

# Robert J. Vandenberg

## Curriculum Vitae

Townshend Hall, Room #163  
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### Academic Degrees

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Ph.D. in Sociology, Ohio State University, expected Spring 2020  
Dissertation: "Framing Violent Extremism: Terrorism and Narratives of Meaning"  
Committee: Edward Crenshaw (chair), Ryan King, Hollie Nyseth Brehm, Eric Schoon  
M.A. in Sociology, Ohio State University, Summer 2014  
M.A. in History, University of North Dakota, Spring 2008  
B.A. in German and Norwegian with minor in History, University of North Dakota, Spring 2006

### Areas of Specializations

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Peace, War and Social Conflict; Criminology; Terrorism and Political Violence; Comparative and Historical Sociology; Political Sociology; Sociology of Religion; Research Education

### Publications

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**Vandenberg, Robert J.** 2019. "Legitimizing Extremism: A Taxonomy for Classifying Ideological Justifications for Political Violence." *Terrorism and Political Violence*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/09546553.2019.1606800>.  
King, Ryan D., Laura M. DeMarco, and **Robert J. Vandenberg**. 2017. "Similar from a Distance: A Comparison of Terrorism and Hate Crime." Pp. 385-401 in *The Handbook of the Criminology of Terrorism*, edited by Gary LaFree and Joshua D. Freilich. Chichester, UK: John Wiley and Sons.  
**Vandenberg, Robert J.** 2014. "The Effect of Urban Status on Xenophobic Sentiment." *International Journal of Sociology* 44(4): 54-80.

### Under Review

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Schoon, Eric W., and **Robert J. Vandenberg**. "Illegitimacy, Political Stability, and the Erosion of Alliances: Lessons from the End of Apartheid in South Africa."

### Working Papers

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**Vandenberg, Robert J.** "Terrorism, Subjective Strains and Narrative Frames: A Critique of Agnew's Theory."  
**Vandenberg, Robert J.**, and Eric W. Schoon. "Collaboration, Complicity, and Opposition: How Higher Education Shaped Apartheid in South Africa."

## Teaching Experience

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Independent Instructor (Graduate Teaching Assistant), Sociology 3410: **Criminology**, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University, Autumn 2019.

Independent Instructor (Graduate Teaching Assistant), Sociology 3487: **Research Methods in Sociology**, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University, Autumn 2018 - Spring 2019.

Research Instructor, Sociology 4998: **Undergraduate Research in Sociology** (Project on Radicalism and Social Media), Ohio State University, Spring 2015 - Spring 2018

Recitation Leader (GTA), Sociology 3487: **Research Methods in Sociology**, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University, Autumn 2014 - Spring 2016

Course Grader (GTA), Sociology 1101: **Introduction to Sociology**, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University, Autumn 2013 - Spring 2014

Continuation Training Instructor, Air Combat Command, United States Air Force, 2011 - 2012

Instructor Mission Coordinator, Air Combat Command, United States Air Force, 2010 - 2012

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of History, University of North Dakota, Autumn 2007 - Spring 2008

## Honors and Awards

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Outstanding Ph.D. Student of the Year, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University, 2016

Outstanding M.A. Student of the Year, Department of Sociology, Ohio State University, 2015

Graduate School Fellowship, Ohio State University, 2012 - 2013

Winner of the Merrifield Prize for outstanding original archival research, Chester Fritz Library, University of North Dakota, 2006

Graduated with Honors (Summa Cum Laude), University of North Dakota, 2006

Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa (Alpha of North Dakota chapter), University of North Dakota, 2006

Recipient of Air Force ROTC full-ride academic scholarship, 2004 - 2007

## Presentations

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### *Scholarly and Professional Conferences*

**VandenBerg, Robert J.**, and Eric W. Schoon. 2019. "Collaboration, Complicity, and Opposition: How Higher Education Shaped Apartheid in South Africa." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, New York.

**VandenBerg, Robert J.**, and Eric W. Schoon. 2018. "Illegitimacy, Political Instability, and Erosion of Alliances: Lessons from the End of Apartheid." Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association, Phoenix, Arizona.

**VandenBerg, Robert J.**, and Eric W. Schoon. 2018. "'A Crisis of Legitimacy': Relationships of Influence in the Negotiated End of Apartheid." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2017. "Legitimizing Jihadist Violence: *Inspire* and *Dabiq*." Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Washington, District of Columbia.

- VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2016. “Non-State Militant Actors and Information Technology.” Presentation delivered at the request of the Adjutant General of the State of Ohio to the annual leadership conference of the Ohio National Guard, Columbus, Ohio.
- VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2016. “General Strain Theory of Terrorism: The Case of Al Qaeda.” Presented at the annual meeting of the North Central Sociological Association, Chicago, Illinois.
- VandenBerg, Robert J.,** and Joshua Wu. 2015. “Religious Identities and Foreign Policy Attitudes: An Experiment.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Newport Beach, California.
- Munn, Christopher W., and **Robert J. VandenBerg.** 2014. “The Power of Giving: Hegemonic Identities in an Interracial Network.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Indianapolis, Indiana.

### *Community Engagement*

- VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2018. “Studying Religious Communities and Collective Violence.” Presented to the Christian Graduate Student Alliance, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2018. “Studying Religious Communities and Collective Violence.” Presented to the Collegiate Council on World Affairs, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2018. “Non-State Militant Actors and Information Technology.” Presented to the undergraduate International Scholars program, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2016. “Studying Religious Communities and Collective Violence.” Presented to the Security and Intelligence Club student academic organization, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2016. “The Islamic State: Context and Implications.” Presented to the Christian Graduate Student Alliance, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2015. “The Islamic State: Context and Implications.” Briefing delivered to Air Force ROTC Detachment 645, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- VandenBerg, Robert J.** 2015. “The Project on Radicalism and Social Media.” Works-in-progress presentation delivered at the School of Criminal Justice and Social Science, Tiffin University, Tiffin, Ohio.

### **Research Experience**

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- Research Administrator, Project on Eschatology and Political Violence, Ohio State University, Spring 2018 - present
- Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Eric Schoon (examining patterns of power, resistance, and legitimacy in apartheid-era South Africa), Ohio State University, Autumn 2016 - Spring 2018
- Principal Investigator, Project on Radicalism and Social Media, Ohio State University, Spring 2015 - Spring 2018
- Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Edward Crenshaw (examining the relationship between social capital and political terrorism), Ohio State University, Summer 2014

## **Service Experience**

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Departmental Delegate, Council of Graduate Student, Ohio State University, Autumn 2015 - Spring 2016  
Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility Committee  
Ohio State University-Central Ohio Transit Authority Partnership Advisory Committee  
Co-Chair, Committee on Community Service, Sociology Graduate Student Association, Ohio State University, Autumn 2014 - Spring 2015

## **Other Experience**

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Fellow, Preparing Future Faculty Program, Ohio State University in partnership with Defiance College, August 2018 – Spring 2019  
Commissioned Officer – Major/Captain, United States Air Force and Michigan Air National Guard, 2012 - present  
Commissioned Officer – Lieutenant, United States Air Force, 2008 - 2012

## **Professional Associations**

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American Sociological Association  
Section on Peace, War and Social Conflict  
Section on Comparative and Historical Sociology  
Section on Crime, Law and Deviance  
Section on Human Rights  
American Society for Criminology  
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

## **Research Languages**

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English: Native language  
Norwegian: Near-native level of proficiency in reading and speaking; advanced proficiency in writing  
Danish: Near-native level of proficiency in reading  
German: Advanced level of proficiency in reading and speaking; intermediate proficiency in writing  
Swedish: Advanced level of proficiency in reading  
Spanish: Intermediate level proficiency in reading; basic level of proficiency in speaking and writing  
Dutch: Intermediate level of proficiency in reading  
Afrikaans: Intermediate level of proficiency in reading

## **References**

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Dr. Edward Crenshaw, Associate Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University  
Email: crenshaw.4@osu.edu

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Dr. Ryan King, Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University

Email: king.2065@osu.edu

Phone: 614-292-4969

Dr. Hollie Nyseth Brehm, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University

Email: brehm.84@osu.edu

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Dr. Eric Schoon, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University

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Dr. Agnes Caldwell, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Defiance College

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