

Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies

Volume 3
Issue 1 *Special section: Education*

Article 1

2015

"Title Page, Table of Contents, and Editors' Introduction 3(1)

JAPAS Editors

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THE JOURNAL
OF AMISH
AND
PLAIN ANABAPTIST
STUDIES

Spring 2015
Volume 3, Issue 1

The Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies

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The Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies welcomes manuscripts, both theoretical and empirical, about plain Anabaptist groups, including Amish, Apostolic Christian, Brethren, Bruderhof, Hutterite, Russian Mennonite, Swiss Mennonite, and related movements. Under normal circumstances, the manuscript should be no more than 10,000 words, including tables, figures, endnotes, and references. The journal further seeks to include the empirical research of members from plain Anabaptist communities, who are invited to submit manuscripts for special consideration. Abstracts may be up to 200 words. Citation and referencing style is similar to the *American Journal of Sociology* (<http://www.jstor.org/page/journal/amerjsoci/instruct.html>).

Book:

Hostetler, John A. 1993[1963]. *Amish Society*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Article:

Cronk, Sandra. 1981. "Gelassenheit: The Rites of the Redemptive Process in Old Order Amish and Old Order Mennonite Communities." *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 55(1):5-44.

Chapter from an edited volume:

Meyers, Thomas J. 1994. "Social Change in the Amish Communities of Northern Indiana." Pp. 10-20 in *Internal and External Perspectives on Amish and Mennonite Life*, edited by James R. Dow, Werner Enninger, and Joachim Raith. Essen, Germany: Unipress.

Dissertation, thesis, or unpublished paper:

Friedrich, Lora J. 2001. *To Be or Not to Be: An Examination of Baptism into the Amish Church*. Doctoral dissertation in Rural Sociology. Columbus, OH: The Ohio State University.

Given the multi-disciplinary nature of Amish and Plain Anabaptist studies, authors may use the *Chicago Manual of Style* (Turbian) when the above style would force an unnatural fit. A bibliography is still required using the above formatting.

All manuscripts may be submitted by email (preferred) or postal mail to Cory Anderson (cory@beachyam.org) or Joseph Donnermeyer (donnermeyer.1@osu.edu), Kottman Hall 210, 2021 Coffey Rd, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210. Publishers and authors wishing to submit a book for possible review should contact Cory Anderson (cory@beachyam.org).

The Ohio State University Knowledge Bank publishes the *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies*, which is available as an open access journal (<http://hdl.handle.net/1811/54889>). The journal is also available in a print edition from Ridgeway Publishing for \$14.99 + \$4.95 shipping. You may request future copies to be mailed on an auto-ship basis: Ridgeway Publishing, 3129 Fruit Ave., Medina, NY 14103. 585-798-0050 / 888-822-7894.

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A lot of things have happened since the last issue of *JAPAS*, and we have faith that all of them are positive developments for broadening the web of scholars and the visibility of scholarship associated with Amish and plain Anabaptist studies. Our goal for *JAPAS* is quite simple: embrace inclusivity and eschew exclusivity.

In March, we were informed that *JAPAS* was accepted for indexing by the American Theological Library Association (<https://www.atla.com/products/catalog/Pages/rdb-db.aspx>). All future issues, as well as all previous issues, will be included in their indexing database.

In April, we were notified that all articles in *JAPAS*, along with all the journals published through the Ohio State University Libraries' Knowledge Bank, will now be assigned a doi (Digital Object Identifier). This development is in association with OSU Libraries newly acquired membership in CrossRef (<http://www.crossref.org/>). The doi will allow for greater visibility and access to *JAPAS* articles through a web search. The Knowledge Bank was already one of the largest and well-regarded electronic information repositories in the world, and joining up with CrossRef will serve to maintain, if not increase, KB's status.

The Association of Religious Data Archives (ARDA) recently posted a link for a database derived from several editions of the *Ohio Amish Directory: Holmes County and Vicinity*. This information is available to anyone wishing to conduct population research. As well, ARDA is willing to post other data files about the Amish and plain Anabaptists. For example, they will soon add the data used in this issue's article on doubling time. In a related development, a small group of academics met in Walnut Creek, Ohio, in early May to discuss Amish population research. This "Amish Population Research Group" is a fledging cadre of researchers hoping to coordinate their specific inquiries and to eventually include a wider network of scholars.

One advantage of *JAPAS*'s availability through the OSU Libraries' Knowledge Bank is the ability to monitor access by interested readers. For the first four issues of *JAPAS* (Vols. 1-2), Knowledge Bank records show 17,865 article downloads. This means that for every publication (30) in *JAPAS*, the average number of interested readers is almost 600! One manuscript was mentioned in a *Huffington Post* article about the Amish, and it led the way with 6,698 downloads. Obviously, this skews the data and inflates the average. Nonetheless, even after deducting the inflated numbers for this single manuscript, the average remains astonishing (editors' opinion) for the other 29 manuscripts: 385 downloads per published article.

Finally, this is the first ever special issue of *JAPAS*. It will not be the last either; we hope *JAPAS* will be a forum for other topics as well. Near the end of this issue, under announcements, is a call for proposals for a special issue on "Past Reflections and Future Directions in Amish Studies." This special issue will mark the 75th year since the ground-breaking scholarship of both Walter Kollmorgen and Calvin George Bachman. We invite readers to submit ideas for other special issues, and of course, to consider serving as the special issue editor.

—Cory Anderson & Joseph Donnermeyer