



CRIME AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY DIVISION NEWS

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Winter 2006

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Notes From the Chair

Greetings! With spring around the corner, I hope everyone is in good spirits. As usual, there are many announcements to pass on in this newsletter but I want to alert everyone to several book and paper competitions from both within and outside the Division. Please consider nominating someone, including yourself! In the meantime, good luck finishing out the semester and take some time to enjoy the nice weather.

Cheers ...Charis Kubrin

NEW WEBSITE ON WOMEN AND PRISONS!!!
SSSP members have brought a new website to our attention. Womenandprison.org features articles, abstracts and information related to women and the prison industrial complex. The site currently has several articles related to prison and motherhood, specific issues facing women in prison, and facts and statistics regarding . An excellent resource for research and students.

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

Upcoming conference: "Domestic Violence: Policy Implications, Recent Initiatives, and Cross-Cultural Perspectives." Friday, April 21, 2006, Founder's Hall, St. Francis College, 180 Remsen Street, Brooklyn Heights, NY - 10am to 5:30pm. Plenary speaker is Yolanda Jimenez, Commissioner, NYC Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence, and panelists include researchers and activists from organizations including the Center for Court Innovation, Safe Horizon, the NYC Criminal Justice Agency, the Legal Aid Society, SAKHI for South Asian Women, and the NYC Family Justice Center, among others. The conference will conclude with an open reception. To register or for more information, please contact Dr. Emily Horowitz at ehorowitz@stfranciscollge.edu. This conference is free of charge and open to the public.

2006 ABS STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

UNDERGRADUATE COMPETITION

The Association of Black Sociologists (ABS) is now accepting papers for its annual Undergraduate Student Paper Competition. Students who are members of ABS qualify for the competition. The top three winners of the competition receive cash awards and will also present their papers at this year's ABS conference held in Montreal, Canada from August 8-11, 2006. Papers are to be no longer than 20 pages, including references. Papers should not be under consideration for publication at the time of submission. Additionally, an abstract of no more than 200 words should be submitted with the paper.

GRADUATE COMPETITION

The Association of Black Sociologists (ABS) is now accepting papers for its annual Graduate Student Paper Competition. Graduate students who are members of ABS qualify for the competition. The top three winners of the competition receive cash awards and will also present their papers at this year's ABS conference held in Montreal, Canada from August 8-11, 2006. Papers are to be no longer than 30 pages, including references. The papers cannot be under consideration for publication at the time of submission. Additionally, an abstract of no more than 200 words should be submitted with the paper. Students should submit six copies of the paper and abstract to:

ABS Student Paper Competition
Association of Black Sociologists
4200 Wisconsin Avenue NW, PMB 106-257
Washington, D.C. 20016

Please indicate on the envelope and cover page which competition, undergraduate or graduate, you are entering.

Students can also submit the paper and abstract electronically in either Microsoft Word, Corel WordPerfect, or PDF format to: studentpaper@blacksociologists.org. Again, please indicate in the email and cover page which competition, undergraduate or graduate, the submission is intended. The submission deadline for the competition is May 1, 2006. Please visit the ABS website at www.blacksociologists.org for further information about the Association of Black Sociologists and the Student Paper Competitions.

Dr. Korie L. Edwards
Chair, ABS Student Paper Competition
Committee

SSSP 2006 Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division: Outstanding Scholar Competition

The SSSP Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division conducts an annual Outstanding Scholar competition. The division reviews published books in the field to determine if there is one whose merit deserves an award for Outstanding Scholarship. Nominations are now invited for 2006. This award is given to an author whose work makes a significant contribution to the sociological understanding of crime and/or delinquency. If you know of a published work within the past year (2005) you feel should be considered for this award, mail or email the nomination to Lloyd Klein, Department of Sociology, Macon State College, 100 College Station Drive, Macon, GA 31206; email lklein@mail.maconstate.edu. Follow emailed nominations with a mailed hard copy. Nominations must be for treatises; the committee will not consider textbooks, edited volumes, or articles for this award. Include the author(s), book title, publisher, publication date, and brief statement of why you believe this work deserves the Outstanding Scholarship Award. Deadline is May 15, 2006.

**SSSP 2006 Crime and Juvenile
Delinquency Division: Graduate
Student Paper Competition**

The Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division announces its 2006 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical or theoretical, and they may be on any aspect of crime, deviance and/or social control. To be eligible, a paper must have been written during 2005, and it may not be published, accepted for publication, or under review for publication. Papers which have been presented at a professional meeting or accepted for presentation at a professional meeting are eligible. Papers must be student-authored; they can be single-authored or co-authored by students, but may not be co-authored with a faculty member or other non-student. There is a 25-page limit, including all notes, references, and tables. Send papers and a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered in the SSSP Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division Graduate Student Paper Competition to: Lloyd Klein, Division of Social Sciences Macon State College, 100 College Station Dr., Macon, Georgia 31210. Work phone number: 468-471-2081; lklein@mail.maconstate.edu.

Include a letter from your advisor certifying your graduate student status and incorporating some comments about the paper. Deadline: March 31, 2006. The winner will be announced in Spring 2006, will receive a \$300 stipend and will be invited to present the paper at a regular Division panel at the 2006 SSSP Annual Conference.

FEATURE EDITORIAL:
**CONGRESSIONAL ACTION
NEEDED TO REINSTATE U. S.
CAPITOL POLICE HORSE-
MOUNTED UNIT**

By Karen L. Bune

The United States Capitol Police Horse-Mounted Unit was a valuable asset to the nation's capitol in Washington D.C., but it was only in existence 14 months after which time the U. S. Congress voted to dismantle the unit. The budget request to continue funding of the unit, submitted by Chief Terrance W. Gainer, was only \$145,000 of a total \$250 million dollar budget. The cost to maintain a horse is only \$3.50 per day - far less than the cost of an officer in a cruiser.

The horse-mounted unit was an effective and highly valuable law enforcement tool on Capitol Hill and was a significant visible enhancement to safety and security. In an area that is surrounded by streets, parks, and other territory that is difficult for police cruisers to access, the horse-mounted unit was able to traverse routes that were not easily accessible by other means. A horse-mounted officer sits two feet high on the horse and has a greater field of visibility that enables the officer to look out above crowds twenty to thirty feet, look into buses, and observe a wide range of activities in and around the U. S. Capitol.

Approximately nine million visitors a year visit the U.S. Capitol, and it is a popular tourist site. Families bring their children, and the horses were a magnet that attracted both adults and children. From a sociological standpoint, such interaction facilitated a good relationship between law enforcement and the community and enhanced public relations between the two entities. Families quickly detected a mobile presence that made them feel safer because people could see the visible horse-mounted unit. Sgt. Bruce Harper who heads the Las Vegas Police Department Horse-Mounted Unit states, "People feel safer because you are there."

Families were provided an opportunity to approach and talk to a cop, and the horse-mounted officers conveyed the message to the

community that the police care. Sociologically speaking, the horse-mounted unit was a positive influence on the local community, and its impact of crime reduction extended to the broader society. Overall, the horse-mounted unit fostered a healthy relationship between the community and law enforcement.

Horse-mounted units are effective in terms of crowd control, particularly when there are protests at the U.S. Capitol and the surrounding region. A horse can move a crowd quickly and efficiently and can be more effective than officers on foot. An officer on a horse is the equivalent to ten officers on the ground. Protestors can be somewhat intimidated by the presence of a horse because they are uncertain as to what the horse might do. This factor alone can often rapidly quell a disturbance.

The presence of a horse-mounted unit is also a deterrent to potential terrorists who may be scanning the area over time to plot a future attack. The high visibility and frequent presence of a horse-mounted unit can thwart planning efforts and hinder easy access to the U.S. Capitol and surrounding area. Thom Slosson of the Las Angeles Sheriff's Department notes, "A horse patrolling an area will curtail their thoughts. It reduces their thoughts about how easy a target is."

From a criminological standpoint, a horse-mounted unit is a cost-effective mechanism that law enforcement agencies find beneficial in various crime-fighting efforts that include ordinary patrol, working special events, crowd control for mass demonstrations and protests, widespread surveillance, and maint maintaining the safety and security of the community. A horse-mounted unit is an integral component of crime prevention employing crime fighting strategies and facilitating a reduction in crime by its presence and productivity.

During its short tenure, the U. S. Capitol Police Horse-Mounted Unit was also able to assist officers on the street with daily patrol, identify suspicious packages, and helped locate lost children and adults, that usually resulted in several per week, among numerous other tasks. The horse-mounted unit was a short-lived but highly successful law enforcement tool that was vitally necessary at the U.S. Capitol. The move by Congress to dismantle this unit is an extreme

disservice to the families and the public who visit the nation's Capitol as well as those who live and work in the region. It is imperative this unit be reinstated as quickly as possible. Throughout the nation, citizens need to let their voices be heard to initiate a renewed effort for immediate congressional action to revitalize the U.S. Capitol Police Horse-Mounted Unit. It is a necessity for the safety, security, and protection of all in the nation's capitol.

*SSSP Member Karen L. Bune is an Adjunct Professor in the Dept. of Criminal Justice at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. She is employed as a Victim Specialist in the domestic violence unit of the State's Attorney's Office in Prince George's County, Maryland. She is national consultant, speaker on victim issues, and a freelance writer. She can be reached at kbune@gmu.edu

SSSP 2006 ANNUAL MEETING: SPEED MENTORING SESSION

This year's SSSP annual meeting in Montreal will feature a "speed mentoring" session that will offer graduate students, untenured faculty, and applied sociologists ("mentees") the opportunity to sit one-on-one with a stellar group of senior faculty ("mentors") to get feedback on dissertations and/or research projects that are underway or still in the planning stages. These meetings will each last 20 minutes, and there will be time for four such meetings within the speed mentoring session time block of 100 minutes. Senior faculty mentors include Joel Best, Richard Caputo, Kimberly Cook, Elizabeth Ettorre, Kathleen Ferraro, Gregory Hooks, Valerie Jenness, Nancy Jurik, Barbara Katz Rothman, Kathleen Lowney, Nancy Naples, Mary Romero, and Richard Wilsnack.

Complete details about the speed mentoring session and how to participate as a mentee will be included in the SSSP preliminary program and will also be posted in May on the SSSP web site. Although this session is

primarily intended for graduate students, untenured faculty, and applied sociologists, tenured faculty are also welcome to indicate mentor preferences and will be accommodated as space permits.

For further information, please contact the speed mentoring session organizer, Steve Barkan (barkan@maine.edu).

Members' Accomplishments and Notes

Our SSSP CJDD Chair has a new publication. Charis E. Kubrin and Eric A. Stewart recently had their article, Predicting Who Reoffends: The Neglected Role of Neighborhood Context in Recidivism Studies, published in the journal *Criminology*, Vol. 44:171-204.

SSSP Member Mathieu Deflem has a new edited book out from Oxford University Press entitled *Sociological Theory and Criminological Research: Views from Europe and the United States*. The contributions in this volume highlight the value of sociological theorizing in various strands of criminological research. The chapters present concrete analyses and discussions of how sociological theory has been useful to the respective authors' efforts in criminological research. Collectively they aim to show that some of the very best criminological work is informed in useful and varied ways by sociological theory. Revealing the global reach and nationally distinct variations in the practice of sociological theory and criminology, this volume is explicitly trans-Atlantic in terms of its contributors and the topics and theories they discuss. Also, take a look at Mathieu's website www.mathieudeflem.net for other interesting articles and information on criminology and social theory.

SSSP member Karen L. Bune recently testified before the Maryland legislature for repeal of the marital privilege option in domestic violence cases. She also had an article published (Maryland-wide) in the *Gazette* newspapers titled, "Maryland's Marital Privilege Option Should Be Repealed." Ms. Bune is a Victim Specialist/Legal Asst. in the domestic violence unit of the State's Attorney's Office for Prince George's County, Md. She is also an Adjunct Professor at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. and Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia where she teaches victimology. She is also a national speaker and consultant on victim issues.

Corporate Crime (1980) by Peter Cleary Yeager and Marshall Clinard, was re-issued in 2005 by Transaction Publishers as a "classic" in criminology. The 25th anniversary of the book was marked at the 2005 annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology with a thematic session entitled "Corporate Crime: The Next 25 Years." Congratulations to Peter and Marshall.

SSSP member Jeffery M. Leving has asked us to mention his new magazine, *Leving's Divorce Magazine*, with content specifically designed for divorced men. *Leving's Divorce Magazine* was designed around the interests and needs of divorced men and will include articles on parenting, financial and legal issues as well as travel, health and leisure. The magazine is available online at

www.levingsdivorcemagazine.com.

Harland Prechel (Texas A&M University) and Theresa Morris (Trinity College) wrote us to let you know they are in their second year of their research on "The Extent and Underlying Cause(s) of Corporate Malfeasance in U.S.

Corporations.” This research is funded by the *National Science Foundation* grant (#SES-0351496).

General Solicitations

The newsletter is looking for announcements and other relevant information for the next issue. We are also interested in printing book reviews, shorter journal pieces, opinion pieces or anything else that might be of interest to newsletter readers. Please contact the newsletter editor by April 30, 2006, for inclusion into the Spring Issue (woodwi@bc.edu).