

SSSP NEWSLETTER

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THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Editor Stephen R. Couch Center for Environment and Community Pennsylvania State University
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972 USA

PRE-CONFERENCE ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

Presidential Series:

The Brief Past and the Long Future of SSSP: Time for Action
Robert Perrucci

Commentary:

The Fate of Critical Sociology in the 21st Century
Ken Kyle

Finalists Announced for the C. Wright Mills Award

2001 General Election Results

PRESIDENT ELECT (2001-2002)
(President 2002-2003)

Nancy Jurik

VICE-PRESIDENT ELECT (2001-2002)
(Vice-President 2002-2003)

Richard Dello Buono

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2001-2004)

Jane Bock
Timothy Diamond

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2001-2003)
(Student Representatives)

Erin Robinson

TREASURER (2001-2002)

Ron Troyer

SECRETARY (2001-2002)

Dean Knudsen

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
(2001-2004)

Kimberly Cook

EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
(2001-2004)

Margaret Andersen
Verta Taylor

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES (2001-2004)

Lynn Schlesinger
Javier Trevino

Amendments to the Bylaws: Approved

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BE SURE TO VISIT THE SSSP HOMEPAGE → <http://www.it.utk.edu/sssp>

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We welcome essays, commentary and letters for consideration.

Submissions by email or diskette given preference.

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**THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE SSSP
NEWSLETTER IS OCTOBER 1, 2001.**

From The Executive Office Tom Hood

The Program for the 2001 Annual Meetings in Anaheim should have been in your hands for some time. You know what a treat awaits us as the group assembles in Anaheim in August. This program is generating lots of excitement as we begin our second fifty years as a Society. Brand new members and long term veterans of the Society have contributed papers. The finalists for the C. Wright Mills award are an outstanding selection of titles. This is one annual meeting that you won't want to miss. We are meeting in the same hotel as the Sociological Practice Association and will hold a joint reception with them on August 19. This provides our members with the opportunity to explore common interests with the members of SPA. The theme of their meeting is "Using Sociology for Good." Some of our members belong to both societies. Plan to welcome their members into our sessions and plan to drop in on one of their sessions. They have some outstanding speakers.

Congratulations to our newly elected officers and many thanks to all of the candidates who agreed to stand for election. Each year the quality of the candidates seems to get stronger and stronger as we progress as a Society. Particular thanks go to the Elections Committee: Nancy Kleniewski, Carol Brown, Levon Chorbajian, Daniel Egan for counting the ballots of all those who voted. Plan to help President-elect Nancy Jurik, Vice-President-elect Richard Dello Buono, Secretary Dean Knudsen, Treasurer Ron Troyer and the new members of the Board of Directors Jane Bock, Timothy Diamond and Erin Robinson as they work to improve the Society.

Important decision will be made at the Annual Meeting as we select a new editor for SOCIAL PROBLEMS. Our current editor, David Smith and his Associate Editors: Valerie Jenness, Nancy Naples, Belinda Robnett, Judith Stepan-Norris have been doing a great job giving us a high quality journal. This is the first time within recent years that we have met within a few miles of the Editorial Office. At the Annual Meeting the Editorial and Publications Committee will recommend a new Editor for the term 2003-2005 to the Board of Directors. We have two fine candidates and the committee is working hard to make a good choice. This year we'll finalize an edition of an Operations Manual for the Society.

Have you considered becoming a Life Member of the Society? The Budget, Finance and Audit Committee has calculated that Life Memberships are a money saving option for those people who plan to be members of the society for more than ten years. This is a way to show your commitment to the purposes of the organization by making an investment.

This is the busy time of year at the Executive Office. We are delighted to have had the help of Lisa Zilney this year our excellent Graduate Assistant. Lisa is in the final stages of her doctoral program at the University of Tennessee and we will continue to profit from her assistance through a portion of the next year. Michele Koontz continues to serve in her capacities as Administrative Officer and Meeting Manager. As always we are delighted with her excellent attention to detail and her faithful service to the members of the Society. Be sure to say hello and thank Michele at the annual meeting. She continues to keep us on track.

Well, every time I look at the Annual Meeting Program I get excited. This year we'll have the Butler Street Blues Band (with SSSP member Henry Pontell) playing at our AIDS Fundraiser from 9:00-10:30 on Friday, August 17. Don't forget that the Association of Black Sociologists is meeting August 15-18 at the Hyatt Regency Alicante in Garden City. You can get more information from Donald Cunnigen, ABS President dcunn@uriacc.uri.edu. Don't forget that the ASA is meeting next door to our hotel for those of you who can stay longer.

See you in Anaheim.

Tom Hood, Ph.D. is Executive Officer of SSSP and Professor of Sociology at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

UPCOMING SSSP CONFERENCES

August 17 - 19, 2001

West Coast Anaheim Hotel, Anaheim, CA

August 15 - 17, 2002

Midland Hotel, Chicago, IL

August 13 - 15, 2003

Wyndham Garden Hotel, Atlanta, GA

August 14 - 18, 2004

Cathedral Hill Hotel, San Francisco, CA

Call for SSSP Nominations

This year we will be electing a President-Elect, a Vice-President Elect, regular and student members of the Board of Directors, Budget, Finance and Audit Committee, Editorial and Publications Committee and the Committee on Committees. Please consider nominating a colleague or yourself for one of these offices. The nominations committee will meet at the Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA, so all nominations should be submitted to PJ McGann prior to August 1, 2000 at the following address:

PJ McGann
IRWG, University of Michigan, 204 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1209
Work: (734) 764-9356
Fax: (734) 764-9533
Email: PJMCGANN@UMICH.EDU

MEETING MENTOR PROGRAM

Meeting Participants, Students and New Members:

Never been to a SSSP meeting before? No worries! This year at the meetings, we will have a mentoring program for new members and graduate students. I am sure you know the scenario: sometimes you'll meet someone at the meetings and wind up learning the ropes from them, but sometimes this can be awkward and difficult. Tempting as that awkwardness is, why not just get that out of the way and sign up for a meeting mentor? This person will help you find your way and introduce you to the people they know. You won't be attached to them all weekend, they will just serve as a connector for the meetings. They are your very own "in" to the meetings!

If you are a meeting veteran, would you be willing to help a graduate student or new faculty member out at the meetings as a mentor? Remember those awkward days when you were trying to meet people? Sure, we all go to the meetings to catch up with old friends and chat and work. This is just adding a fresh perspective to some of those conversations, having a lunch with someone new, and showing off all your spectacular contacts and friends to someone new. Whether you are a faculty member or a graduate student, you always have something to offer to someone new!

Whether you are an old hat or a newcomer (however you want to define that), please email your contact information (name, affiliation, address, email, and interest areas) before June 30 to either Sarah Fischesser (fischess@yahoo.com) or Michele Koontz (mkoontz3@utk.edu). Please indicate whether you're a newcomer or a returning SSSP member.

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the SSSP Newsletter, Donald Cunnigen's donation to the Minority Scholarship Fund was incorrectly listed under the General Fund.

The Brief Past and the Long Future of SSSP: Time for Action

**Robert Perrucci
Purdue University**

I was introduced to the journal *Social Problems* when I was a graduate student in the early 1960s. I can still recall my first reading of Everett Hughes article on “Good People and Dirty Work,” and especially Al Gouldner’s “Anti-Minotaur: The Myth of Value-Free Sociology.” In my first academic job, two of my four courses each semester were Introduction to Social Problems and I turned to the journal for research articles to enrich my lectures. I joined the American Sociological Association while I was a graduate student, but did not join SSSP until 1966. I presented papers at ASA meetings in Los Angeles in 1963 and Montreal in 1964, and remember wandering around those hotels like I just got off the boat at Ellis Island. When I attended my first SSSP meeting, the true significance of the variable “organizational size” was driven home. This was an organization based on a more human scale, where people gathered in small groups and greeted each other like members of the same family. Long before new social movement theory would discover the importance of “culture” in mobilizing members, SSSP made a point of stressing supportive social relationships as one of its distinctive characteristics. Evelyn Nakano Glenn’s description of her experiences in SSSP provides a clear picture of a supportive culture in operation (SSSP Newsletter, Winter 2001).

I joined SSSP at about the same time that I became active in several groups on my campus, as a member and faculty adviser for chapters of Friends of SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, 1964-65) and the Students for a Democratic Society (1965-70). SSSP became a setting where I met other sociologists who shared my political values and where I believed that I could engage in both scholarship and activism. Obviously a self-serving belief, but it was the best I could do at the time. And maintaining this belief was possible in SSSP, because it was part social movement and part professional association.

The dual nature of SSSP—part movement, part professional association—was a central strength at the time of formation of the organization. Grounded in opposition to the American Sociological Society’s elitism and “pure science” model of sociology, SSSP was energized by a culture of an oppositional movement. John Galliher’s description of the early years of SSSP provides a good account of this oppositional culture (SSSP Newsletter, Fall 2000).

Fortunately, the rest of sociology finally caught on and caught up with SSSP. Unfortunately, we are no longer distinctive in our commitment to social justice and in our support for activism and scholarship. Feminist scholars, critical race theorists, humanist sociologists, and applied sociologists, to name but a few, have formed associations to serve those with common interests. Indeed, even the staid ASA now has 40 special sections to meet the interests of members. Many of these sections of ASA cannot be distinguished from those that have long been distinctive in SSSP

With all of these “umbrella associations” eager to provide a venue to those who wish to combine their values and their scholarship, what can we say is *special* about SSSP? I daresay, not much, at least in its present form and given the current proliferation of competing associations. How can we reaffirm what was once special about SSSP and its commitment to social justice? The answer, I believe, lies in creating within SSSP the opportunity for the corporate body, not just its members, to speak and act on behalf of social justice. SSSP must become more than an umbrella association for scholar-activists; it must become a *consequential actor* in its own right. To be an actor of consequence, SSSP would create a venue whereby its views on public social issues such as poverty, or homelessness, or drug policy would become a material part of public dialogue.

In my presidential address to the members of SSSP in August, 2000, I discussed a proposal that would enable our association to become more active as a *collective public sociologist*. Such an effort would not only energize the sociological enterprise, but it would help to fill the vacuum created by that vanishing species of public intellectual (see Russell Jacoby, *The End of Utopia* and “The Future of the Public Intellectual,” *The Nation*, February 12, 2001). I called upon SSSP to issue a “report to the nation” every four years and that it be timed to coincide with the presidential elections. I called this report an Agenda for Social Justice that would focus on some of the nation’s most pressing social problems. The audience for these agenda statements would be the public at

large, and they would be written in the public idiom and not the jargon of the discipline. The purpose of the Agenda for Social Justice would be to get people in the wider society thinking about social problems and social injustice and to consider alternative visions for dealing with these issues. The timing of the Agenda report with the quadrennial presidential election is designed to heighten the visibility and potential significance of the work of SSSP scholars. Assume for the moment that the Board of Directors and the members of SSSP decided to publish an Agenda for Social Justice scheduled for release in the summer of 2004, prior to the presidential election in November. How would we proceed?

- (1) At the SSSP meetings in Anaheim, California in August, 2001, the Directors, in consultation with the Editorial and Publications Committee, would appoint the editors to be responsible for the proposed Agenda for Social Justice.
- (2) The appointed editors would meet with the Chairpersons of the Special Problems Divisions at the 2001 meetings to outline the proposal for the new publication and to invite the Divisions to submit proposals for a chapter. Guidelines for the proposed chapter would call upon writers to identify the problem in question and to respond to the questions: What do we know? How do we know it? What is to be done? The emphasis should be on research evidence and the ability to speak with confidence about alternatives to existing social arrangements.
- (3) The editors would review proposals submitted for consideration, select those that are most promising, and invite the authors to prepare their chapters by December, 2002.
- (4) The Editorial and Publications Committee would contact publishers (e.g. University of California Press; Aldine de Gruyter) about their interest in publishing an Agenda for Social Justice every four years.
- (5) At the August 2002 meetings, the editors of the Agenda would meet with authors of chapters to discuss their progress on chapters and to determine if they are on schedule for delivery of final draft chapters by December, 2002. Editors would request revisions to be completed by April 2003.
- (6) Final manuscript would be delivered to the publisher by August, 2003. Publication date for the Agenda would March, 2004.
- (7) Complimentary copies of the *Agenda for Social Justice-2004* would be sent to all national progressive organizations, policy centers, national labor organizations, members of Congress, mayors of our larger cities, national newspapers, and alternative newspapers and political journals.
- (8) Following publication and dissemination of the *Agenda for Social Justice—2004*, SSSP would develop a public information packet that would be used by our members around the country to gain access to commercial radio stations in their area to discuss the purpose of the SSSP project.

I believe that the course of action described above has the potential to renew the commitment of SSSP to social justice, and to do so in a fashion that increases our collective sense of efficacy. Our work on this collective project—an Agenda for Social Justice--delivered every four years to the public at large, would provide a unifying project for our members, and it would provide a continuing focus of attention at our annual meetings. I believe that there exists in this country an enormous grassroots constituency with a desire for progressive social change. That desire needs to be given shape, and linked to clearly stated, achievable goals. I call upon all members of SSSP to give careful consideration to this proposal for the quadrennial publication of an Agenda for Social Justice. In so doing, you will honor our brief past and prepare for the long future.

Ken Kyle

The Pennsylvania State University, Capital College

Introduction

At the 2000 annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, the Program Committee and the journal *Critical Sociology* co-sponsored an extended discussion entitled "Critical Sociology in the 21st Century: An Open Panel Discussion in the Spirit of C. Wright Mills." The session's organizers asked participants to reflect upon the place of critical sociology in the 21st century and prepare some brief remarks. Unfortunately, many of the remarks were limited to either the acutely individual level or the very abstract level. Moreover, presentations and the discussion seemed to skirt the present, focusing instead on a nostalgic past or an ethereal future. And while a few participants called for greater connections to critical scholars in other academic disciplines, and a few openly discussed a variety of critical perspectives, I fear that an observer of our discussion would have come away believing that critical sociology is incredibly insulated from the real world, that it has little connection to sociology as a discipline, and that it is dominated by relatively unsophisticated Marxist discourse and ideas.

However, I suggest that such views are counterproductive. Taking up the organizers' challenge, I briefly outlined two visions of critical sociology in the 21st century, one dystopian (and given my disposition, more likely) and one *eutopian*; i.e., not perfection, but better. Moreover, I present the argument that critical sociology's connection to sociology as a discipline and to the Academy in general offer opportunities to bring about meaningful social change in the near future.

Dystopian Vision

Critical sociology, like other sociology, like the rest of the social sciences, will likely continue its current trajectory. Thus, the future looks bleak for critical sociology. Today critical sociologists in the U.S. find themselves ensnared by a host of "isms", rationales and institutions ranging from neo-liberalism, corporatism, and global capitalism on the one hand to feminism, socialism and environmentalism on the other hand. And while this myriad of social forces, ideologies, and social institutions affects each of us as individuals and professionals, three of the "isms", capitalism, corporatism, and professionalism, will continue to play an inordinate role in shaping our future. Following the work of political scientist Timothy Luke (1999), I suggest that our need to be productive in a society that celebrates capitalism, our work location/situation within an ever-growing, unapologetic corporatist university system, and our inability – and even unwillingness – to work collectively as academic

guilds to intervene in important political matters, had led us to our current situation and will continue to direct our future.

So, in the coming years we can look forward to greater pressure to play the publications game; i.e., to publish articles in prestigious journals that few academics read or find interesting and that have no appeal or significance for the general public. We will continue to feel pressure to specialize and define ourselves within exclusionary disciplinary and sub-disciplinary boundaries (see Allardt 1999, Massey 1999). We will face greater pressure to bring in grant money and to work on projects benefiting corporate interests. And we will find our ability to resist these pressures diminished as we allow universities to replace more tenured faculty positions with adjunct faculty, distance learning activities, and even videotaped lectures (see Kyle 2000). Thus, we will find ourselves more constrained in the type of work we do. While this does not bode well for social scientists in general, it may be the death knell for critical sociologists. In effect, we look forward to an academic future in which so-called critical sociologists aid and abet the neo-liberal, corporatist, capitalist regime, or at best, in which we further our own irrelevance.

Working Toward a *Eutopian* Future

The academy continues to be billed as politically biased and partisan by neo-liberal politicians and think tanks, business leaders, and the media. Indeed, I suggest that in the U.S. the "right wing establishment" has successfully sold education, humanities and social science faculty and departments as left-leaning wackos out to undermine American values, whatever those might be.

Rather than shrink from such depictions and attempt to hide ourselves from public scrutiny by engaging in esoteric research bound by antiquated disciplinary boundaries (Wallerstein 1999) or insulate ourselves behind claims of objectivity, we should pull together as a collective to resist the forces of neo-liberal capitalist globalization. We must work to more effectively incorporate the insights of Neo-Marxism, feminisms (see Eichler 1998), critical race theory, queer theory, cultural studies, and critical and postmodern theories into our work.

However, as we do so we must demystify the work we do in order to bridge the gap between ourselves and the communities in which we live. For example, we need to more effectively communicate the insights developed through identity politics and feminisms so that right wing reactionaries are not able to persuasively translate them into political correctness and feminazism. In doing this, we will be better able to develop meaningful ties to communities.

We should acknowledge the political nature of our work, and indeed, we should embrace it. We should effectively highlight the political nature of the academy and of the production of knowledge in general. Moreover, we should use our privileged position to speak to the powers that be. We should engage in overtly political activities such as endorsing particular policies and perhaps even particular candidates.

Clearly, it is not enough for social science educators and practitioners to act upon these recommendations individually – although that is a good start and certainly better than doing nothing. Instead, I suggest that we must work collectively if we are to be effective. Much of the impetus for the ongoing corporatist trend comes from economic and social forces operating at the individual, local, national and global levels – how else could they impact the Academy as they have? Accordingly, the efforts of individual critical sociologists, social scientists, practitioners, departments or even whole universities will not be enough to successfully resist these corporatist pressures. Rather, I contend that only academic and practitioner guilds operating in unison can affect meaningful change in the face of this onslaught. Therefore, I suggest that we have an ethical obligation to work toward this end. Ultimately, in order to avert the dystopian picture I have sketched, I suggest that we should form a political labor union organized horizontally, not vertically, i.e., as a guild, not as an individual school, college or university. In sum, without immediate collective attention, I contend that the dystopian vision that I have outlined is the likely future of critical sociology, and could lead to our extinction.

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Wallerstein, Immanuel. 1999. "Negotiating Disciplinary Boundaries." *Current Sociology* 47(1):1-37.



Department of Sociology Graduate Program
Professor Stanford Gregory, Coordinator of Graduate Studies
E-Mail: sgregory@kent.edu; Telephone: 330-672-4724
www.kent.edu/sociology/gradprog.htm

Programs Offered

The department offers graduate programs leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. The Ph.D. degree is offered jointly with the University of Akron (Ohio) located approximately 8 miles from Kent. The Department of Sociology offers specialties in three areas: 1) the sociology of health and health care; 2) social psychology; and 3) social inequalities.

Admission Requirements

Ph.D. Admission Requirements

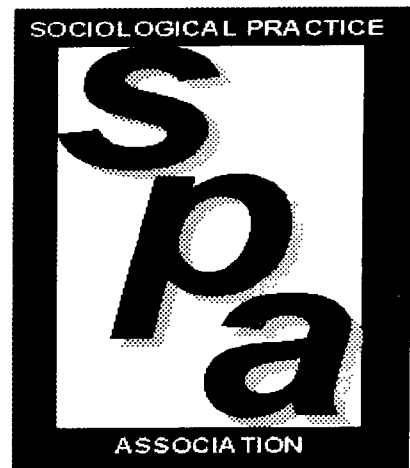
- A COMPLETED M.A. DEGREE OR EQUIVALENT.
- GRE OR MAT SCORES
- THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FROM PROFESSORS
- 1-2 PAGE STATEMENT OF CAREER INTERESTS AND GOALS.

M.A. Admission Requirements

- A GPA OF 3.2 (A=4.0) OR BETTER IS PREFERRED.
- 1-2 PAGE STATEMENT OF CAREER INTERESTS AND GOALS.

THE SOCIOLOGICAL PRACTICE ASSOCIATION

announces its
24th Annual Meeting
at the
WestCoast Anaheim Hotel
Anaheim, California
August 19-20, 2001



Theme: “Using Sociology for Good”

This theme honors the spirit and practice of the recently deceased William Foote Whyte, a “sociologist who never accepted the notion that social science was purely an academic profession.” The conference will provide a forum for practicing sociologists who, like Whyte, care about useful research, action oriented teaching, and real-world intervention.

Featured Speakers

Robert Manning, author of the best selling *Credit Card Nation*

Joe Coates, a leading futurist and materials scientist

Thomas J. Scheff, a revolutionary in the sociology of mental health

Donald Light, noted expert on health systems, will discuss drug pricing

Joint Receptions

SPA/SSSP August 19 and SPA/ASA Soc Practice Session August 20

Proposal Deadline June 15, 2001

(contact Phil Robinette at probinette@vanguard.edu)

Early Meeting Registration Rates Deadline June 15, 2001

(contact Phil Robinette at probinette@vanguard.edu)

Special SPA \$123.00 Hotel Rate Deadline July 15, 2001

Hotel is directly adjacent to Hilton Hotel (ASA site) and a block from new Disney Park.

Call WestCoast Anaheim Hotel at 714-750-1811--- you **must** ask for the SPA rate.

The \$123 rate is for 1-4 occupants so bring your family.

See SPA's website for additional information and to register for the meetings and/or to join SPA:
<http://www.socpractice.org>

Finalists for the 2000 C. Wright Mills Award

C. Wright Mills wrote in *The Power Elite* that: "Only when mind has an autonomous basis, independent of power, but powerfully related to it, can mind exert its force in the shaping of human affairs. This is democratically possible only when there exists a free and knowledgeable public, to which [people] of knowledge may address themselves, and to which [people] of power are truly responsible." Consistent with Mills' dedication to a search for a sophisticated understanding of the individual and society, the award will be given for that book published in 2000 that most effectively:

- critically addresses an issue of contemporary public importance,
- brings to the topic a fresh, imaginative perspective,
- advances social scientific understanding of the topic,
- displays a theoretically informed view and empirical orientation,
- evinces quality in style of writing,
- explicitly or implicitly contains implications for courses of action.

Announcing the

FINALISTS for the 2000 C. WRIGHT MILLS AWARD

Javier Auyero, *Poor People's Politics: Peronist Survival Networks & the Legacy of Evita*, Duke University Press

Edna Bonacich and Richard P. Appelbaum, *Behind the Label: Inequality in the Los Angeles Apparel Industry*, University of California Press

Michele Lamont, *The Dignity of Working Men: Morality and the Boundaries of Race, Class and Immigration*, Harvard University Press

Sylvia Noble Tesh, *Uncertain Hazards: Environmental Activists and Scientific Proof*, Cornell University Press

CONGRATULATIONS to this Year's Finalists!

The C. Wright Mills Award will be presented on Saturday, August 18 at the Awards Banquet

2000 C. WRIGHT MILLS AWARD COMMITTEE

Norma Williams, Chair, University of Texas-Arlington
Rhys H. Williams, Chair-Elect, Southern Illinois University
Gary Alan Fine, Northwestern University
Gene Gallagher, University of Kentucky
Peter M. Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia
Mary Jo Neitz, University of Missouri, Columbia
Mary Romero, Arizona State University

BOOK EXHIBIT RECOMMENDATION FORM

51st ANNUAL MEETING

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS

August 17-19, 2001 * Anaheim, CA

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND FAX IT IMMEDIATELY TO 416-652-9487

The Library of Social Science is organizing the book exhibit once again this year. They are relying on your input to help develop a comprehensive collection of titles representing the "state of the art" in contemporary research on social problems.

AUTHORS: If you wish to have your book(s) displayed at the meeting, complete this form and fax it to (416) 652-9487 or call Mei Ha Chen at 718-393-1075 for further information on how you can arrange to have your books displayed.

Your Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

First Title: _____

Author(s): _____

Publisher: _____ Date of Book: _____

Name & Phone Number of your Contact: _____

Second Title: _____

Author(s): _____

Publisher: _____ Date of Book: _____

Name & Phone Number of your Contact: _____

Third Title: _____

Author(s): _____

Publisher: _____ Date of Book: _____

Name & Phone Number of your Contact: _____

Fourth Title: _____

Author(s): _____

Publisher: _____ Date of Book: _____

Name & Phone Number of your Contact: _____

PLEASE COPY THIS PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES

PLAN TO ATTEND the FILM EXHIBIT
at the SSSP ANNUAL MEETING, SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

The film exhibit is sponsored by California Newsreel and the Media Education Foundation. Information about film rentals and purchase will be available during the conference.

WHAT A GIRL WANTS

Shown: Sunday, August 19 from 9:00am - 9:35am and 4:30pm - 5:05pm

This video looks at popular culture and media imagery through the eyes of adolescent girls and classroom discussions. This video would be a wonderful companion to use in connection with *Killing Us Softly 3*. Plenty of media clips are interspersed with lucid and revealing comments from the girls to provoke an excellent discussion starter. (available from Media Education Foundation)

MICKEY MOUSE MONOPOLY: DISNEY, CHILDHOOD AND CORPORATE POWER

Shown: Sunday, August 19 from 9:45am - 10:40am and 5:15pm - 6:10pm

This daring new video insightfully analyzes Disney's cultural pedagogy, examines its corporate power, and explores its vast influence on our global culture. Including interviews with cultural critics, media scholars, child psychologists, kindergarten teachers, multicultural educators, college students, and children, this film will provoke audiences to confront comfortable assumptions about an American institution that is virtually synonymous with childhood pleasure. (available from Media Education Foundation)

LEGACY

Shown: Sunday, August 19 from 10:50am - 12:20pm

For four generations the Collins family was trapped in urban poverty, depending on welfare and living in one of the oldest and most dangerous public housing projects in America - Chicago's Henry Horner Homes. On the day filming began their son, 14-year-old Terrell Collins, a straight 'A' student and leader in the neighborhood, was shot and killed just before he was to be interviewed. Through powerful and dignified voices of women from three generations of the Collins family, this film follows the inspiring story of how members of one African-American family, over a five-year period recovered from the loss of their child, broke free of welfare, overcame addiction, and escaped the specter of violence in their community. (available from California Newsreel)

BEHIND THE SCREENS: HOLLYWOOD GOES HYPERCOMMERCIAL

Shown: Sunday, August 19 from 12:30pm - 1:10pm

Hollywood has always been a commercial system. However, this video presents compelling evidence to suggest that we have entered an era of 'hypercommercialization.' Tracking the phenomenal rise in product placements, tie-ins with fast-food chains, and mammoth toy merchandising deals, six interviewees - four leading scholars and an Oscar-nominated screenwriter - argue that mainstream, big-budget movies have become largely a vehicle for advertising and marketing. *Behind the Screens* argues that the new media giants aim to turn our cultural environment into an 'echo chamber' for

their latest film releases, and that the imperative to foreground well-known products compromises our common reservoir of values and stories as it becomes increasingly colonized by the clutter of commercial messages. (available from Media Education Foundation)

NUYORICAN DREAM

Shown: Sunday, August 19 from 1:20pm - 2:45pm

Nuyorican Dream follows five years in the life of a New York Puerto Rican family struggling against poverty, drug addiction, and incarceration - the flip side of the American Dream. Eldest of five children, Robert Torres is the only family member to finish high school and graduate from college. He works as a teacher and administrator at a bilingual alternative school he co-founded. Throughout the documentary, he offers blunt observations and statistics about the legacy of colonialism, inadequate inner-city educational systems and discrimination.

Robert, who is also gay, presents an example of how a professional with his background can "give back" to his community as well as the personal contradictions he lives with as a member of two worlds. The rest of Robert's family is still crammed into his weary mother's Brooklyn flat, where she tries valiantly to raise her children's children on welfare. *Nuyorican Dream* celebrates elements of community life-solidarity, sharing of resources, cultural citizenship - which make day-to-day survival possible. The film is a testimony of the central role played by Puerto Rican women in maintaining family and cultural roles. (available from California Newsreel)

GAME OVER: GENDER, RACE & VIOLENCE IN VIDEO GAMES

Shown: Sunday, August 19 from 3:00pm - 3:35pm

Game Over is the first educational documentary to address the fastest growing segment of the media through engaging questions of gender, race and violence: What are the messages of video games? Are video games desensitizing children to violence? What images of masculinity and power are offered? Are video games teaching children how to kill? This video offers a refreshing dialogue about the complex and controversial topic of video game violence, and is designed to encourage high school and college students to think critically about the video games they play. (available from Media Education Foundation)

KILLING US SOFTLY III: ADVERTISING'S IMAGE OF WOMEN

Shown: Sunday, August 19 from 3:45pm - 4:20pm

Jean Kilbourne's pioneering work helped develop and popularize the study of gender representation in advertising. Her award-winning films *Killing Us Softly* and *Still Killing Us Softly* have influenced millions of college and high school students across two generations and on an international scale. In this important new film, Kilbourne reviews if and how the image of women in advertising has changed over the last 20 years. With wit and warmth, Kilbourne uses over 160 ads and commercials to critique advertising's image of women. By fostering creative and productive dialogue, she invites viewers to look at familiar images in a new way, that moves and empowers them to take action. (available from Media Education Foundation)

M.A. PROGRAM PRODUCES CHANGE AGENTS

The graduate program in Community Psychology and Social Change at Penn State Harrisburg is a nontraditional interdisciplinary program that emphasizes planned social change. The program equips students with critical thinking and practical skills useful in working with grassroots, non-profit and government organizations to implement progressive social change. Students learn to approach problems from a critical and integrated point of view and work cooperatively with community individuals and agencies toward practical solutions.

For more information, visit our website at <http://www.hbg.psu.edu/hbg/programs/CPSCgradprog.htm>, or phone Stephen Couch (Program Coordinator - 717-948-6036) or Kathy Ritter (Staff Assistant - 717-948-6034).

EDITOR REQUESTS LETTERS

Beginning with the Fall 2001 issue, I would like to reinstitute a "Letter to the Editor" column in the SSSP Newsletter. The letters can speak to any matter that may be of interest to SSSP members, ranging from letters on SSSP business matters, reactions to Newsletter articles, and ideas to improve the Society, to short reflections on social problems and possible solutions. The goal is to increase dialogue among us on matters of common interest.

Please send letters to me by email (src@psu.edu) or to:

Stephen Couch, Editor
SSSP Newsletter
Center for Environment and Community
The Pennsylvania State University
200 University Drive
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Also, I am still looking for substantive articles on relevant topics, and for book reviews. Please send ideas for either to me at the above addresses.

AIDS FUNDRAISER AND ART SILENT AUCTION

Good News, for Those Who Love the Blues!

SSSP has arranged for the Butler Street Blues Band to play at our AIDS Fundraiser on Friday, August 17 from 9:00pm - 10:30pm in Anaheim, CA. The band includes SSSP member Henry Pontell. Graduate students will receive a complimentary ticket with their name badge. All others will pay a \$10 cover. A limited cash bar will be available.

We are also finalizing plans for an auction of prominent SSSP members' art work, again with all proceeds going to AIDS research and treatment.

You don't want to miss the fun. Make your reservation when you pre-register for the 51st Annual Meeting.

Meetings

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIVE ON THE EAST
COAST TO COME TO THE EASTERN
SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2002 ANNUAL
MEETING**

Theme: THE SOCIOLOGICAL FUTURE IS NOW!

Place: Boston Marriott Copley Place Hotel, Boston, MA
Time: March 7-10, 2002

What is the sociological analysis and critique of mapping the human genome, gay marriage, transgenering, multiculturalism, the myriad forms of communication technology, globalization, today's politics and economics? Where is contemporary society going and where could it go? Are we modern, post-modern, or in transition in our thinking about social arrangements? What are some sociological "blue-sky" alternatives to our current institutions and practices, not just utopias (and dystopias) that hinge on new technologies or new biologies, but new social structures and social relationships that incorporate bodies and objects, that cross categorical borders and erase status boundaries? What are the current debates and research on these issues?

Please submit your abstracts for papers and your proposals for sessions, forums, and workshops on these or any other subjects.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEETING AND A LINK TO ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.essnet.org/annualmeeting.htm> or call Mary Pat Baumgartner, Executive Officer, 973-377-8736 (fax: 973-720-3522) for submission information and forms.

If you have a book published in the three years before March 2002, please nominate it for the Mirra Komarovsky Book Award. Encourage your graduate students to apply for the Rose Laub Coser Dissertation Proposal Award or the Candace Rogers Student Paper Award.

FOR SUBMISSION INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.essnet.org/awardinfo.htm>

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR SENT ELECTRONICALLY BY OCTOBER 15, 2001

NATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

Teaching and Research in the 21st Century

August 5-8, 2001

The National Social Science Association is now accepting proposals for the August 5-8, 2001 Summer Seminar to be held in San Diego, California. Technology sessions, papers, workshops and discussions in all social science disciplines will be featured.

NSSA Fall Development Conference
October 17-19, 2001

The 2001 NSSA Fall Professional Development Conference will be held October 17-19, 2001 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The theme will be The Social Sciences in the Electronic Age in the 21st Century. This conference will meet the professional requirements for many colleges and universities. A certificate of completion will be given to all participants and attendees.

Please send via mail, fax, or email your proposal along with a 25 word abstract to NSSA, 2020 Hills Lake Drive., El Cajon CA 92020-1018. Phone (619) 448-4709 FAX (619) 448-4709 Email natsscsci@aol.com

THE HAWAI'I SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

The Hawai'i Sociological Association will hold its Annual Meeting on February 16, 2002 in Honolulu, Hawai'i. The theme for the Annual Meeting is:

**EDUCATION MATTERS?: Diversity Issues in Social
Reproduction in the 21st Century.**

Both thematic and non-thematic sessions are being planned. We encourage members of the academic and applied/practitioner communities to participate.

Please submit abstracts of papers, proposals of panels or Workshops by August 31, 2001 to:

Joyce Chinen
Division of Social Sciences
University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu
96-129 Ala Ike
Pearl City, HI 96782
Phone 808-454-4720
Fax 808-453-6171

For additional information, contact Joyce Chinen at chinen@hawaii.edu

DISCOUNT TICKETS FOR DISNEYLAND

Even for adults, a trip to Anaheim would be incomplete without a visit to its most famous attraction, Disneyland. With the recent addition of a new California-themed park and the "Downtown Disney" district, "The Happiest Place on Earth" is more popular than ever. Enjoy the rides, shows, parades, and sights at Disneyland for a discount group rate. Adult discounted tickets, ordered through SSSP, are \$38.70 for a full day pass; children's discounted tickets are \$29.70. Services are available within the park for guests with special needs. Afterwards, check out the restaurants, shopping, and entertainment at Downtown Disney, including the House of Blues, the Jazz Kitchen, and ESPN Zone. Please email Michele before July 31 if you are interested in discounted tickets, mkoontz3@utk.edu. Note, a total of fifteen tickets must be purchased in order for SSSP to receive the discounted rate.

SOCIAL CHOICE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE: CAMPAIGN FOR A NEW TIAA-CREF

If you support our goals, even if you are not a TIAA-CREF participant, your help is needed in the below effort.

TELL TIAA-CREF, THE PENSION FUND FOR COLLEGE FACULTY, THAT YOU SUPPORT "POSITIVE INVESTING" FOR THE SOCIAL CHOICE ACCOUNT! EMAIL (WWW.TIAA-CREF.ORG, then click "Contact TIAA-CREF", then "General Information"); PHONE (800) 842-2733, ext. 4280 and talk to CEO John Biggs' secretary; OR WRITE 730 THIRD AVE., NY, NY 10017-3206.

To circulate a petition, contact the campaign at the address below.

Despite the fact that over 80 percent of TIAA-CREF's Social Choice Account participants favor "seeking out for investment companies [that] have an outstanding record of good performance on social issues, rather than rely on negative screens," the company has refused to do just that. This was revealed in a survey conducted by TIAA-CREF--the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association-College Retirement Equities Fund--which also found that only 3 percent oppose this investment strategy. Because of TIAA-CREF's non-responsiveness, the campaign has been featured in numerous media stories, including write-ups in the Wall Street Journal, Worth Magazine, L.A Times, and various newspapers which picked up the AP story on the effort. The effort has been endorsed by many academic and advocacy groups, such as The National Women's Studies Association and United for A Fair Economy. In response to TIAA-CREF's resistance, college faculty launched a nationwide campaign to persuade the group to begin "positive investing" of their pension funds. We are calling for 5-10% of assets in the Social Choice Account, a socially responsible fund, to be invested in companies and other financial institutions (e.g., community development corporations) that are models of social and environmental responsibility. This would mean \$200-400 million invested in companies or financial institutions with, for instance, exemplary relations with employees or local communities. Some socially responsible funds already do such investing. TIAA-CREF is the nation's largest private pension system. In 1989, we successfully lobbied the group for the creation of the Social Choice Account, which screens out companies that do business in tobacco, alcohol, nuclear energy or weapons, or the military; pollute the environment; or operate in Northern Ireland without endorsing the McBride Principles against religious discrimination in employment. It is now the second largest socially responsible account in the country. For a brochure and other campaign materials, contact Social Choice for Social Change: Campaign for a New TIAA-CREF, MC Box 135, Manchester College, 604 E. College Ave., North Manchester, IN 46962, (219)982-5346/5009, or e-mail NJWollman@Manchester.edu or AAF Fuller@Manchester.edu. We will add you to our mailing list for occasional updates. Visit the web site at <http://ARES.manchester.edu/department/PeaceStudies/njw/disclaim.html>. If you do contact TIAA-CREF or take other actions, please let us know so we can monitor campaign activities.

Thank you.



Support Scholarship in the Pursuit of Social Justice

The Society for the Study of Social Problems

● Anaheim, California
August 17–19, 2001

Travel Discounts

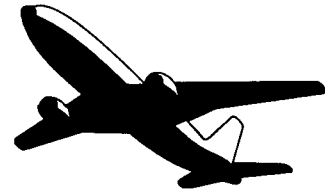
ATC MEETING PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- AIRLINE DISCOUNTS up to 15% off the lowest available fares*
- CAR DISCOUNTS: special convention rates—ask your agent
- ZONE FARES region-to-region flat rates
- CONSOLIDATOR AND NET FARES reducing the cost of high price tickets
- TRIP MANAGER: on-line reservation system
- POWER PRICING: computer software search for the best fare on all airlines
- RESFAX: fax back service with 36 options and prices for your requested travel times



ATC EXTRAS:

- Advanced seat assignments
- Website that includes on-line reservations, maps, city and travel links
- Special meal requests
- Frequent flyer mileage updates
- Personal Profiles for repeat and TRIP MANAGER customers



● United 800-521-4041 598QX
Alamo 800-732-3232 72620GR

IF YOU NEED TO BOOK DIRECTLY, UTILIZE THE CODES LISTED ABOVE TO CREDIT SSSP.

Discounts apply: 8/13/01–8/22/01



● ASSOCIATION TRAVEL CONCEPTS

Phone 800 458 9383
Fax 858 581 3988
Email reservations@asntravel.com



* Tickets purchased at least 60 days prior to departure receive 10% off coach and 15% off first class. Tickets purchased less than 60 days prior to departure receive 5% off coach and 10% off first class.

● NEW WEBSITE www.asntravel.com

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

the RECEPTION HONORING OUR PAST PRESIDENTS

and the

AWARDS BANQUET

at the

West Coast Anaheim Hotel

1855 South Harbor Boulevard

Saturday, August 18

RECEPTION – 7:00PM - 7:45PM

BANQUET – 8:00PM - 10:00PM

AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED

C. Wright Mills Award--For a distinguished book that exemplifies outstanding social science research and an understanding of the individual and society in the tradition of C. Wright Mills.

Lee-Founders Award--For recognition of significant achievements that have demonstrated continuing devotion to the ideals of the founders of this society and especially to the humanistic tradition of the Lees.

Minority Graduate Scholarship--This scholarship is given annually for support of graduate study and commitment to a career of scholar-activism.

SSSP Division Awards--Winners of various student paper competitions and other division awards will be announced.

Join us for a catered reception with a cash bar honoring our Past Presidents. The reception is *complimentary* to all SSSP members and will be hosted outside the Tiffany Terrace.

The Awards Banquet will be held in the Tiffany Terrace. The Playa del Rey Banquet will be served buffet style. It will feature: Fresh Fruit Bowl, Southwestern Style Garden Salad, Jicama and Apple Salad, Bean and Fennel Salad, Entrees: Beef and Chicken Fajita Bar, Pork Burritos Verde, Cheese Enchiladas, Black Beans, Spanish Rice, Sautéed Peppers and Onions, Sour Cream, Guacamole, sliced Black Olives, diced Tomatoes, shredded Cheddar Cheese, Flour Tortillas, Blue Corn Chips, Salsa and Jalapeno Rolls, assorted Desserts to include: Flan, Kahlua and Sopapilla. A cash bar will be available. Come celebrate with your friends and colleagues and enjoy the evening!

The Reception Honoring our Past Presidents is *COMPLIMENTARY* to all SSSP Members.

The cost of a banquet ticket is \$40 per person.

**A limited number of banquet tickets will be sold in the registration area.
Those with advance reservations will receive their ticket(s) with their registration materials.**



2001 SSSP Annual Meeting Registration Form

Last Name: _____ First/Middle Name: _____

Work Affiliation(s) for badge: _____

Preferred Mailing Address: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ Email: _____

*MEETING REGISTRATION (in US DOLLARS):	<u>June 16-July 15</u>	<u>On-Site</u>
SSSP/SPA Member Registration Including Banquet	\$125	\$140
SSSP/SPA Member Registration Only	\$85	\$100
SSSP/SPA Student/Unemployed Member Registration Including Banquet	\$70	\$80
SSSP/SPA Student/Unemployed Member Registration Only	\$30	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member Registration (for non-exempt presenters who do not wish to become members)	\$125	\$125
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member Student Registration (for non-exempt student presenters who do not wish to become members)	\$70	\$70

Students must provide a photocopy of their current student ID.

SPOUSE/GUEST REGISTRATION: One spouse/guest registration is permitted with each full category above. Spouse/guest registration provides a name badge only (name only, no affiliation). Any spouse/guest who wants full access to SSSP sessions or special events and a program packet must register individually and pay the full registration fee and membership dues.

Spouse/Guest (name badge only)	\$10	\$10
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Spouse/Guest Badge: _____
Last Name First Name

SUBTOTAL _____

ADDITIONAL BANQUET TICKETS: Saturday, August 18, 8:00PM - 10:00PM, tickets \$40 each _____

SPECIAL EVENT:
AIDS FUNDRAISER and ART SILENT AUCTION, Friday, August 17, 9:00PM - 10:30PM, tickets \$10 each _____
Students will receive a complimentary ticket.

SUBTOTAL _____

***MEMBERSHIP DUES:** You must be a current member to attend the Annual Meeting. If you are already a 2001 member, skip this section.

___ Life Members, Emeriti, before 1989	\$0	___ \$25,000-\$34,999	\$65
___ "New" Emeriti, beginning in 1989	\$35	___ \$35,000-\$44,999	\$75
___ Students	\$20	___ \$45,000-\$54,999	\$90
___ Unemployed	\$20	___ \$55,000-\$64,999	\$105
___ First Year Employment after Ph.D.	\$35	___ \$65,000-\$74,999	\$120
___ First Time Professional Member	\$35	___ \$75,000 & up	\$135
___ \$24,999 and under	\$50	___ Life Membership	\$1,200

SUBTOTAL _____

GRAND TOTAL _____

Make check or money order payable, in US DOLLARS to SSSP or provide credit card authorization below.

Credit Card Type: Mastercard Visa

Credit Card Number Exp. Date Signature (Mandatory)

Office Use Only: Date _____ Initials _____ Authorization #: _____

DEADLINE: Preregistration ends on July 15. Any forms received after July 15 will be processed at the on-site rate.

REFUND POLICY: Registration fees will be refunded to persons who notify us prior to July 1. Once the final program is printed and participant packets have been prepared, the cost of processing the participant has occurred!

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES: Registrants with disabilities may request accessibility services to ensure their full participation. Please identify the service(s) below that will be of assistance to you. Only advanced requests will be granted. The Administrative Officer will confirm service arrangements 3-4 weeks before the meeting.

- Sign language interpreter for program sessions/committee meetings
- Sighted Guide
- Reservation Oversight: After you have made your hotel reservation, the Administrative Officer will verify that your request for accessible accommodations will be honored.
- Other (please specify): _____

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:

By Mail:
SSSP
University of Tennessee
906 McClung Tower
Knoxville, TN 37996-0490

By Fax:
(865) 974-7013
Credit Card Payments Only
Fill out registration form and credit card information and fax to the above number.
Do NOT mail a duplicate copy.

Online:
<http://www.it.utk.edu/sssp>
Credit Card Payments Only

GENERAL INQUIRIES SHOULD BE SENT TO:

Michele Smith Koontz, Administrative Officer
SSSP, University of Tennessee
906 McClung Tower
Knoxville, TN 37996-0490
Work: (865) 974-3620; Fax: (865) 974-7013
Email: mkoontz3@utk.edu; <http://www.it.utk.edu/sssp>

SSSP FEDERAL ID TAX #: 35-126-3022

***Requests for exemption from meeting registration and membership dues must be approved by: Lionel Maldonado, Program Chair and/or John Galliher, President (lmaldon2@exchange.calstatela.edu and galliherj@missouri.edu).**



**WESTCOAST
ANAHEIM HOTEL**

Thank you for requesting reservations at the WESTCOAST ANAHEIM HOTEL.
Our entire staff would like to extend a warm welcome to you during your upcoming event.

GROUP: SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS
DATE: AUGUST 13 – 22, 2001

With Every Room:

Complimentary use of fitness center and swimming pool, desk phone with voice mail, complimentary coffee maker, hair dryer, iron and ironing board.

Cut-off Date:

Reservations must be received or called in by July 25, 2001 to guarantee your negotiated group rate. Reservations received after that date or if the room block is filled prior to that date, are subject to availability and rate increase.

Please complete the information below to reserve your accommodations:

Name:	Affiliation:
Address:	Arrival Date:
City/State/Zip:	Arrival Time:
Phone:	Number of Nights:
Sharing Room with:	(Check-in time is 4:00pm. Check-out time is noon)
Special Requests:	
Signature:	

Smoking Non-Smoking

Accommodations: (Please circle preferred rate below)	Rate:
Single	\$123.00
Double (request 1 bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2 beds <input type="checkbox"/>)	\$123.00
Triple/Quad	\$123.00

Rates are subject to prevailing city bed tax and assessments, currently at 15.7%.

Payment Method:

A deposit for the first night's room and tax is required to confirm your reservation. You may use your American Express, VISA, MC, Discover, En Route or Diners Club credit card to guarantee your reservation.
Card # _____ Signature _____
Expiration Date _____ (Refundable if reservation is canceled 72 hours prior to arrival)
If paying by check, please make your check payable to the WestCoast Anaheim Hotel.
Total enclosed including 15.7% tax. _____

Please Note: Deposit is refundable only if Hotel is notified 72 hours prior to arrival. A cancellation number must be issued by the Hotel for refund or release of guarantee. An early departure fee of \$50 will be charged to any guest checking out prior to stated departure date. Departure date may be changed at check-in without resulting in a fee.

To make reservation by phone, please call (714) 750-1811 or fax to (714) 971-2485

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Editor:
Stephen R. Couch
Center for Environment and Community
The Pennsylvania State University
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Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

