

# The Earl Babbie Research Center

## Research at the Babbie Center

The Earl Babbie Research Center at Chapman University is dedicated to empowering students and faculty to conduct scientific studies that address critical social, behavioral, economic, and environmental problems. The Center's mission is to provide research support and instruction to students, faculty, and the broader community, as well as to produce research that addresses global societal problems.

## Message from Earl Babbie

Dear Advisory Board Members:

Amazingly, it has been 12 years since the Earl Babbie Research Center at Chapman University was officially dedicated. Over each of these years many students and faculty members have contributed to important research projects. I remain honored to have my name attached to such a productive enterprise, and I am eternally grateful to you for lending your names and reputations to the newly forming Center. I hope you will be as proud as I am with the contribution the Center has made to understanding social attitudes and behavior, while training students to carry on that important undertaking.

Respectfully yours, Earl Babbie



## 2023–2024 HIGHLIGHTS

### The Chapman Survey of American Fears

The Study of American Fears Division marked the 10th anniversary of the Chapman University Survey of American Fears (CSAF). CSAF asks a representative national sample of Americans about more than 90 fears and related behaviors. The FEAR survey has been cited in over 1,000 print, broadcast, and online media. Notably, in 2024, all top ten fears are over 50%, meaning that fear is up in the United States.

1. Corrupt Government Officials	65.2%
2. People I Love Becoming Seriously Ill	58.4%
3. Cyberterrorism	58.3%
4. People I Love Dying	57.8%
5. Russia Using Nuclear Weapons	55.8%
6. Not Having Enough Money for the Future	55.7%
7. US Becoming Involved in Another World War	55.0%
8. North Korea Using Nuclear Weapons	55.0%
9. Terrorist Attack	52.7%
10. Biological Warfare	52.5%

### The Study of Violence and Radicalization Division

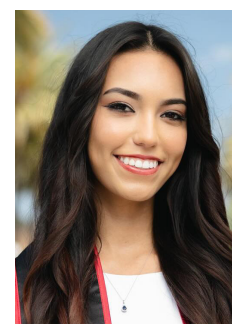
The Study of Violence and Radicalization Division promotes the scientific study of the causes and consequences of different types of violence with a special focus on street gangs, hate crimes, and terrorism. The Division had another busy year publishing a co-authored book, *Out of Hiding: Extremist White Supremacy and How it can be Stopped*, which discusses the resurgence of white supremacist

extremism since the 2008 election of Barack Obama. A third edition of *American Swastika: Inside the White Power Movement's Hidden Spaces of Hate* also was published along with several peer-reviewed articles, op eds, and new federally funded grant projects.

### The Study of Population Health Division

The Study of Population Health Division examines the social and contextual determinants of physical and psychological health. The Division team members are using novel quantitative methods and rich data sources to identify the causes of health inequities. The Division published five (5) peer-reviewed manuscripts in 2023/2024, one of which was a collaboration with the Center's 2023/2024 Research Assistant, Roxy Aguilera ('24).

### Babbie Student Researcher



Graduating senior, Roxy Aguilera, served as the Center's 2023/2024 Research Fellow.

*"Being a part of The Earl Babbie Research Center has been one of the highlights of my experience at Chapman. I was granted the opportunity to sharpen my research skills while being mentored by Dr. Kranjac, who helped me develop professionally and intellectually. I am so appreciative of the research center, even more so after having met Earl and Suzanne Babbie — both remarkable humans with an infectious passion and intentional care for the field. Truly a wonderful experience."*

## Neighborhood Bus Tour

Chapman freshman students visited various neighborhoods in Orange County with Dr. Kranjac, the Center's Director, in order to study how social differences and structural conditions, based on place of residence, influence health outcomes.

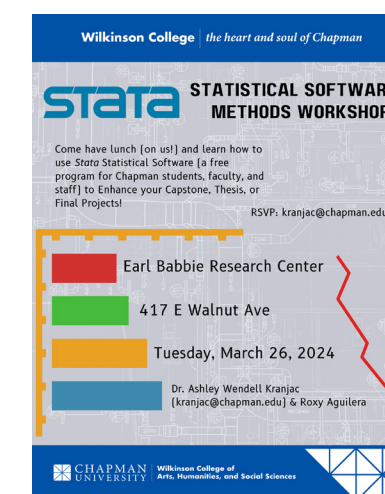


## Visit with the Babbie's

The Babbie's visited us for a week in April 2024. From meeting with undergraduate students to President Struppa, Earl and Suzanne offered insightful discussions on career paths in the social sciences, among many other topics.



## Methods Workshop



In line with our mission to provide methodological training, this year we offered a statistical workshop on Stata to students, faculty, and staff. Participants learned how to turn raw qualitative data into analyzable quantitative data.

## Funding Early Career Scholars

In keeping with the Center's mission to produce research that addresses global concerns, the Center funded several junior social science faculty's research projects in Wilkinson College.



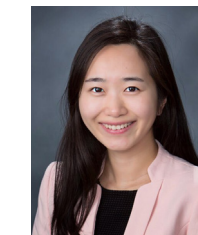
### Hanna Ridge

*"I greatly appreciate the Center's support in sharing my research on the democratic implications of public religion. Hopefully these conferences can help us be better educators and scholars of human rights."*



### Justin de Leon

*"Support from the Earl Babbie Research Center has allowed me to add innovative approaches to video and interview capturing as a part of a multiyear study focusing on the links between storytelling and mental health within a Native American context."*



### Minju Kwon

*"I am beyond grateful for the generous support from the Earl Babbie Research Center that allowed me to become a lifetime member of the Korean Association of International Studies. This membership will allow me to share my research on East Asian international relations and establish valuable networks with Asia-based academic communities. I am fortunate to have this opportunity to advance my academic career as a junior faculty member at Chapman."*



### Nancy Rios-Contreras

*"The Babbie Center award supported my attendance in professional development opportunities with well recognized research centers, including the Disaster Research Center and the Natural Hazards Center. As a bicultural Mexican scholar, the Babbie Center award made it possible for me to network with disaster scholars from Puerto Rico and Colombia at the workshop, resulting in a research collaboration that will lead to a publication in disaster studies."*



### Monique Charles

*"I am very grateful to receive the Babbie Center Funds. As a methodologist, I appreciate Prof. Kranjac and The Babbie Center in enabling me to pursue my methodological innovative practices in developing new and decolonial research methods."*