

MELISSA E. GRIM

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EDUCATION

J.D., Juris Doctor, DePaul University School of Law, Chicago, July 2015
M.T.S., Masters in Theological Studies (focus on Philosophy), Boston University, May 2010
B.A., Philosophy, Pennsylvania State University, August 2007
Ballet Pedagogy, University of Oklahoma, 2002-2005 (transferred to Penn State)

CERTIFICATES AND HONORS

Scholarship at DePaul University College of Law
Scholarship of Merit at Boston University, 2008-2010
Dean's List at Penn State University, 2007
Honors College, University of Oklahoma, 2002-2005
Royal Academy of Dance, London, Certificate for Teaching Classical Ballet, 2002

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014 – Present **Religious Freedom & Business Foundation**

Senior Research Fellow

- Currently working on two new studies, one on the benefits of faith-based rehabilitation centers across the U.S., how AA and NA benefit from Church support so far as in meeting places provided and outreach programs meant to target and help the most vulnerable when it comes to drug and alcohol abuse (and the current Opioid crises. And two,
- Coding the Fortune 500 corporate Diversity & Inclusion landing pages covering employee civil rights as advocated for and protected under corporate policy. Including: age; ability; race; gender; sexual orientation; family; and veteran status.
- Media contact, transcribe video and audio content for press releases, maintain website, research and draft case studies for the UN/press releases for World Economic Forum/research, write and post blogs on academic studies.
- Annual Women's Video competition judge for 2018 and 2019. Currently assist in finding pertinent media for RFBF projects.

2015 **Newseum**

Research Fellow

- Website Marketing: researched and published news articles and promoted their readership through online forums – such as through tweets, tailored content for subscription emailing, found and incorporated media and transcribed video and audio when needed.
- Interacted in a public forum with top level politicians and journalists.
- Research: conducted original academic research, reaching out to sources by phone and email for publication in a specialized academic journal.

2013 - 2014 **Walters O'Brian Law Firm**

Intern

- Research cases, offer professional critique, help draft briefs, file documents, and perform managerial tasks.
- 2013 **The Cook County Courthouse**
Intern at the Federal Cook County Courthouse
- Responsible for taking affidavits of pro bono cases
 - Responsible for walking clients up to the courthouse to present their case to the judge
- 2010 - 2012 **The Catholic University of America**
Administrative Assistant to the Dean of the School of Philosophy
- Provide support for the Office of the Dean in administering the undergraduate and graduate programs of the School of Philosophy
 - Organize the Fall Lecture Series; where I would both host the visiting professor, as well as set up a web interface for viewers of their lectures, listening and transcribing video as needed; Edit and update the School's website; Regulate archives; Regulate outgoing office correspondence; Support faculty with managerial tasks and tech help.
- 2007 - 2010 **The Becket Fund Law Firm, Washington, DC**
Research and International Associate – Previous Internship
- Create and update a database of religion clauses for constitutions from 195 countries,
 - Work with parties drafting new constitution for Kosovo,
 - Research and draft articles and academic speeches,
 - Research individuals and foundations for fundraising prospects,
 - Manage general office communications and outreach.
- 2003-2007 **Penn State University, Sociology Department**
Research Assistant
- Analyzed the annual State Department International Religious Freedom reports, and coded them per the Grim and Finke index,
 - Performed data entry.
- 2001-2002 **The Labrato Family; Dubai, United Arab Emirates**
Au Pair
- Cared for three children during the weekdays.
- 2001-2002: **The Ballet Center, Dubai, United Arab Emirates**
Ballet Instructor
- Organized and taught three ballet classes a week for sixteen children, aged three to seven.

Publications

- Grim, B.J. and M.E. Grim. (2020). "Religious Freedom in the World." In *World Christian Encyclopedia, Third Edition*. Edinburgh University Press.
- Grim, B.J. and M.E. Grim. (2019). "Belief, Behavior, and Belonging: How Faith is Indispensable in Preventing and Recovering from Substance Abuse." *Journal of Religion and Health* (Volume 58, pp. 1713–1750). <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10943-019-00876-w>.

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- Grim, B.J. and M.E. Grim. (2016). “The Socio-Economic Contributions of Religion to American Society: An Empirical Analysis,” *Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion* (Volume 12: Article 3). <http://www.religjournal.com/pdf/ijrr12003.pdf>
- Grim, M.E. (2014). *Business: A powerful force for supporting interfaith understanding and peace*. United Nations Global Compact. <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/library/1191>

Case Studies

- Coke Serves up Love and Peace with Small World Machines
- World Cup Highlights Struggles & Contributions of Afro-Brazilians
- BMW AWARD, Driving Global Peace and Success
- Nigerian Conflict: Is Business the Answer?
- Indonesian Businesses Open Their Doors to Faith and Action

Book Review

- Review of Practical Wisdom in Management