- Lambert N. M., & Dollahite, D. C. (2006, November). *How religion helps couples prevent, resolve, and overcome marital conflict*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, Minneapolis, MN.
- Loser, R.W., Dollahite, D.C., & Klein, S.R.. (2006, April). *Home as sacred family space*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the Utah Council on Family Relations. Provo, UT.
- Marks, L. D., Chaney, C., & Hopkins-Williams, K. (November, 2006). *Faith communities and African-American families: A qualitative study*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.
- Marks, L. (March, 2006). *What does science tell us about families and religion?* Invited lecture at the LSU Science and Religion Collegium, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Thatcher, J. Y., & Dollahite, D. C. (2006, April). *Talking the talk: When parent-adolescent religious conversations work*. Poster presented at the Utah Council on Family Relations. Provo, UT.

2005

- Dollahite, D. C. (2005, August). Five academic lectures given to faculty and students at Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India (while there as a visiting scholar) on the topics of (1) Fatherhood, (2) Religion and Family Life, (3) Family Resource Management Theory, (4) Virtual Family Life Education, and (5) The State of Research on the Family-Religion Linkage. August 1-13, 2005.
- Dollahite, D. C., & Thatcher, J. Y. (2005, July). *How family religious involvement benefits adults, youth, and children and strengthens families throughout the earth*. Invited plenary paper presented at the 12th World Conference of the International Society for Family Law. Salt Lake City, UT. July 19-23, 2005.
- Lambert, N. M., & Dollahite, D. C. (April, 2005). *Marital fidelity in religious couples*. Paper presented at the Utah Council on Family Relations. Ogden, UT: April 8.
- Marks, L., Dollahite, D., Berry, A., & Nesteruk, O. (November, 2005). *Faith communities and American families: A qualitative exploration of the challenges, the rewards, and the meanings*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Phoenix, AZ.
- Nesteruk, O., Swanson, M., Berry, A., & Marks, L. D. (March, 2005). *A qualitative examination of religious beliefs among African Americans*. Paper presented at the LSU Life Course and Aging Center Conference, Baton Rouge, LA.

2004

- Dollahite, D. C. (2004, October). *How a family's religious involvement benefits children and youth*. Paper presented at the "Symposium on Parentlessness: Protecting the Best Interests of Parent-Deprived Children Growing Up In A World Of Diversity," at the J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, October 8, 2004.
- Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (2004, November). *A qualitative test of a conceptual model of how highly religious families strive to fulfill sacred purposes*. Paper presented at the Theory Construction & Research Methodology Workshop, Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- Dollahite, D. C., & Walker, A. B. (2004, March). *Echoes of the Akedah: Sacred sacrifices by youth in Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and Latter-day Saint families*. Paper presented at the conference titled "Genesis 22: Latter-day Saint Perspectives on the Akedah" sponsored by the Institute for the Study and Preservation of Ancient Religious Texts, BYU, Provo, UT.
- Marks, L. D. (February, 2004). *Religious diversity in the workplace*. Presentation at Annual LSU AgCenter Diversity Conference, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Marks, L. D. (February, 2004). *State of the black church*. Panelist/presentation at LSU Black History Month Celebration, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Marks, L. D., Swanson, M., Hopkins-Williams, K., & Nesteruk, O. (November, 2004). *Religion, stress, and coping in African American families*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.
- Nesteruk, O., Hopkins-Williams, K., Swanson, M., & Marks, L. D. (November, 2004). *Why do religious African Americans live almost 14 years longer?* Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Orlando, FL.

Nesteruk, O., Swanson, M., Hopkins-Williams, K., & Marks, L. D. (March, 2004). *Religion, health, and longevity among African Americans*. Paper presented at the LSU Life Course and Aging Center Conference, Baton Rouge, LA.

2003

Dollahite, D. C. (2003, May). *Faithful Fathering of Special Children*. Invited plenary workshop given at the "Dads Can Do It" Delaware Statewide Conference for Fathers of Children with Disabilities.

Dollahite, D. C. (2003, May). *Fatherwork among Children with Special Needs*. Invited workshop given to the Dakota Fatherhood Summit III. May 21-22, Fargo, ND.

Dollahite, D. C. (2003, May). *Fatherwork: Working Faithfully for the Next Generation*. Invited plenary workshop given to the Dakota Fatherhood Summit III. May 21-22, Fargo, ND.

Dollahite, D. C. (2003, November). *Sacred sacrifices made by adolescents and young adults in Jewish, Christian, and Muslim families*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations annual conference, November 20, 2003, Vancouver, BC.

Marks, L. D. (November, 2003). *How and why does religion influence marriage?: Muslim, Jewish, and Christian perspectives*. Paper presented at the 2003 National Council on Family Relations, Vancouver, BC.

Marks, L. D. (October, 2003). *Food for thought: Linkages between health, religious communities, and nutrition education*. Presentation given at 2003 Annual Conference of LSU AgCenter Family Nutrition Program, Baton Rouge, LA.

2002

Dollahite, D. C. (2002, April). *Research on Religion and Family Life in the Abrahamic Faiths*. Invited lecture sponsored by the Center for the Family, University of Massachusetts Amherst. April 24, Amherst Massachusetts.

Dollahite, D. C. (2002, August). *Generative Spirituality: A conceptual model of responsible religion and faithful family life*. Paper presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development Annual Conference in Ottawa, Canada, August 5.

Dollahite, D. C. (2002, June). *Family Life and Faith in the Abrahamic Religions*. Paper presented at the Groves Conference on Families, Religions, and Spirituality in the Postmodern Era. June 5-9, Chautauqua, New York.

Dollahite, D. C. (2002, May). *Jews and Muslims through Mormon Eyes*. Invited talk sponsored by the UMASS Jewish Students Association given at the Hillel House, UMASS Amherst. May 3, Amherst, Massachusetts.

Dollahite, D. C. (2002, November). *Religious Practices and Family Life in the Abrahamic Faiths*. Paper presented at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Conference. Oct. 31- November 3, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dollahite, D. C. (2002, October). *Turning Hearts through Family Storytelling*. Paper presented at the BYU Family Folklore Workshop. October 11, 2002, Provo, Utah.

- Marks, L. D. (May, 2002). *Why religion matters to families: A review and new conceptualization*. Paper presented at the Marion H. Steele Symposium of the Delaware Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Newark, DE.
- Marks, L. D. (November, 2002). *Highly involved families of faith: A qualitative analysis of the costs, the challenges, and why it's worth it*. Paper presented at the 2002 National Council on Family Relations, Houston, TX.
- Marks, L. D. (November, 2002). *The meaning and influence of religious practices for families: What do they do and why do they do it?* Paper presented at 2002 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Marks, L. D. (October, 2002). *Why religion matters to families and those who study them*. Invited paper presented at School of Family Life Symposium, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT.

2001

- Dollahite, D. C. (2001, April). *How religious involvement facilitates responsible father involvement*. Invited paper presented at the Pre-Conference on Religious & Spiritual Development at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN. 4-19-01.
- Dollahite, D. C., (2001, February). *A narrative approach to understanding responsible involvement of fathers with their special needs children*. Invited paper presented at the Workshop on Measuring Father Involvement, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, 2-8-01.
- Dollahite, D. C. (2001, November). *Generative spirituality: A conceptual model of responsible religion and faithful family life*. Paper presented at the Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop of the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Rochester, NY.
- Marks, L. D. (November, 2001). *Religion, families, and fathers*. Paper presented at the Theory Construction and Research Methodology Workshop of the National Council on Family Relations, Rochester, NY.

2000

- Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (2000, November). *Religious experience and meaning in Latter-day Saint fathers of children with special needs*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Minneapolis, MN.

1999

- Dollahite, D. C. (1999, November). *Faithful fathering: How religion fosters responsible and meaningful father involvement*. Invited paper given to the World Congress of Families II. Geneva Switzerland, November 16, 1999.
- Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (1999, November). *Religious experience and meaning in Latter-day Saint fathers of children with special needs*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Boston, MA, November 5-7.

Marks, L. D., Springer, P., & Ogden, M. (April, 1999). *LDS fathers of children with special needs: A qualitative analysis*. Presented at the Brigham Young University Conference for Family Sciences, Provo, UT.

1998

Hawkins, A. J., & Dollahite, D. C. (1998, April). *Fatherwork with dads (and those who love them) on the Internet*. Invited plenary workshop given at the Family Expo (sponsored by the BYU Division of Continuing Education, College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences, Religious Education, and BYU Alumni Association).

Hawkins, A. J., Grant, T. R., & Dollahite, D. C. (1998, November). On-line program evaluation of family life education programs on the Internet: The case of FatherWork. Resource exchange given at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Milwaukee, WI.

Marks, L. D. (April, 1998). *Challenges and supports for fathers of children with special needs*. Presented at the Utah Council on Family Relations, Provo, UT.

1997

Dollahite, D. C. (1997, July). *Faithful fathering for life*. Invited plenary presentation given to the American Academy for Natural Family Planning. Salt Lake City, UT, July 18, 1997.

Dollahite, D. C. (1997, May). *Sacred stories and the hearts of the fathers: Generative narrative therapy and education with Latter-day Saint fathers*. Invited plenary address given to the Annual Conference of the Association of Mormon Counselors and Psychotherapists. Salt Lake City, UT, May 3, 1997.

Dollahite, D. C., Marks, L. D., Olson, M. M. (1997, November). *Faithful fathering in trying times: Religious beliefs and practices of Latter-day Saint fathers of children with special needs*. Workshop given at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Arlington, VA.

Marks, L. D., & Dollahite, D. C. (1997, May). *Religious faith and fathers of special needs children*. Presentation given at the Annual Conference of the Utah Council on Family Relations, Provo, Utah.

Olson, M. M., & Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D. (1997, May). *Generative fathering of special needs children: Conceptual connections and narrative accounts*. Presentation given at the Annual Conference of the Utah Council on Family Relations, Provo, Utah.

Olson, M. M., Dollahite, D. C. & Marks, L. D. (1997, November). *Generative fathering of special needs children: Conceptual connections and narrative accounts*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Arlington, VA.

Appendix C

Funding for American Families of Faith Project (1997-2022)

During our years of research together, we have been supported, encouraged, and sustained by research support from diverse sources delineated in this Appendix. Our primary benefactor, in both direct and indirect ways, has been Brigham Young University (including Eliza R. Snow Fellowships). BYU is funded by the sacred tithing monies of members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We are especially indebted to members' financial faithfulness that has helped make the American Families of Faith project a reality.

Indeed, it is with these sacred donations in mind that we make the present accounting and report of our stewardship. In addition, most of the roughly 300 students who have assisted with the project volunteered significant hours and/or were paid out of sacred funds. In summary, our own work represents only a portion of the efforts and offerings needed to produce this landmark project. To these faithful givers and contributors, past and present, we express our profound gratitude.

2020-21

Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D., & Hendricks, J. J. RESTARTS (New Branch of the American Families of Faith Research Project). Eliza R. Snow Fellowship. Brigham Young University. \$24,800.

Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D., & Hendricks, J. J. Relational Experiences, Spiritual Transformations, Attachments, Religious Transitions, and Sanctifications (RESTARTS). Wheatley Institution (10-21 – 10-22). (\$15,000)

2020

COVID-19 and Home-based Religious Practices. (\$21,300). BYU School of Family Life. (5/20)

2017-2018

Marks, L. D. American Families of Faith Research Project. Eliza R. Snow Fellowship. Brigham Young University. \$24,980.

2016

Dollahite, D. C., & Marks, L. D., Holy Envy: Appreciating How Various Religious Communities Support and Strengthen Marriage and Family Life. (\$19,140). BYU Religious Studies Center (1/17-12/17).

2015

Marks, L. D. Strong Black Families. LSU School of Social Work. \$1,288.

2014

Dollahite, D. C., American Families of Faith. (\$24,920). Eliza R. Snow Grant, Brigham Young University. (1/14-12/15)

2010

Marks, L. D. The Meanings behind the Religion-Marriage Connection: Qualitative Reports from a Diverse U.S. Sample. Office of Research and Economic Development Faculty Travel Grant, \$750.

Marks, L. D. Families and Faith: A Qualitative Study of a Diverse U.S. Sample of Religious Families. Kappa Omicron Nu National Alumni Research Grant, \$2,000.

2008

Dollahite, D. C., How Personal and Family Religiosity Promotes Positive Development in Youth and Strengthens Families Facing Challenges: Developing a Web-based Research Protocol. (\$19,980). Eliza R. Snow Fellowship, Brigham Young University. (9/08 – 8/10).

2007

Dollahite, D. C., How Processes of Religious Striving in Latter-day Saint Families Are Related to Spiritual Thriving in their Children and Youth. (\$10,000). Family Studies Center, Brigham Young University. (1-07 – 12/07).

2006

Marks, L. D. National Study of Faith and Families. LSU Council on Research, \$750.

2005

Marks, L. D. When Faith Comes Home: A Qualitative Study of 150 Christian, Jewish, and Muslim Families. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Jack Shand Research Award, \$3,000.

2004

Marks, L. D. Why Religious Beliefs, Practices, and Communities Matter: A National Qualitative Study of Muslim, Jewish, and Christian Families, Faculty Research Grant Program, LSU Office of Research and Graduate Studies, \$10,000.

2003

Marks, L. D. The Meaning and Influence of Religious Beliefs in Families: Muslim, Jewish, and Christian Perspectives. LSU Council on Research, \$5,000.

2003

Davis, T., Marks, L., Sasser, D., Garrison, M.E.B., Hopkins, K. & Nesteruk, O. A Qualitative Study of Family Stress and Coping in African-American Families. Undergraduate Research Grant, College of Agriculture, \$500 (\$800 match from Human Ecology).

2003

Dollahite, D. C., Faith and Family Life in the Abrahamic Religions. (\$20,000). Eliza R. Snow Fellowship, Brigham Young University. (9/03 – 8/05).

2002

Dollahite, D. C., Faith and Family Life in the Abrahamic Religions. (\$10,800). Family Studies Center, Brigham Young University. (1/02 - 12/03).

Dollahite, D. C., Faith and Family Life in the Abrahamic Religions. (\$5,000). Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University. (1/02 - 12/02).

2001

Dollahite, D. C., Faith and Family Life in the Abrahamic Religions. (\$3,500). Family Studies Center, Brigham Young University. (1/01 - 12/01).

1998

Dollahite, D. C., Development of the Faithful Fathering Web site. (\$4,500). Family Studies Center, Brigham Young University. (9/98 - 8/99).

1997

Dollahite, D. C., Generative and Faithful Fathering with Special Needs Children: A Narrative Study of Fathers from Many Faiths. (\$4,000). Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University. (8/97 - 8/98)

Dollahite, D. C., Generative and Faithful Fathering with Special Needs Children: A Narrative Study of Fathers from Many Faiths. (\$2,500). Principle Investigator (with Alan J. Hawkins). Center for Studies of the Family, Brigham Young University. (8/97 - 8/98).

Total Funds Received: \$254,408