# Love Thy Neighbor: The Role of Faith in Volunteer Motivation





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The Center for Urban Policy and the Environment is a nonpartisan applied research organization in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University—Purdue University Indianapolis. The Center, founded in 1992, is one of the largest of its kind in the country. Faculty and staff with expertise in program evaluation, policy analysis, planning, and facilitation work with governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private businesses on a wide variety of policy issues.

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#### INTRODUCTION

The Center for Urban Policy and the Environment (Center), part of the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University—Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), received support from the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University for a study of the motivations of deeply committed volunteers, with an emphasis on the impact of faith on these commitments. The Center worked in partnership with the Points of Light Foundation (Foundation), which recognizes exemplary volunteering through its awards programs including the Daily Point of Light Awards (DPOL) and the President's Community Volunteer Awards (PCV), awarded on behalf of the president of the United States. The Foundation has issued more than 1,100 Daily Point of Light Awards since 1998 and more than 150 President's Community Volunteer Awards since 1992 to individuals, groups, and organizations across the country. This study assesses the motivations of awardees and the role of faith in their motivations, using quantitative and qualitative survey methods.

#### Daily Point of Light Award and President's Service Award

The Daily Point of Light Awards honor individuals and volunteer groups that have made a commitment to connect Americans through service to help meet critical needs in their communities. Each weekday, one volunteer or volunteer effort in the country receives a Daily Point of Light Award. Daily Point of Light Awards are given to those who find innovative ways to meet community needs, efforts which often lead to long-term solutions and impact social problems in their local communities.

Now called the President's Community Volunteering Awards, the President's Service Award is the nation's highest honor for volunteerism. It recognizes outstanding individuals, families, groups, organizations, businesses, and labor unions engaged in community services that address unmet human service, educational, environmental, and public safety needs. The president of the United States traditionally presents these awards at a White House ceremony to signify and symbolize their importance.





#### **METHODOLOGY**

#### Survey Instrument Development and Distribution

A draft instrument was developed by the project team, using multiple sources for the measures for religiosity, voluntarism, motivations to volunteer, and family influences. The survey instrument is included as Attachment A. The Advisory Board was then convened to review the draft survey instrument and suggest improvements. The improvements were included in a revised draft which was then shared by e-mail with the group.

The Advisory Board is composed of:

- Kevin Armstrong, senior public teacher for the POLIS Center, and minister of faith and public life at North United Methodist Church, Indianapolis, Indiana;
- William Enright, director and senior fellow of the Lake Family Institute on Faith and Giving, and former senior pastor of Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana;
- Mark J.R. Farr, senior director of Interfaith Initiatives at the Points of Light Foundation and Episcopalian priest, Washington, DC;
- Sandy Sasso, rabbi of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, and author and lecturer on women and spirituality and the discovery of the religious imagination in children, Indianapolis, Indiana; and
- Kenneth Taylor, pastor of Holy Trinity Catholic Church and director of the Office of Multicultural Ministry, Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Indiana.

After comments from the Advisory Board were incorporated into the survey instrument, a revised draft was circulated among the project team and edited by Center staff. That draft was sent to IUPUI's Institutional Review Board (IRB) for compliance with human subjects procedures. Once IRB's approval was received, the instrument was printed for distribution.

The first mailing of the sur veys took place on January 22,2004. A follow-up mailing took place on February 26,2004. Of those mailed, 137 were undeliverable, 6 participants were deceased, and 6 asked not to be contacted. Our overall response rate was 38 percent (525 surveys returned from a total of 1,386).





#### **DEMOGRAPHICS OF RESPONDENTS**

To ensure that the respondents were representative of all winners of these awards, we examined two indicators that were available to us:percent of respondents by state, compared to all winners, and percent of respondents by year of award, compared to all winners. As shown in Attachment B, the respondents were widely distributed and not overly represented by any one state. As might be expected, there was a higher percentage of respondents from recent years, but not dramatically higher.

In addition, we wanted to see how these volunteers compared to volunteers in general. In September 2002, through a supplement of its monthly Current Population Survey (CPS), the Bureau of Labor Statistics conducted research for the first time about volunteering in the United States. Their research showed that 27.8% of the U.S. population, or 59.8 million people over age 16, had volunteered during the previous twelve months. This survey also provided information about the total number of hours contributed by the average volunteer and the types of activities most likely to attract volunteers.

The supplemental survey was repeated in September 2003. The results of this survey showed that the volunteer rate had climbed over the year to 28.8% or 63.4 million people. This research yields rates of volunteering among demographic categories of interest such as education level,income, sex,and race, and it supplies valuable information about the current state of volunteering nationally. The award winners were compared to this group of all volunteers nationally to determine if they differ in significant ways.

As Table 1 (see page 6) illustrates, in many ways (gender, income, and race), the award winners are similar to all volunteers nationally. Where there are differences, the award winners appear to be more highly educated, more likely to be retired, and more likely to be older than 60. The age and employment status differences make sense because a group of award recipients is generally expected to have more experience with the activity and likely to have more free time to volunteer and fewer family commitments, so we could expect them to be older and at a different stage in life than the typical volunteer. Another difference that is not surprising is the amount of time devoted to volunteering—award winners report on average 251 volunteer hours per year, almost twice as much as the reported average of 137 hours per year for the typical volunteer.



Table 1: A Comparison of Demographic Charac teristics of Sample of Volunteer Award Winners to All Volunteers

	Award Winners	CPS Volunteers
Gender		
Male	42.4%	41.3%
Female	57.6%	58.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%
Education		
Some high school	2.2%	9.4%
High school degree or GED	7.3%	23.4%
Some college	19.1%	19.3%
Less than a bachelor's degree	12.6%	9.8%
4-year degree or higher	57.8%	38.2%
Other	1.0%	1.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%
Employment Status		
Employed	56.3%	67.1%
Not employed	5.7%	3.3%
Retired	28.7%	14.2%
Full-time student or Other	9.3%	15.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%
	100.070	100.070
Household Income (annual \$)		
Less than 20,000	11.7%	10.7%
20,000–39,999	18.8%	21.2%
40,000–59,999	19.9%	20.7%
60,000 or more	49.7%	47.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%
Age		
0-14	1.2%	NA
15–24	10.9%	13.8%
25–39	6.9%	25.3%
40-59	40.0%	41.2%
60+	41.0%	19.6%
Total	100.0%	100.0%
Hispanic		
Yes	4.1%	5.2%
No	95.7%	94.8%
Don't know	0.2%	
Total	100.0%	100.0%
Race		
White	85.2%	89.6%
Asian	1.9%	2.0%
Black	8.6%	6.0%
American Indian	2.1%	0.6%
Other	1.8%	1.7%
Don't know	0.4%	1.770
Total	100.0%	100.0%
Average Volunteer Hours	251.3	137.2

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey (CPS) Data. 2003



#### **RELIGIOSITY OF AWARD WINNERS**

Although many studies have demonstrated a relation between religiosity and volunteering (Bernt, 1989;Chambre, 1987;Greeley, 1997;Hodgkinson, Weitzman,& Kirsch, 1990;Lam,2002; Serow, 1991;and Uslander, 1997),this research generally examined either all people or members of faith communities, rather than focusing on those who volunteer. In addition,some studies have found a weak correlation (Wuthnow, 1997) or no correlation (Hunter & Linn,1980) between religiosity and volunteering.

These differences stem from two factors—the conceptualization and operationalization of religion and the forms of volunteering. Are the connections between religion or faith and volunteering found mainly in the context of the congregation and religious organization? Or do these connections extend to the rest of the community?

Wuthnow (1999, p. 352) maintains that much of this higher rate of volunteering is for church-supported activities, and that religious influences and attendance are most pronounced in church-related volunteering. His analysis of the Independent Sector's 1994 Giving and Volunteering Survey found that much volunteering, especially among evangelical Christians, is concentrated within congregations themselves and devoted to the maintenance of these congregations.

In contrast, Hodgkinson (1990) argues that churches inspire a desire to help that moves people beyond the church setting. She maintains that "religious institutions foster philanthropy and voluntarism, both within their own communities and generally for other causes, including community and public service. . . . Religious association is capable of inspiring social reform and experimenting with meeting human needs. The experiments of religious organizations in housing, community development, and international relief and development are but a few of the more profound recent examples in social reform."

In Hodgkinson's model, we would expect several results:

- a relation between faith and informal volunteering;
- that religious volunteers would volunteer for more than just their church; and
- that award-winning volunteers would be more likely to be religious than the general population.

We will examine these issues and try to determine how faith relates to motivations to volunteer.

First, we examined the denominations represented in the group of award winners compared to denominations nationally. As Table 2 (see page 8) illustrates, while we had a slightly higher percent of Jewish respondents and slightly fewer Atheist/



Agnostic respondents than the national average, in general, the distribution of respondents appears similar to the national averages.

How religious is our sample of award winners? More than half (55.7 percent) say they attend religious services at least two or three times a month. Nationally, several surveys estimated that regular church attendees make up approximately 40 percent of the population. The most recent is a Gallup survey (Gallup and Lindsay, 2004) that estimates 41 percent, while the General Social Survey (GSS) in 2002 estimates regular church attendees to be around 40 percent. The GSS also showed that 18.6 percent of their respondents never attend religious services. In our population, 10.2 percent said that they never attend services. This result indicates that the award winners are more religious than the general public, a factor that might lead this group to more likely volunteer only for religious organizations, similar to Wuthnow's arguments.

In contrast, while 25 percent of the general public (according to CPS data) say their only volunteer activity is for a religious organization, among the award-winning volunteers—even among those classified as very religious—only 8.6 percent volunteer solely for religious organizations. Most (70 percent) volunteer for both religious and non-religious organizations, and one in five volunteer only for non-religious organizations. These findings support Hodkingson's arguments.

We also examined the question of whether these findings apply to informal volunteering, that is, are religious volunteers more or less likely to help someone informally?

The definition of religiosity can vary. We measured three different types of religiosity:

- · religious involvement,
- · religious activity, and
- professed closeness to God or spirituality.

The religious involvement of our respondents is measured by membership in a place of worship, education in a religious school (one point for each level—elementary, middle or high school, college, or after-school or weekend classes), and the degree to which their family and friends share their religious affiliation or faith background.

Religious activity is measured by how often the person attends religious services, prays or reads religious texts, practices religious rituals at home, takes part in any activities of a place of worship (other than attending services), and takes part in any of the activities or groups of a religion or faith service organization (such as Knights of Columbus or Hadassah).

Table 2: A Comparison of Religious Self-Identification of Survey Respondents to National Averages

Denomination	Love Thy Neighbor Survey Respondents	National
Christian, Non-C atholic	55.0%	56.0%
Catholic	23.0%	24.4%
Jewish	6.0%	1.7%
Hindu	0.4%	0.2%
Muslim	0.4%	0.5%
Atheist/Agnostic	2.0%	4.8%
Other	13.0%	12.4%

Source:Mitofsky International and Edison Media Research. (2002,April 26). Exploring Religious America:A Poll Conducted for Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly and U.S.News & World Report. Available from the Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly Web site from www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/week534/special report.html



Most people, even if not involved in organized religion, profess to be spiritual persons. In the Gallup Poll (Gallup and Lindsey, 1999), 39 percent of Americans identified themselves as spiritual, not religious; 54 percent as religious; and 6 percent as both. Spirituality is measured by how close the person feels to God (Hill and Pargament, 2003) when they are involved in performing acts of kindness, watching a beautiful sunset, performing religious traditions at home, meditating alone, and participating in a religious community through communal worship, celebration, memorial, or ritual.

The award respondents have varying levels of religiosity, depending on the concept measured. Religious involvement is lowest—27 percent say they either are a member of a church or received some of their education in a religious school and/or that most or almost all of their family and friends share their religious or faith background. In contrast, 70 percent say that they agree or somewhat agree that they feel close to God at times. In the middle is religious activity—32 percent participate in religious activities from once a week to once a month,including attending services, praying, reading the Bible, taking part in rituals at home, participating in activities other than worship, and being part of a religious or faith service organization.

#### Measuring Volunteering

There are also different ways to measure levels of volunteering. Both formal volunteering (for an organization) and informal volunteering (helping out by running errands, doing yard work,etc.,for people not living with you) are important to measure (Wilson and Musick,1997). In addition, we measured total hours dedicated to either informal or formal volunteering as well as the number of different volunteer activities (either by type of organization for formal volunteers or by type of activity for informal volunteers).

As Table 3 illustrates, volunteer activities seem to bear a stronger relationship to religiosity than do total hours volunteered. In part, this could be because all of these

Table 3: Correlations of Measures of Religiosity to Measures of Volunteering

	Formal Volunteering Hours	Formal Volunteering Activities	Informal Volunteering Hours	Informal Volunteering Activities
Religious Involvement	.069	.108*	.057	.113*
Feeling Close to God	.095	.184**	.104*	.134**
Religious Activity	.229**	.176**	.198**	.157**

<sup>\*</sup>significant at .05 level

<sup>\*\*</sup>significant at .01 level



respondents volunteer at a high level (almost twice the national average, as mentioned before), but there is also more variation in the number of different types of volunteering they do. All three measures of religiosity are significantly correlated with both formal and informal activities. Religious activity is highly correlated with both formal and informal volunteering hours, and it explains 22.9 percent of the variance in formal volunteering hours and 19.8 percent of the variance in informal volunteering hours.



#### **MOTIVATIONS OF AWARD WINNERS**

Roger Lohmann (1992) conceives of the nonprofit world as a "commons" in which volunteers can seek and find like-minded individuals and organizations who embrace their values and concerns, for example, for fairness, sharing, mutuality, understanding, salvation, or love of others. Ultimately, voluntarism results from an overflowing of the need many people have to express themselves that compels them to act (Mason, 1996, p.18). What motivates these volunteers? And how do those motivations relate to their religiosity?

As described in Table 4, we measured six motivations that can be satisfied by volunteering (social, values, career, understanding, protective, and esteem) for each respondent (Clary, Snyder, and Ridge 1992).

We also assessed three measures of public service motivation developed by Perry (1997), including commitment to public interest and civic duty, compassion, and self-sacrifice. A volunteer motivation scale developed by Clary, Snyder, and Stukas (1998) and a public service motivation scale developed by Perry (1996) have been tested and attain high reliability and validity. In addition, we added two survey items to measure "religious motivation": volunteering is a practice encouraged by my religious beliefs, and it is my obligation to help others in need. Our advisory panel suggested these items as a way to measure one explanation for why people help each other—it is the mandate of their faith to do what they can to make the world a better place for all people.

What motivates the award-winning volunteers? As Table 5 illustrates, the values motivation (measured by agreement with the statements, I am genuinely concerned about the particular group I am serving, I feel it is important to help others, I can do something for a cause that is important to me, and I am concerned about those less fortunate than myself) had the highest mean score, with almost everyone strongly agreeing to these items, and the lowest standard deviation. As might be expected with this group of award-winning volunteers, the lowest level of motivation and the second highest standard deviation were found for the career motivation.

How do these motives tie in with measures of religiosity? Interestingly, closeness to God is highly correlated (significant at .01 level) with all of the motivations except esteem. Religious involvement is, of course, correlated with religious motivation, and also with social motivation. Religious activity is also correlated with social, but highly correlated with civic duty, self-sacrifice, religious, compassion, and protective motivations (see Table 6).

Table 4: Motivations to Volunteer

Motivati	on	Description
Social		Volunteering because it is respected by relevant others
Values		Volunteering to act on deeply held beliefs about the importance of helping others
Career		Volunteering to learn particular skills or to make new contacts
Unders	tanding	Volunteering to understand the people one serves, the organization for which one volunteers, or oneself
Protect	ive	Volunteering provides relief or escape from negative feelings about oneself and serves a protective function
Esteem		Volunteering enhances a person's esteem by making the person feel needed and important

Table 5: Rankings of Volunteer Motivations

Mean	Standard Deviation
4.82	0.38
4.41	0.97
4.39	0.66
4.30	0.64
4.25	1.02
4.23	0.85
4.19	0.97
3.89	0.72
3.45	1.40
2.90	1.37
	4.82 4.41 4.39 4.30 4.25 4.23 4.19 3.89 3.45



Table 6: Correlations of Motivations to Volunteer to Measures of Religiosity

Motivation	<b>Religious Activity</b>	Religious Involvement	Closeness to God
Values	.064	014	.133**
Social	.096*	.097*	.242**
Civic duty	.133**	.003	.162**
Self sacrifice	.204**	046	.223**
Esteem	.020	009	.074
Understanding	.056	.041	.222**
Religious	.458**	.306**	.380**
Compassion	.157**	.011	.230**
Protective	.118*	.078	.213**
Career	.046	.085	.169**

<sup>\*</sup>significant at .05 level

How do the motivations tie in with levels of volunteering? As Table 7 illustrates, informal volunteering seems to be motivated by civic duty (I unselfishly contribute to my community; meaningful public service is very important to me; and I consider public service my duty) and self-sacrifice (much of what I do is for a cause bigger than myself; I am one of those rare people who would risk personal loss to help someone else;I think people should give back to society more than they get from it;and making the difference in society means more to me than personal achievements).

Formal volunteer activities are correlated with all of the identified motivations, while formal volunteering hours are correlated with values, civic duty, self-sacrifice, esteem, and protective motivations (volunteering helps me deal with some of my own problems).

Self-sacrifice and civic duty are correlated with all measures of volunteering as well as with religious activity. These findings, as well as the fact that religious involvement is not correlated with these motivations, seem to indicate that, at least for these award-winning volunteers, the relation between religiosity and volunteering is more one of "loving thy neighbor" (all your neighbors) and not just those in your church.

<sup>\*\*</sup>significant at .01 level



*Table 7:* Correlations of Motivations to Measures of Volunteering

Motivation	Formal Volunteering Hours	Formal Volunteering Activities	Informal Volunteering Hours	Informal Volunteering Activities
Values	.088*	.094*	.010	.074
Social	.073	.159**	.073	.179**
Civic duty	.107*	.112*	.095*	.107*
Self sacrifice	.137**	.118**	.146**	.126**
Esteem	.097*	.115**	.042	.099*
Understanding	.060	.177**	.064	.196**
Religious	.060	.121**	.054	.078
Compassion	.064	.125**	.014	.078
Protective	.112*	.118**	.096	.159**
Career	.057	.209**	.052	.217**

<sup>\*</sup>significant at .05 level \*\*significant at .01 level





#### TELEPHONE INTERVIEWS OF AWARD WINNERS

A small,heterogeneous sample (n=26) of award recipients encompassing substantial variation on demographic characteristics were selected for in-depth interviews to determine their goals, values, how they developed their volunteer commitment, and the role their faith plays in that volunteer commitment. This qualitative information supplements the data obtained from the surveys and ensures that this report reflects the various motivations to volunteer.

The interviews were modeled on research conducted on moral commitment (Colby and Damon,1992). In the present research, almost 80 percent of the moral exemplars attributed their core value commitments to their religious faith, even though the nominating criteria did not include any specifically religious factor. As Post writes in *Altruism and Altruistic Love* (2002), "Much can be learned from the great exemplars of altruistic love for all humanity. . . . We are sometimes too exclusively interested in what they do rather than why. . . . It may be that the most exemplary altruism is often associated with the agent's personal experience of the utter enormity of the Transcendent" (p. 62–63).

#### **Data Entry and Interview Selections**

After all survey responses had been entered into the database, we conducted preliminary analyses to select respondents for in-depth interviews. We categorized respondents into four groups by cross-classifying them along two dimensions, religious activity and religious worldview. The responses were first separated into two categories—those with a high level of religious activity (as measured by several questions), and those with a low level of religious activity. Each of these two groups were then subdivided into two groups (making four groups in all) of

- 1.those who have an individual world view (including those who say these statements most closely reflect their opinions: the best way to address social problems is to change individuals, and individuals are poor because of individual inadequacies) and
- 2.those who have a communal world view (including those who say these statements most closely reflect their opinions:the best way to address social problems is to change social institutions, and individuals are poor because of social, economic, and political factors).



Among these four groups are included a wide array of religions and ages. The final group of interviewees included people identified as:

- Roman Catholic (3),
- evangelical/fundamentalist/Pentecostal (4),
- Jewish (3),
- mainline Protestant (7),
- other Christian (2),
- others (7).

The average age of interviewees was 54, with the range from 14 to 78 years of age. The interviewees included 16 men and 10 women. As Table 8 illustrates, the group interviewed did not differ substantially from all award winners on their motivations, the number of volunteer activities, or the number of hours volunteered.

#### Interview Protocol Development and Implementation

We drafted an interview protocol and submitted it to the IRB. After receiving suggestions from IRB, we revised the protocol and gained approval. The approved protocol is included in Attachment C. The principal investigators conducted the interviews by telephone; they took notes, and with the permission of the respondents, taperecorded the interviews. Most interviews lasted 30 minutes to one hour.

#### **Results of Interviews**

While we chose half of the interview group because they indicated they were not active religiously, almost all (85 percent) of the respondents said that they had either a religious or spiritual reason for their volunteer activities. Comments from people with very low levels of religious activity included:

- Teaching of Jesus is part of what I am and what I am meant to be.
- Bible is a guideline for how we should lead our lives.
- I am spiritual but not religious.
- I rely on God all the time.

These findings are consistent with the discussion above of the concept of "closeness to God," and these responses may provide a better measure of religiosity and how it relates to volunteer activity. Another commonly mentioned motivation was "wanting to give back." This observation confirms the finding mentioned earlier that many of these volunteers are motivated by values.

Another interesting finding from the interviews is that volunteering is not necessarily a linear progression, beginning with volunteering in youth, leading to volunteering as a young adult, an adult, and then as a senior. Several of our respondents

Table 8: A Comparison of Interviewees to All Award Winners

	Interviewees, mean	All award winners, mean
Family Socialization Index	23.27	23.31
Volunteer Activities	2.81	2.58
Helping Activities	1.88	2.00
Volunteer Hours	260.38	251.27
Helping Hours	139.23	134.59
Values Motivation	4.79	4.82
Religious Motivation	4.35	4.19
Career Motivation	2.88	2.90
Understanding Motivation	4.27	4.23
Protective Motivation	3.85	3.45
Social Motivation	4.62	4.41
Enhancement Motivation	4.31	4.25
Self-Sacrifice Service Motivation	4.38	4.30
Compassion Service Motivation	4.00	3.89
Civic Duty Service Motivation	4.45	4.39



did not volunteer as children or young adults, and some had their first volunteer experiences as late as in their fifties or sixties. Others volunteered as children but then did not volunteer again until years later. Somewhat tied to this finding is the fact that some respondents do not consider the work that they do for their church, either as children or an adult, as voluntary or volunteering. Either the activity is something they do for their faith, or it is something they felt compulsion to do from parents, authority figures, or social norms.

Our interviews revealed one motivation that is not widely discussed in the volunteer motivation literature—"life changing events." These are precipitating, dramatic events that lead people to volunteer their time. Approximately one-fourth of those interviewed cited such moving events as part of their motivation. These respondents include a mother whose three children were brutally murdered who became active in victims rights and counseling; a woman diagnosed with cervical cancer who couldn't have children who became active in prenatal and well baby care; a woman who became active in hospice care after her father died a long, slow, painful death; a father who lost his son in an automobile accident who then became active in helping at-risk youth; and a man who began helping the homeless with foot care because of his mentally ill son. One possible area for future research in the grief and loss literature would be studies to determine if volunteering has been explored as a coping mechanism.





#### **CURRENT AND FUTURE RESEARCH**

Dr. Jeffrey Brudney, University of Georgia, is examining the entrepreneurial aspects of some award winners. He is focusing on the questions, "Did you start or establish the group or organization for which you received the Daily Point of Light Award?" and "Is your volunteer activity for which you received the Daily Point of Light Award conducted as part of an organization?" He is interested in entrepreneurial activity that leads to the formation of voluntary, nonprofit groups and organizations that contribute to social welfare.

Brudney's research examines the backgrounds and motivations of these award winners, and how these factors compare with those who have received the awards individually, that is, without starting an organization or working as a volunteer within one. The study also examines some of the perceived results of the organizational activities of the award winners, such as the number of people or clients they assisted in the past year. Finally, it considers the perceived influence of the award in attracting "resources" to the recipient's group or organization, including volunteers, monetary donations, and in-kind donations. Brudney (2000) has conducted research on these topics before in a survey and study of the first group of recipients of the Daily Point of Light Awards in 1988–1992 (see also Brudney and Willis, 1995).

Philip Goff, IUPUI, is analyzing the religious self-descriptions of the respondents to ascertain whether certain understandings of philanthropic and volunteer behavior correlate to specific religious traditions. This study is further broken down into categories by age and type of spirituality, the latter being determined by several key questions on the questionnaire. Not only are the categories of age and spirituality useful as subsets to the larger question, but they appear to cut across the religious traditions categories in significant ways. Upon completing this study, we intend to submit it to *The Journal for the Social Scientific Study of Religion*.

James L. Perry, IUPUI, and David Coursey, Florida State University, are analyzing the public service motivation (PSM) items in the survey. Their initial work involves assessing the measurement model for public service motivation. Their next step will be to replicate earlier work on the antecedents of PSM. Many variables from their prior research appear in this survey.





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# ATTACHMENT A MAIL SURVEY INSTRUMENT

## Survey of Winners of President's Community Volunteer Awards

Congratulations again to you, or to your group or organization, on receiving the President's Community Volunteer Award! The Points of Light Foundation is partnering with Indiana University—Purdue University Indianapolis to learn more about exemplary volunteers and

their motivations. Please help us by completing this survey and returning it in the enclosed envelope.

If you have any questions for the Points of Light Foundation, please call Chris Cihlar at (202) 729-8190. If you have questions about the research project, please call Laura Littlepage at (317) 261-3061. Your participation is voluntary and any information you provide will be confidential. Results will be presented only in aggregate or group form to determine trends and tendencies. Thank you for your time.

Ι.	Please indicate which category is closes in the past year.	st to the nu	mber of hours yo	u volunteered w	vith the followin	g type of organiz	rations
		0 hours	1–19 hours	20–39 hours	40–79 hours	80–159 hours	160+ hours
a	. Religious organization (not church-affiliated schools)						
b	. School or educational organization (can include church-affiliated schools, libraries)						
C	. Political groups and campaigns (politica parties, nonpartisan political groups)						
d	. Human service organizations (Red Cross, YMCA, daycare, homelessness)						
е	. Other national or local organization(s)						
<u>2</u> .	Please indicate which category is closes for strangers, friends, neighbors, or rela	tives who d <b>0</b>	lo not live with yo 1–19	ou, in the past ye	ear. <b>40–79</b>	80–159	160+
а	. Provide transportation,shop,	hours	hours	hours	hours	hours	hours
u	or run errands						
b	. Help with housework or with the upkeep of their house,						
	car, or other things						
С	. Child care without pay						
٦	I. Any other forms of helping out						



	The following statements involve refers to your natural parents or experience.						
			Agree	agree	nor disagree	disagree	Disa
a	<ul> <li>My parents actively participated organizations (such as the Red C</li> </ul>						
	March of Dimes, religious or faith						Γ
b	. In my family, we always helped o						
	Concerning strangers experienci						
	my parents generally thought th	•					
	more important to "not get invo	lved."					
d	. My parents frequently discussed	moral values					_
	with me.						L
е	. When I was growing up, my pare I should be willing to "lend a hel						Г
f	When I was younger, my parents						
1.	urged me to get involved with v						
	for children (for example, UNICE						
	mission projects).						
5.	Compared to when you won the tion received the Daily Points of	Light Award?	are you today				·
	☐ More active	☐ The same		Less active		Not involved at	all
6.	All in all, for how many years have organization, received the Daily I	ve you participated Points of Light Awa	l (or did you pa ard?	rticipate) in the Years	voluntary activiti	es for which you	, or you
	To what extent has receiving the	Daily Points of Lig	ht Award been	helpful in attrac	ting each of the f	following resour	ces to as
7.		on,in furthering vo	lunteer activity	? Please read ea	ach statement car	efully and check	the colu
7.	and/or your group or organization			Somewhat	Not at all	Not	
7.	best reflects your view.	Verv			helpful	applicable	
7.		Very helpful	Helpful	helpful			
7.	best reflects your view.	Very helpful	Helpful	helpful			
7.	best reflects your view.  Resource	Very helpful	Helpful	helpful			
7.	best reflects your view.  Resource a. Volunteers b. Donations of money c. In-kind donations (such as	helpful	Helpful	helptul			
7.	best reflects your view.  Resource a. Volunteers b. Donations of money	helpful	Helpful	helptul			



9.	Did you start or establish the group or organization fo	•	received the Dai	lly Points of Light	Award?	
10.	In the past year, how many people or clients did your	r group or org	janization assist	?		
11.	Below is a list of possible reasons that people might			e read each stater	nent carefully a	nd check
	the column that best reflects how important each re	Agree	u. Somewhat agree	Neitheragree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Disagree
a.	I am genuinely concerned about the particular group I am serving.					
b.	Volunteering is a practice encouraged by my religious beliefs.					
C.	Volunteering allows me to explore different career options.					
d.	Volunteering allows me to gain a new perspective on things.					
e.	Volunteering helps me deal with some of my own problems.					
f.	I feel compassion toward people in need.					
g.	I can make new contacts that might help my business or career.					
h.	I can learn new skills through direct hands-on experience.					
i.	I feel it is important to help others.					
j.	Volunteering is an important activity to the people I respect.					
k.	I can do something for a cause that is important to me.					
l.	I can explore my own strengths.					
m	. Volunteering makes me feel needed.					
n.	It is my obligation to help others in need.					
0.	I am concerned about those less fortunate than myself.					
12.	Please check the statement below that most closely in the best way to address social problems is to characteristics. The best way to address social problems is to characteristics.	nge individua	als.			
13.	Please check the statement below that most closely in Individuals are poor because of social, economic, Individuals are poor because of individual inadec	and political	•			



14. The Points of Light Foundation is beginning a new volunteer award program. Since you have previously won an award, the Points of Light Foundation would like your input on what type of recognition you think it should provide. Please rate each of the following types of recognition:

			Would be thrilled to get this as recognition	An acceptable form of recognition	Would not consider this a meaningful way to recognize my efforts	No opinion
	a. Patch or pin					
	b. Certificate					
	c. Trophy					
	d. Apparel (e.g.,hat or shirt)					
	e. Public recognition in local media					
	f. Written acknowledgement at school or place of (such as a plaque or a notice in newsletter)	employment				
	g. Verbal acknowledgement at school or place of $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$	employment				
	h. Written acknowledgement at place of volunteer (such as a plaque or a notice in newsletter)	· ·				
	i. Verbal acknowledgement at place of volunteering	ng				
	j. No recognition					
15.	The following statements ask for your opinions. Ple reflects your view.	ease read each s Agree	statement carefu Somewhat agree	ally and check th  Neitheragree nor disagree	e column that bes Somewhat disagree	t Disagree
	a. Much of what I do is for a cause higger than my	-	agree	noi disagree	uisagi ee	Disagree
	a. Much of what I do is for a cause bigger than mys					
	<ul> <li>I seldom think about the welfare of people I do know personally</li> </ul>					
	c. I am one of those rare people who would risk personal loss to help someone else.					
	d. I unselfishly contribute to my community.					
	e. I think people should give back to society more than they get from it.					
	f. Meaningful public service is very important to m	ne. $\square$				
	g. Making a difference in society means more to me than personal achievements.					
	h. I consider public service my civic duty.					
	i. I have little compassion for people in need who unwilling to take the first step to help themselv					
	<ul><li>j. It is difficult for me to contain my feelings wher I see people in distress.</li></ul>	n 				
	k. Most social programs are too vital to do withou	t. 🗆				
	I. I am often reminded by daily events about how dependent we are on one another.					



16.	How important to you is your religion or faith tradition?								
	☐ Very important ☐ Important ☐	Somewhat in	nportant [	☐ Not importar	nt				
17.	Do you consider yourself (choose one):  Roman Catholic Eastern Orthodox (such as Russian, Greek) Mainline Protestant (such as Methodist, Episcop Evangelical/Fundamentalist/Pentecostal (such a Black Protestant (such as African Methodist Epis Other Christian (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Jewish Muslim Hindu Atheist/Agnostic Other	s Southern Ba scopal,Nation Day Saints, 7t	aptist, nondenomi al Baptist Convent h Day Adventists,	national) ion)	5 0	1)			
		Somewhat in	nportant [	Not importar	ıt				
19.	Are you a member of a church,synagogue, mosque,  ☐ No ☐ Yes	temple, or otl	ner place of worsh	ip?					
20.	Please indicate how often you:	Never	Several times a year	2-3 times a month	Once a week	More than once a week			
	a. Attend religious services								
	<ul> <li>b. Pray or read religious text (such as Torah, Koran, Bible) in private</li> </ul>								
	c. Practice traditional religious rituals at home (such as lighting candles for Sabbath or Advent, fasting for Ramadan or Lent, having an altar in your home)								
	d. Take part in any of the activities or groups of a church, synagogue, mosque, temple, or other place of worship other than attending service	9							
	e. Take part in any of the activities or groups of a religion or faith service organization (such as Hadassah or Knights of Columbus)								



21.	Did you receive any of your education in a religious school?									
	<ul><li>□ No</li><li>□ Yes If Yes, check all that apply:</li></ul>									
		<ul><li>☐ Attended a religious ele</li><li>☐ Attended a religious mio</li><li>☐ Attended a religious col</li><li>☐ Attended religious after</li></ul>	ddle or high school (7– lege or university	·						
22.	When you were	growing up, did your family	consider itself (choose	e one):						
	Roman Catholic  Eastern Orthodox (such as Russian, Greek)  Mainline Protestant (such as Methodist, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Presbyterian, American Baptist, Congregational)  Evangelical/Fundamentalist/Pentecostal (such as Southern Baptist, nondenominational)  Black Protestant (such as African Methodist Episcopal, National Baptist Convention)  Other Christian (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 7th Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses)  Jewish  Muslim  Hindu  Atheist/Agnostic  Other									
23.	Currently, how r	many of your extended famil	y and close friends sha	re your religious	affiliation or fait	h background?				
	☐ Almost all	☐ Most	☐ Some	☐ None		-				
24.		e response to the right of the	Extremely close	eflects your opin Moderately close	iON. Somewhat close	Not very close	Not at all close			
		od do you feel while you are: acts of kindness								
	<ul><li>b. Watching a</li><li>c. Performing</li><li>d. Meditating</li><li>e. Participatir</li></ul>	beautiful sunset religious traditions at home by yourself ng in a religious community,								
	through co memorial,c	mmunal worship, celebration or ritual	n,							



25.	Where would you place yourself on the following scale of different political points of view						
	<ul><li>☐ Very liberal</li><li>☐ Liberal</li></ul>	☐ Conservative ☐ Very conservative	Moderate, middle of the road				
26.	What is your gender?	☐ Female					
	_ maio	_ Tomalo					
27.	In what year were you borr	?					
28.	What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?  Some high school High school degree or GED (Graduate Equivalency Degree) Some college or post-high school technical or trade training Technical or trade certificate or degree 2-year college degree (A.A.) 4-year college/university degree (B.A., B.S., or other Bachelor's degree) Graduate or professional degree (M.A., M.S., J.D., Ph.D., etc.) Other						
<u>9</u> 9.	• •	es your employment status?  Employed part-time  Full-time student	☐ Not employed				
30.	What is your annual housel	hold income?					
	☐ less than \$20,000 ☐ \$60,000—\$79,999	\$20,000—\$39,999 \$80,000—\$99,999	☐ \$40,000—\$59,999 ☐ \$100,000 or greater				
31.	Do you consider yourself Hi	spanic or Latino?					
	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ Don't know				
	If Yes,  ☐ Mexican ☐ Something else	☐ Puerto Rican☐ Don't know	□ Cuban				



32.	Do you consider yourself to be (check all that apply):					
	<ul><li>☐ White</li><li>☐ Asian or Pacific Islander</li><li>☐ Some other race</li></ul>	<ul><li>☐ Black or African American</li><li>☐ American Indian or Alaska Native</li><li>☐ Don't know</li></ul>				
33.	What is your ZIP code?					
If you would like to include comments, you may write them on the back of this sheet.						

34. Please use this space for any comments you would like to share with us. Thank you!



# ATTACHMENT B A COMPARISON OF ALL AWARD WINNERS TO SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Table B1: State Frequencies

State	Number of respondents per state	Original number of people mailed the survey per state	Percent respondents	% of total respondents	% of total surveyed	Difference (respondents– surveyed)
Unmarked State	48			9.1%		
AK	2	6	33%	0.4%	0.4%	-0.1%
AL	10	24	42%	1.9%	1.8%	0.1%
AR	2	14	14%	0.4%	1.0%	-0.7%
AZ	12	35	34%	2.3%	2.6%	-0.3%
CA	33	110	30%	6.3%	8.2%	-1.9%
CO	9	25	36%	1.7%	1.9%	-0.1%
CT	7	20	35%	1.3%	1.5%	-0.2%
DC	3	19	16%	0.6%	1.4%	-0.8%
DE	2	6	33%	0.4%	0.4%	-0.1%
FL	50	108	46%	9.5%	8.0%	1.5%
GA	15	33	45%	2.9%	2.5%	0.4%
HI	1	5	20%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.2%
IA	2	8	25%	0.4%	0.6%	-0.2%
ID	1	5	20%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.2%
IL	14	49	29%	2.7%	3.7%	-1.0%
IN	9	18	50%	1.7%	1.3%	0.4%
KS	7	10	70%	1.3%	0.7%	0.6%
KY	15	21	71%	2.9%	1.6%	1.3%
LA	21	39	54%	4.0%	2.9%	1.1%
MA	13	42	31%	2.5%	3.1%	-0.7%
MD	7	34	21%	1.3%	2.5%	-1.2%
ME	1	6	17%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.3%
MI	11	37	30%	2.1%	2.8%	-0.7%
MN	9	18	50%	1.7%	1.3%	0.4%
MO	4	22	18%	0.8%	1.6%	-0.9%
MS	4	8	50%	0.8%	0.6%	0.2%
MT	2	7	29%	0.4%	0.5%	-0.1%
NC	11	33	33%	2.1%	2.5%	-0.4%
ND	1	3	33%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%
NE	3	8	38%	0.6%	0.6%	0.0%
NH	3	9	33%	0.6%	0.7%	-0.1%
NJ	20	46	43%	3.8%	3.4%	0.4%
NM	2	6	33%	0.4%	0.4%	-0.1%
NV	2	12	17%	0.4%	0.9%	-0.5%
NY	28	78	36%	5.3%	5.8%	-0.5%
OH	17	42	40%	3.2%	3.1%	0.1%
OK	10	24	42%	1.9%	1.8%	0.1%
OR	1	6	17%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.3%
PA	12	46	26%	2.3%	3.4%	-1.1%



Table B1: State Frequencies (continued)

State	Number of respondents per state	Original number of people mailed the survey per state	Percent respondents	% of total respondents	% of total surveyed	Difference (respondents– surveyed)
RI	1	7	14%	0.2%	0.5%	-0.3%
SC	7	17	41%	1.3%	1.3%	0.1%
SD	0	4	0%	0.0%	0.3%	-0.3%
TN	7	24	29%	1.3%	1.8%	-0.5%
TX	32	82	39%	6.1%	6.1%	0.0%
UT	23	47	49%	4.4%	3.5%	0.9%
VA	12	54	22%	2.3%	4.0%	-1.7%
VT	0	6	0%	0.0%	0.4%	-0.4%
WA	8	18	44%	1.5%	1.3%	0.2%
WI	7	23	30%	1.3%	1.7%	-0.4%
WV	3	13	23%	0.6%	1.0%	-0.4%
WY	1	1	100%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Total	525	1342	39%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%

### Table B2: Year Frequency

### **Daily Points of Light Winners**

Year	Number of responses received	Number of surveys sent	Percentage
1998	51	215	24%
1999	51	217	24%
2000	75	234	32%
2001	92	237	29%
2002	79	254	31%
2003	71	189	38%
Award Year Unknown	75		
Total	494	1157	43%

### **President's Community Volunteer Award**

Year	Number of responses received	Number of surveys sent	Percentage
1998	3	16	19%
1999	4	18	22%
2000	5	18	28%
2001	10	18	56%
Award Year Unknown	9		
Total	31	70	44%

Surveys sent to winners up to 9/30/03.



# ATTACHMENT C TELEPHONE INTERVIEW PROTOCOL

Love Thy Neighbor In-Person Interview Protocol
Name:
Phone:
Interview time
City and State:
Description of why they won the award:
Developmental —
What got you started in volunteering? Go back to the beginning When you are growing up, did you volunteer as a child?
In what types of activities did you volunteer?
How old were you when you first started volunteering?
What factors encouraged you to volunteer?
For Those Who Started the Program or Organization
Context—
Tell us more about the activity for which you won the award- organization. Do you get paid for it? Did you always get paid for it?
Why did you start the program?
What need did you see?
Has your program or organization succeeded in meeting this need?
Motivation—
Why do you do this? (Tie to award content.)
Faith—
(1) Was religion emphasized in your home growing up? If yes, how?
(2) What about your faith is important to you now? (We can get at the creed, ritual, habit issue here.)
(3) What role did/does faith or your religious tradition play in your volunteer activities?
(4) If none or minimal, then what does guide you?

Any comments you'd like to add?