

Society for the Study of Social Problems
Editorial and Publications Committee Report

Shirley A. Jackson, Chair, 2019-2020

July 15, 2020

The annual meeting of the Editorial & Publications Committee was called to order at 10:12am (PST) on July 7, 2020

Attendees:

Loretta Bass, Nora Barry (OUP), Heather Dillaway, David Embrick, Louis Esparza (new member), Trenton Haltom (*Social Problems* Committee on Social Media), Shirley A. Jackson (Chair), Valerie Leiter, Annulla Linders (Co-Editor), Dan Poindexter (OUP), Jean-Pierre Reed (new member), Alexandra Reinhart (OUP), Rogelio Saenz (Chair), A. Javier Treviño, Mireille Yanow (OUP)

New members are Louis Esparza and Jean-Pierre Reed. Outgoing members are Loretta Bass and Valerie Leiter.

Summary of 2019-2020 E&P Committee Activities

During 2019-2020, the Committee was engaged in five activities:

1. The Committee reviewed the 2020 Marketing Plan for *Social Problems*.
2. The Committee reviewed and approved the recommended change to Exclusive Licensing for all authors publishing in *Social Problems*.
3. The Committee approved the request of the Justice 21 Committee to publish an expedited Agenda for Social Justice volume on Covid-19. It will be published by Policy Press.
4. The Committee received no applications for editor of *Social Problems*. The current editors volunteered to continue with the addition of Derrick Brooms. The Committee voted to recommend extension of their term for 2021-2024 to the Board.
5. The Committee received the annual evaluation of the editors of *Social Problems*.
6. The Committee Chair met with the chair of the Justice 21 Committee to discuss moving it from ad hoc to permanent status and the process for selecting the editor of *Agenda for Social Justice*, the publication of the Justice 21 Committee.
7. The Committee completed the task requested by the Board of clarifying proposal components for new journals and their funding.

Report from Annulla Linders and Earl Wright II, *Social Problems* Co-Editors

The Committee received the report from Co-Editor (Annulla Linders). (The full written report is included at the end of this Editorial & Publications Committee report.)

The report included elements of the Evaluation of the Editor of *Social Problems* per the bylaws at the request of the Editorial & Publications Committee Chair. Anna reported on the numbers of submissions received and the decrease in the response time for publication decisions. When the current editors began their roles, the turnaround time averaged six months but they are working to reduce this to three months. This has been possible due to the more simplified procedure they have implemented. The average time for reviews is five weeks where it once was more than six weeks. Reminders are sent to reviewers before the review deadline. Questions are provided to reviewers to help them with their review. A small page increase from OUP will allow approximately five additional articles to be published each year.

SSSP has reconfigured the budget to pay for another graduate student to assist with the journal. They are doing away with the associate editor stipend in order to pay for a graduate student. The student advisory board helps to select reviewers for manuscripts. The 20 graduate students serving in this capacity are each paid \$200/year.

A special issue on DuBois is being published in 2021 with a potential second issue that Derrick will co-edit. The call for papers for the latter has not yet been publicized but it is possible it will be inspired by the recent protests.

Report from Mireille Yanow, Dan Poindexter, Nora Barry, and Alexandra Reinhart of Oxford University Press

The Committee received the report from the team from Oxford University Press. (The July 2020 Publishers report is included at the end of this Editorial & Publications Committee report.)

A PowerPoint discussion focused on several areas. The team reported on the impact factor of *Social Problems* and readership globally. An overview of the articles that were reviewed most often over the last 12 months, the publication date, and the number of views was provided. Altmetric scores of the top 10 articles and impact factors showed which received the most attention. The timeliness of the publication schedule shows that overall, they have been on time with one instance each of being early or more than 5 days late.

Dan, who is the temporary replacement for Brittany Hobson who has left OUP, discussed the marketing report and the highly cited articles campaign. The Authors' Attic page has done a great job in increasing the number of articles cited. They are seeing an increase on the landing page where these videos are displayed. He discussed email alerting services and the increase in advance access alerts. These have seen a significant increase, particularly the new issue alerts.

Their two marketing objectives are to drive readership and maintain a global profile.

Although they are not optimistic about subscriptions for 2020. This is noted on page 9 of their report).

Mireille discussed the email from Alison Denby that was sent to the Board of Directors discussing the impact of Covid-19 on publications. She clarified that because revenue is collected in advance, there has been minimal impact. There has been some delay in collection in Q1. However, collections in Q2 are ahead so OUP is still on budget. It was noted that budget cuts from libraries will impact OUP revenues.

Report from Social Media Committee

The Committee received the report from Trenton Haltom, the Committee chair.

Trenton discussed his work which includes alerting people after conferences about their work and including it on social media. The Social Media Committee has engaged in quarterly campaigns that include virtual issues, Authors' Attic, and high-impact articles where they also tag the authors and their institutions or colleges when possible. These fulfilled some of the recommendations made last year.

There are an additional 927 new followers on Twitter since last year bringing the total to 8959. Facebook has 929 followers with a total of 8497. There has been increased international traffic. YouTube videos have had 590 views. They have only had two new Authors' Attic videos this year. These are digital abstracts with a 5 to 7-minute description of the work. There have been 28,080 views of these.

The newest virtual issue was released last week. A new Authors' Attic video is forthcoming. Guns and Gun culture will be the focus in the fall.

They have been working on updating section databases each year so they may have more authors who are eligible for awards but this is a rather daunting task.

Old Business

The Division Chairpersons requested clarification on new journals at the August 11, 2019 Board of Directors meeting:

ACTION: The Board tasked the Editorial and Publications Committee to clarify the following section in the Roles and Responsibilities of the Division Chairpersons with a special focus on proposal components and clarity on how a new journal would/could be funded: 'New journals can be established by divisions. Proposals for new journals must be approved by the Editorial and Publications Committee and the Board of Directors.'

The committee approved the following response:

Any division proposing a new journal must provide the Editorial & Publications Committee with a proposal outlining how it plans to fund the journal. Proposals must

include how it would be funded (i.e., subscription fees, institutional support), including production, publication format, and dissemination costs, potential publisher, office location, and staffing).

New Business

The committee received a request from Glenn Muschert for a second expedited publication of *Agenda for Social Justice* with a focus on Covid-19 with a global perspective. The committee unanimously approved the request.

It was brought to the chair's attention by a member of Justice 21 that she needs to select the editor for *Agenda for Social Justice* for 2024. The committee publishes this work every two years. ***The decision of the chair is that as in years past, the editors for 2024 will be the members of the Justice 21 committee, unless they opt out.***

Shirley spoke with Glenn Muschert, co-editor of *Agenda for Social Justice* on July 15, 2020 to discuss the following items for the Editorial & Publications Committee for the **2020-2021** year:

- **How E&P can help to highlight the Social Justice 21 committee among the membership and *Agenda for Social Justice*?**
 - **Rationale:** Doing so has the potential to increase interest in not only serving on the committee but also submitting pieces from varied ranks (new and seasoned members of SSSP). The Social Media Committee, for instance, might be able to do something on the publication and perhaps highlighting it as the committee primary activity.
- **Include the editors of *Agenda for Social Justice* in the Editorial & Publications committee meetings.**
 - **Rationale:** Currently, the editors of *Social Problems*, the Social Media Committee, and representatives from Oxford University Press all give reports when the E&P meets. It makes sense to include the editors of Justice 21 committee's *Agenda for Social Justice*.
- **Clear processes should be in place for the naming of the editor(s) of the *Agenda*.**
 - **Rationale:** At present, no process for selection exists due to the year(s) when the *Agenda* is published and when members of the E&P committee rotate off. This should be remedied through the institutionalization of a defined process developed by Justice 21 and shared with the Editorial & Publications committee.
- **Justice 21 began as an ad-hoc committee 20 years ago.**
 - **Rationale:** After 20 years of existence and with a regular publication, Justice 21 cannot reasonably be considered ad-hoc. As a permanent committee with a publication, this might be an avenue to increase membership on the committee and in marketing its publication. The committee's work is also a possible source of revenue.

The chair has forwarded the above items to the chair of Justice 21, Glenn Muschert, for consideration and hopefully his and the editors' future participation in the E & P meeting next year.

Election of New E & P Committee Chair

The Committee discussed selection of the new Chair of the Editorial and Publications Committee for 2020-2021. David Embrick made the motion that "Javier Trevino become the new Chair of the Editorial and Publications Committee." Loretta Bass seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted in favor the motion.

Shirley will be resigning from the committee to take an elected position to the SSSP Board of Directors. Paul Joosse will be replacing Shirley on the committee.

The meeting was adjourned as 12:00pm (PST).

June 25, 2020

Report by the Editors of Social Problems (Annulla Linders and Earl Wright II) to the SSSP Editorial and Publications Committee (E&P).

Introduction:

According to the charge, this report focuses on “what sorts of challenges are being faced by the Editor, how the committee can help deal with these challenges, and what improvements or changes are needed to continue to move the journal forward.”

In what follows we first address the state of the journal and then the state of the journal office.

The State of the journal:

Here we just briefly summarize some of the most important findings that will be presented more fully in our annual report to be delivered to the SSSP Board of Trustees on July 15, 2020.

Submissions

The number of new manuscript submissions fluctuates over time, but are currently on an upward trajectory.

Table 1: Total submissions by year.

	New Submissions	Revised Submissions	Total Submissions
2009	307	40	347
2010	287	70	357
2011	262	58	320
2012	329	113	442
2013	327	101	428
2014	323	63	386
2015	375	114	489
2016	335	155	490
2017	295	43	338
2018*	291	58	349
2019*	374	142	516
2020**	177	47	223

*Data for 2018 (2 papers) and 2019 (30 papers) include papers submitted for a special issue

**Data for 2020 capture the period from January 1st to June 25th.

Decisions

The distribution of decisions obviously fluctuates a bit from year to year, but our aim is to stabilize decisions in such a way that we more closely align the number of papers we accept with space in the journal. We have recently asked for and been granted a somewhat larger page budget which will make it possible for us to publish about between 35 and 40 papers a year (about 5 more papers than before).

Table 2: Final disposition of original manuscripts, by year.¹

	MS without Decisions²	Deflect	Reject	Accept	Total
2009	8	139 (45%)	131 (43%)	29 (9.4%)	307
2010	10	53 (53%)	102 (36%)	22 (7.7%)	287
2011	3	101 (38%)	125 (48%)	33 (12.6%)	262
2012	1	88 (27%)	211 (64%)	29 (8.8%)	329
2013	3	105 (32%)	203 (62%)	17 (5.2%)	327
2014	7	93 (29%)	180 (56%)	43 (13.3%)	323
2015	8	80 (21%)	232 (62%)	55 (15%)	375
2016	2	120 (36%)	197 (59%)	18 (5%)	335
2017³	0	120 (41%)	150 (51%)	25 (8%)	295
2018⁴	1	110 (38%)	111 (38%)	69 (24%) ⁶	291
2019⁴	32	124 (33%)	206 (46%)	38 (10%)	374 ⁷
2020⁵	103	43	31		177 ⁷

¹Counts all MS decisions by year they were originally submitted, regardless of year a final decision was made on the manuscript.

²Manuscripts without a decision include MS that are still under review, that received Revise & Resubmit decisions but were never resubmitted, that were unsubmitted and never resubmitted, or MS that did not complete the review process for other reasons.

³In 2017, *Social Problems* published an additional 7 papers as a special issue based on a 2016 ASA Plenary Panel organized by Aldon Morris. These papers were not processed in Manuscript Central.

⁴Total number of manuscripts for these years include 32 papers submitted for a special issue (2 in 2018 and 30 in 2019),

⁵2020 includes MS submitted between January 1, 2020 through June 25, 2020.

⁶The spike in the number of accepted manuscripts in 2018 is linked in various ways to the transition of editors.

⁷Data for these years are preliminary as some of the manuscripts are still in process or under review.

The Review Process

Since taking over the journal in mid-2018, we have worked on shortening the time from submission to decision. Our aim is for an average of about 3 months, which we are inching towards.

Table 3: Average time from original submission to first decision* (in days): 2015-2020

	Deflect	Reject	Revise & Resubmit
2015	29 days	164 days	168 days
2016	43 days	160 days	164 days
2017	51 days	185 days	183 days
2018	36 days	137 days	141 days
2019	28 days	121 days	127 days
2020**	20 days	107 days	112 days

*Practically no manuscripts are accepted in the first round (except the Presidential Address). Hence accept decisions are not included here.

**Data for 2020 cover the period from January 1st to June 25th and are, of course, preliminary.

The State of the Journal Office:

This section is organized around the questions we have been asked to address.

1. How do the Editors feel the Editorial Office is functioning?

It is functioning very well. We have 3 advanced University of Cincinnati PhD student graduate assistants (one managing editor, and two editorial assistants) who have been with us from the start two years ago, and who help us manage everything about the journal except making decisions. The managing editor (Shaonta Allen) manages the official email account of the journal, processes all decisions, and is the go-between between our production editor and OUP. The two editorial assistants (Marcus Brooks and Kyle Shupe) process all manuscript, manage the review process, keep authors informed, keep records, work with the student advisory board, and help us prepare reports.

We also have a Social Media committee, excellently chaired by Trenton Haltom (University of Nebraska), that manages social media, promotion campaigns, recommends papers for awards, and is in charge of the Author Attic productions (Trenton manages all contacts with authors and edits the videos; he has also worked with OUP to streamline and standardize the visual representation of the videos).

We have team meetings every month to discuss current issues (including which papers to promote, which virtual issues to adopt, and which authors to invite for Author Attic videos). Our system is by now quite efficient (with only the very occasional glitch).

2. Do the Editors have the needed resources to carry out the journal's activities?

The short answer is "yes." We have enough people working for us and we have sufficient space and technology for everyone to do their work. The first two years we have relied on a program run by the Graduate School to fund one of our graduate assistants (one is funded by the journal and another one by the department). This support is now dwindling. It will not affect us this coming academic year (2020-21), as the department has enough resources to make up the difference. But given the announced reductions in overall graduate funding associated with COVID-19, we have already proposed to SSSP that the journal pick up the cost of a second graduate assistant for the next contract period (2021-24). [also see below]

3. Have the Editors implemented additional strategies to improve the visibility of the journal?

In addition to the various social media strategies that Trenton and his team are responsible for, we are in the process of publishing a special issue (co-edited by Earl Wright II and Aldon Morris) on contemporary uses of the sociology of W.E.B. DuBois. This is a timely topic that we think will get attention. We also try to think very strategically when we select authors for the Author Attic program and topics for the virtual issues.

3a. If so, elaborate and indicate if that is going well or not?

How do we know if things are working? There are a few different ways to think about this. First, submissions signal the attractiveness of the journal to authors – since submissions are on the rise, the journal is increasingly attractive. Second, citations to work published in the journal speaks to the impact of work we publish. Last year, we saw a bump in the impact factor, which is great, but that primarily captures work published under the term of our predecessor, Pam Quiroz, so we cannot take credit for that. But we take it as an inspiration for the future (we have learned that, due to COVID-19, this year's Impact factor will be delayed). Third, the more people access our content, the greater is the journal's visibility – this is stuff that OUP keeps track of and it is increasing. Fourth, the journal gains visibility when papers enter the public debate, including via social media, and this is measured by the Altmetric score produced by OUP – this score captures authors' own

efforts to promote their papers on social media, the efforts by Trenton and his team to promote papers on various social media platforms, the inclusion of papers in newspaper reports or other news media outlets, reference to papers in government documents, etc. According to OUP, our scores are very good ☺. Stay tuned for actual numbers in the forthcoming annual reports by OUP and Trenton.

4. What barriers exist to fulfilling the Editors' goals with the journal?

None so far (apart from normal academic overloads of obligations).

5. Looking forward for the coming year, are there any problems on the horizon that could be addressed before they become a problem?

We anticipate that next year (2020-21) will be fine. It is difficult to predict, of course, what the pandemic will do to the publishing business in the long run, but for now, things look like they are on track (and we already received our first COVID-19 paper).

A looming issue that is as of yet unresolved refers to course release for the editors. For the first two years we got away with reimbursing our college \$4,000 per course, one each for the two co-editors, which was funded by SSSP, but next year (2020-21) that will not be enough to ensure a course release. But, since one of us (Wright II) has just moved to another institution (where he can negotiate a course release without the help of SSSP funds), we have enough funds in our budget to cover a course release for Linders. Starting in 2021, however, things may get more difficult. Our college is getting increasingly stingy, now asking for \$10,000 for the release of one course, which is way more than we can afford to pay. Our current projected course release budget remains \$8,000, to be shared by Linders and incoming co-editor Brooms. But we are still hopeful that the issue will get resolved somehow in such a way that both of us (Brooms and Linders) will get a course off, but we will keep you posted.

6. Are the working relationships (with other editors, the host institution, the SSSP Administrative Office, etc.) positive, negative?

All these working relationships are very good. We have strong support from the two most important entities when it comes to our day-to-day work: our department and the SSSP administrative office.

7. What additional ideas does the Editor have for improving the journal and what resources would be needed to implement them?

Minor stuff: We are happy that our recommendation that SSSP eliminate the \$100 publication fee was approved (it was cumbersome for the managing editor and caused some author-grumbings). We are continuously monitoring and revising internal procedures and protocols to enhance efficiency and reduce errors.

More major stuff: We have begun the process of designing another special issue, to be edited by Derrick Brooms, who will also join the editorial team as co-editor in 2021.

Looking ahead: Now that it is settled that we will continue editing the journal for another term (2021-24), we have started to look ahead. One important change refers to graduate funding – given the state of university resources (and reduced budgets for everything) we are hoping that the journal can pick up a second graduate assistant funding lines (to make that possible we have proposed to eliminate stipends for the associate editors and some other streamlining of our budget).

Social Problems

Publisher's Report – July 2020

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Executive Summary

Readership and Engagement

Average monthly content engagement for *Social Problems* has grown year on year going back to 2017 by an overall average of approximately 7,000 visits per month. In 2019, the journal saw an average of almost 16,000 monthly visits and a peak of 22,046 visits in October 2019. 2020 is off to a good start and we have an average of over 16,000 monthly visits through May (see Table 1). As a reminder, **content engagement** measures true engagement with the content and notes how long readers are spending on the site reading journal articles. We see high engagement across the Volumes, which exemplifies the ongoing value the journal content offers. This is indicative of the staying power and lasting research impact of *Social Problems* articles. Readership continues to come mostly from North America (almost 60%). However, so far in 2020, the percentage of readers from outside of N. America has grown, especially in Europe and E&SE Asia (by 3.2% and 1.1% respectively) (see Table 2). Most of these readers come directly to the *Social Problems* website to find the content they need. However, referrals from search engines have grown by over 2% from 2019 to 2020. **Referrals** means readers end up on the journal's website based on key-word searches on Google or Google Scholar. There was also marginal growth in readers who came directly from clicking a link on a Tweet or a Facebook post, which shows that the social media effort is starting to pay off (see Table 3). Interestingly, the top four viewed articles in the last 12 months are from Volumes 32 (1985), 53 (2006), 33 (1986), and 18 (1970) (see Table 4).^{*} This shows the relevance and long-life of articles in *Social Problems*.

^{*} Dates in tables are when articles first went online.

Altmetric, Citations, and Impact of Articles

Altmetric Scores (see Table 5) – Altmetric data, which follows the digital spread of articles through social media, online news outlets, and blogs, provides an additional view of how readers engage with journal content beyond usage and citation data. Altmetric tracks and collates online activity by monitoring non-traditional sources searching for references to published research to produce an “Attention Score” for each article. The Altmetric Attention Score is an automatically-calculated, weighted count of all of the attention a research output has received. The top two Altmetric scores for *Social Problems* articles are both in the top 500 articles “of a similar age.” This metric is a comparison against all articles published during the six-week period *before* the online publication date, and during the six-week period *after* the online publication date. The top two articles have done extremely well, both scoring in the top 500 out of more than 275,000 for “Damages Done,” and over 400,000 for “Gun Culture in Action.” Please also see Marketing Report for specific Altmetric tracking we’ve done in the last year.

Impact Factor and Citations (see Tables 6-10^{*}) – Since 2014, *Social Problems* has been on an upward trend with its Impact Factor. The newly-released 2019 Impact Factor numbers indicate that although the journal took a slight dip from 2.789 in 2018 to 2.345, the trajectory is still moving in the right direction. It is important to note that the jump from 2017 to 2019 was extraordinary, and that it is common for social science titles to see fluctuations in the Impact Factor from year to year. The number of articles that are contributing on an annual basis is lower than science and medical titles, so each article’s citations have a larger influence on the Impact Factor and therefore cause greater variation between years. Also worth consideration is the relevance of articles that no longer fall within the two-year citation window. As can be seen from the usage statistics in the previous section, articles that have been published for some time are still highly used and relevant, continuing to see citations well past their first two years of publication. Measures of longevity include the 5-year impact factor (3.324) and CiteScore (4.3). *Social Problems* ranks 29 out of 150 journals in Sociology (IF) and 97 out of 1243 for CiteScore.

Of the 58 citable items from 2018 and 2017, 6 out of the top 10 cited were about race. The top cited article in 2019 was “Producing Colorblindness: Everyday Mechanisms of White Ignorance” by JC Mueller (Volume 64, Issue 2 – 2017).

^{*} Dates in tables are when articles first went online.

Circulation

Circulation for *Social Problems* remained fairly consistent between 2018 and 2020, which is important for an established journal. The quality of the journal's output and the levels of usage data give librarians a reason to continue to maintain their subscriptions to the journal. Although the total number of institutional subscriptions slightly dropped in 2019 (see Table 11), the increase in consortia subs means there is a larger reach of who is reading the journal--any given institution participating in a consortia agreement could have several or many campuses within it, each of which would count as an additional site of access. Consortia agreements are an increasingly important source of readership and revenue as traditional institutional subscriptions decline, but should be viewed in the context of additional points of access and not be considered equivalent to traditional institutional subscriptions in either circulation or revenue. We are expecting traditional subscriptions to drop further next year as a result of the current worldwide pandemic, especially traditional print subscriptions. Our sales team has already flagged to us that many librarians have reached out to us regarding budget cuts as a result of COVID-19.

In 2020, we have not seen any significant change in where subscriptions are coming from, with most agreements coming from institutions or consortia based in North America (see Table 12).

Production

Production remains consistent with papers publishing online within established targets over the last 12 months, with the majority of **mean publication speed** remaining less than 8 weeks. (Q2 of 2020 saw a slight increase, placing speeds above the target of ten weeks, (see Tables 13,14) as a result of the suddenness of the worldwide shutdown due to the pandemic, adjustment to working from home, and some team members contracting COVID. **Mean publication speed** is the time it takes from receipt of accepted manuscript to online publication. Copy flow continues to increase – almost doubling in the last 12 months (see Table 15). Author feedback continues to be positive with responses on quality, speed, service, and communication ranging from 4.0 to 4.6 (out of 5) (see Table 16). Since the start of 2019, one issue published early, 3 issues published on time. The four most recent issues all published on time; the only delayed issue we saw 2019-2020 was issue 66-2 in 2019 (see Table 17), which delayed to publish online by five days due to a data transfer error in publishing the issue. This coding error was remedied after the problem was noted internally, and has not repeated since.

Other production news: in February, we introduced our HTML SmartProofing tool. This online tool gives authors the ability to make any changes directly onto the proof rather than making comments onto a PDF. We expect this tool to improve publication speed, primarily by reducing the need for manual correction transfer after author review. We also expect it to support quality, as there is less scope for misunderstanding when the author makes edits directly in the tool.

Budget and Finances

The 2020 YTD latest estimates are through the end of June. *Social Problems'* subscription revenue is performing slightly under budgeted income. We are now seeing some of the delayed invoice revenue for subscriptions coming in. Because 2020 subscriptions are mostly set at the beginning of the year, this area won't see a huge drop in 2020. For non-subscription income, we've seen a growth in digital archive and secondary rights in Q2, leading to the estimate increasing in both of those areas. Secondary rights hasn't had much of an increase since Q1, thus we've lowered the estimate against budget.

We are also estimating that COVID-19 will affect 2021 revenue. For the draft budget, we've tried to take into account effects of the pandemic. Also, note that the publication fees have been removed, thus we may have overestimated the online submission fees (based on past years when we also had the publication fees). That would affect revenue by just a slight amount. For 2021, we've been conservative on all subscription numbers, but we really can't foresee what the real results of COVID-19 will be yet. The final Budget will be compiled in fall 2020 when we are able to take into account performance through summer. At that point, we will have better awareness of how the pandemic will impact the budget for 2021. We will share that budget with SSSP at that time.

For 2021, we agreed to a 2% price increase for traditional subscriptions*. COVID-19 had just taken grip of the world and OUP agreed with SSSP to not increase pricing above that amount. As a note, after the pricing was agreed, OUP took the decision to cap any price increase at 2.5% (so other societies/journals that had decided on larger increases for the 2021 year were affected). As this only affects traditional subscriptions, not consortia, we won't know the impact until next year. We do feel that consortia subscriptions will be on the increase next year. We also feel we will continue to see an uptake in Read & Publish deals (especially in Europe and the UK). In the **Read & Publish (R&P)** subscription model, the customer (library, consortia) purchases the right to read subscription content *and* cover the APCs for authors from that institute to publish under an open access license. The majority of R&P deals have been with European and UK Consortia, thus the main impact on revenue will come from subscribers in those regions. As most subscriptions for *Social Problems* come from North America (see Circulation), we won't see huge changes based on R&P for the next few years. The growth in US R&P deals is, at this point, an unknown entity. OUP currently has one signed deal (with Iowa State). We were expecting more R&P deals next year, however, COVID-19 may have changed the trajectory of this. Once more R&P deals are in place and if *Social Problems* doesn't take measures such as increasing number of articles published per year and increasing author base from Europe and the UK, we may see revenue decline (up to 15%). This is unlikely to be a material factor in the next 2-3 years

APCs (Article Processing Charges)* *Social Problems* has not received many requests from author to publish their articles as Open Access. Although the APC pricing is on par with other journals in the field, we suggested adding an SSSP member discount of 20%. This would keep APC pricing for members under the \$3,000 mark (closer to \$2,700). As a note, most APCs are covered by funding bodies and typically might be part of a grant's requirement. Also, authors from institutions in developing countries (listed [here](#)) are able to get their APCs waived. These institutions also qualify for free or deeply discounted access to *Social Problems*.

*Exchange rates between GBP, EURO, and USD fluctuate greatly on a year-to-year basis (sometimes on a day-to-day basis). Customers are billed in the currency of their country. Percentage increases are consistent – (i.e. if the USD rate increases by 2%, the GBP and the EURO rate will also increase by 2%).

2020 Marketing Objectives

To ensure the continued success of *Social Problems* in 2020, we developed a marketing plan focused on supporting the journal's development goals of readership and global profile. From these core objectives, we created marketing campaigns and goals that will allow us to track progress and overall achievement. Please see Marketing area of this report for further specifics on our activity.

Objective 1--Readership: Drive readership (and in doing so encourage citations which ultimately support Impact Factor and ranking) by supporting usage of articles in the citation window.

Objective 2: Global Profile: Maintain the journal's global profile and impact by achieving an average Altmetric score of 20 for content published in 2020 (2019 average was 18.3, with a median of 12). Support the editorial objective of growing international readership by increasing website visits with content engagement from outside of the US by 4% compared to 2019.

Tables

Table 1

Visits with Content Engagement over Time

How many visits have there been to journal content that included full-text (HTML + PDF) views and how has this changed over time? Monthly mean provided in legend

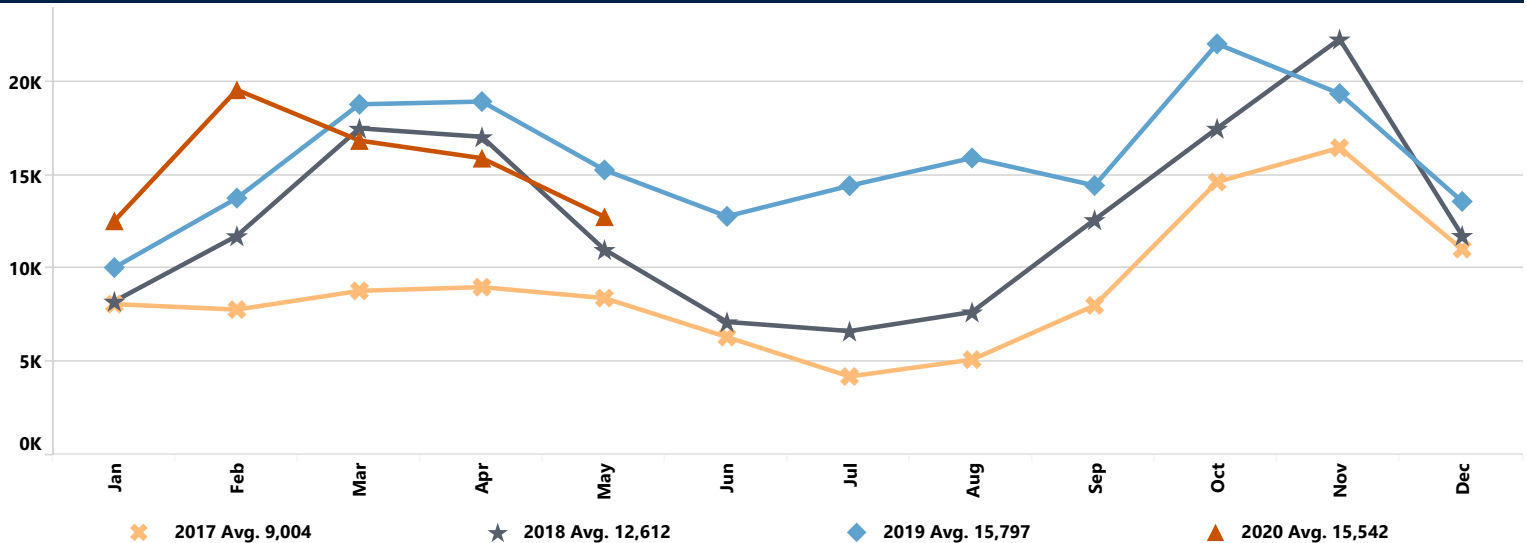


Table 2

Visits with Content Engagement by Region 2019 vs 2020

Where in the world are users located?

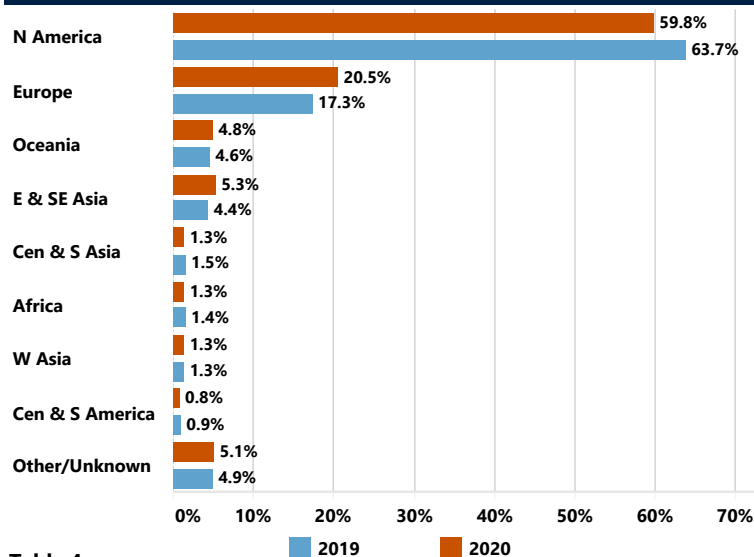


Table 3

Visits with Content Engagement by Referrer 2019 vs 2020

What websites do users come from when visiting content on the journal site?

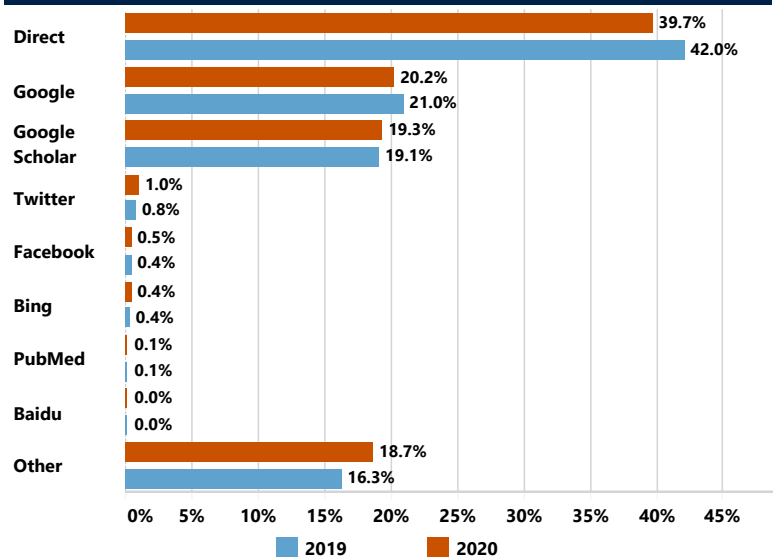


Table 4

Top 10 Articles by Full-Text Views in the Last 12 Months

Which articles had the most full-text views (HTML + PDF) during the last 12 months?

Title	First Listed Author	Article Details	Views
"Riding the Bull at Gilley's": Convicted Rapists Describe the Rewards of Rape	Diana Scully	Vol:32, Iss:3, Pub Date:2014-08-01	19,555
Learning from the Outsider Within: The Sociological Significance of Black Feminist Thought	Patricia Hill Collins	Vol:33, Iss:6, Pub Date:2014-07-24	8,789
Social Problems as Collective Behavior	Herbert Blumer	Vol:18, Iss:3, Pub Date:2014-08-06	5,941
Sexual Assault on Campus: A Multilevel, Integrative Approach to Party Rape	Elizabeth A. Armstrong	Vol:53, Iss:4, Pub Date:2014-07-30	5,443
The Digital Activism Gap: How Class and Costs Shape Online Collective Action	Jen Schradie	Vol:65, Iss:1, Pub Date:2018-01-09	5,011
Code of the Tweet: Urban Gang Violence in the Social Media Age	Forrest Stuart	Vol:67, Iss:2, Pub Date:2019-04-27	3,886
The Apathy Syndrome: How We Are Trained Not to Care about Politics	Anna Zhelnina	Vol:67, Iss:2, Pub Date:2019-07-03	3,499
Damages Done: The Longitudinal Impacts of Natural Hazards on Wealth Inequality in the United States	Junia Howell	Vol:66, Iss:3, Pub Date:2018-08-14	3,499
Citizenship and Inequality: Historical and Global Perspectives	Evelyn Glenn	Vol:47, Iss:1, Pub Date:2014-07-31	2,888
Impossible Burdens: White Institutions, Emotional Labor, and Micro-Resistance	Louwanda Evans	Vol:62, Iss:3, Pub Date:2015-07-09	2,831

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Table 5

Top 10 Articles by All-Time Altmetric Score Which articles have received the most attention?			
Title	First Listed Author	Article Details	Altmetric Score
Damages Done: The Longitudinal Impacts of Natural Hazards on Wealth Inequality in the United States	Junia Howell	Vol:66, Iss:3, Pub Date:2018-08-14	697
Gun Culture in Action	F Carson Mencken	Vol:66, Iss:1, Pub Date:2017-11-20	644
The Punishment Gap: School Suspension and Racial Disparities in Achievement	Edward W. Morris	Vol:63, Iss:1, Pub Date:2016-01-08	405
The Digital Activism Gap: How Class and Costs Shape Online Collective Action	Jen Schradie	Vol:65, Iss:1, Pub Date:2018-01-09	212
The Razor Blade in the Apple: The Social Construction of Urban Legends	Joel Best	Vol:32, Iss:5, Pub Date:2014-08-01	199
Are Smart People Less Racist? Verbal Ability, Anti-Black Prejudice, and the Principle-Policy Paradox	Geoffrey T. Wodtke	Vol:63, Iss:1, Pub Date:2016-01-08	170
Pathways to the Glass Cliff: A Risk Tax for Women and Minority Leaders?	Christy Glass	Pub Date:2019-11-22	166
Fecal Matters: Habitus, Embodiments, and Deviance	Martin S. Weinberg	Vol:52, Iss:3, Pub Date:2014-07-30	154
PTSD in DSM-III: A Case in the Politics of Diagnosis and Disease	Wilbur J. Scott	Vol:37, Iss:3, Pub Date:2014-07-31	150
Neighborhood Institutions as Resource Brokers: Childcare Centers, Interorganizational Ties, and Resource Access among the Poor	Mario Luis Small	Vol:53, Iss:2, Pub Date:2014-07-30	139

Table 6
Impact Factor Trend
How has the Impact Factor changed over the last 5 years?

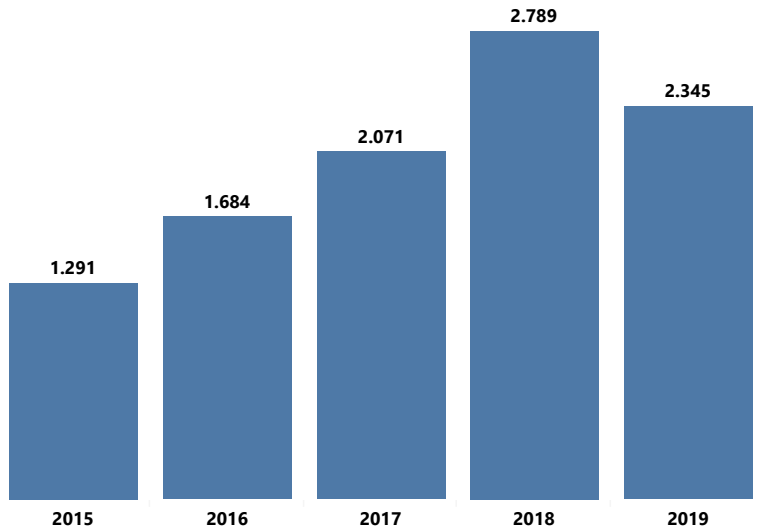


Table 7
Impact Factor Breakdown 2018 vs 2019 Impact Factor
How is the Impact Factor calculated?

2019 Impact Factor

$$\frac{\text{Citations in 2019 to items published in 2017 (92) + 2018 (44)}}{\text{Number of citable items in 2017 (27) + 2018 (31)}} = \frac{136}{58} = 2.345$$

2018 Impact Factor

$$\frac{\text{Citations in 2018 to items published in 2016 (104) + 2017 (55)}}{\text{Number of citable items in 2016 (30) + 2017 (27)}} = \frac{159}{57} = 2.789$$

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Table 8

Citation Distribution 2019 Impact Factor

How many journal items received x citations contributing to the 2019 Impact Factor? Split by Web of Science document type

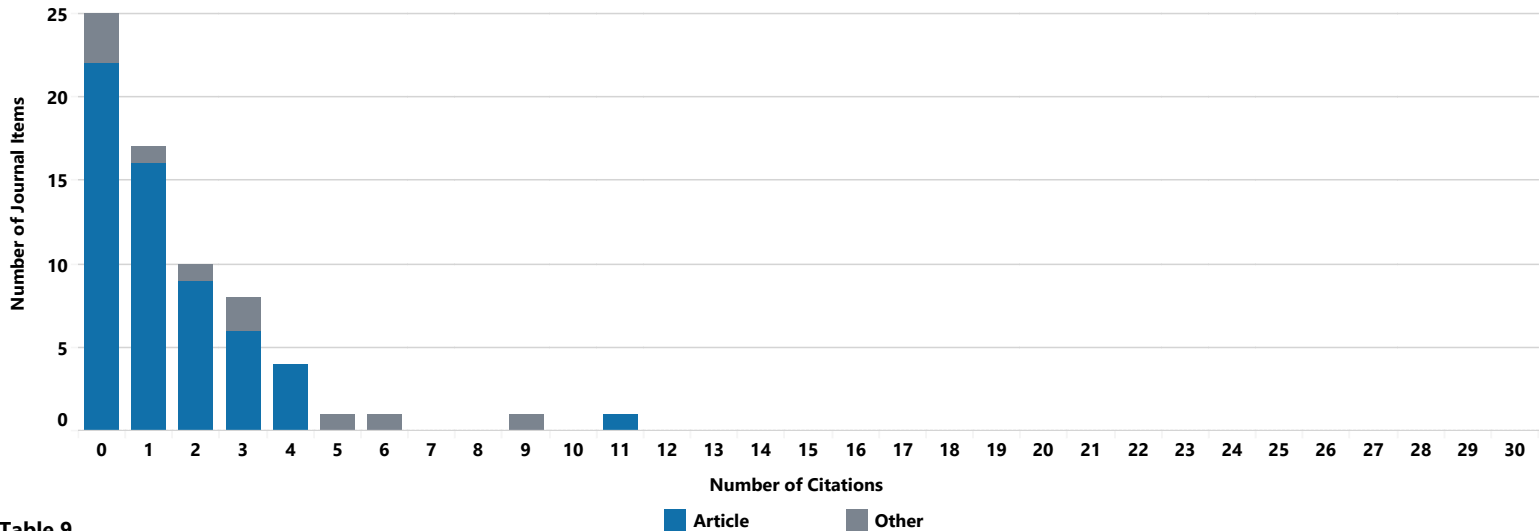


Table 9

Top Cited Articles 2019 Impact Factor

Which articles received the most citations contributing to the 2019 Impact Factor?

Title	First Listed Author	Article Details	2018 IF Citations
Producing Colorblindness: Everyday Mechanisms of White Ignorance	Jennifer C. Mueller	Vol:64, Iss:2, Pub Date:2017-02-28	11
Reflections on "The Department is Very Male, Very White, Very Old, and Very Conservative": The Functioning of the Hidden Curriculum in Graduate Sociology Departments	Mary Romero	Vol:64, Iss:2, Pub Date:2017-04-08	9
What We Were, What We Are, and What We Should Be: The Racial Problem of American Sociology	Eduardo Bonilla-Silva	Vol:64, Iss:2, Pub Date:2017-04-08	6
Women of Color in the Academy: Navigating Multiple Intersections and Multiple Hierarchies	Mignon R. Moore	Vol:64, Iss:2, Pub Date:2017-04-08	5
The One Friend Rule: Race and Social Capital in an Interracial Network	Christopher W Munn	Vol:65, Iss:4, Pub Date:2017-06-21	4
Brothermothering: Gender, Power, and the Parenting Strategies of Low-Income Black Single Mothers of Teenagers	Sinikka Elliott	Vol:65, Iss:4, Pub Date:2017-05-30	4
Criminalized Masculinities: How Policing Shapes the Construction of Gender and Sexuality in Poor Black Communities	Forrest Stuart	Vol:65, Iss:2, Pub Date:2017-05-29	4
The Role of Social Positioning in Observed Patterns of Material Hardship: New Evidence from the 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation	Colleen M. Heflin	Vol:64, Iss:4, Pub Date:2017-02-09	4
Who Gets Ahead and Who Falls Behind During the Transition to High School? Academic Performance at the Intersection of Race/Ethnicity and Gender	April Sutton	Vol:65, Iss:2, Pub Date:2018-03-05	3
The Digital Activism Gap: How Class and Costs Shape Online Collective Action	Jen Schradie	Vol:65, Iss:1, Pub Date:2018-01-09	3

Table 10

Top Cited Recent Articles

Which articles from issues published in 2018 or later have received the most citations so far?

Title	First Listed Author	Article Details	Total Citations
"Coal is Not Just a Job, It's a Way of Life": The Cultural Politics of Coal Production in Central Appalachia	Philip G Lewin	Vol:66, Iss:1, Pub Date:2017-10-19	14
Damages Done: The Longitudinal Impacts of Natural Hazards on Wealth Inequality in the United States	Junia Howell	Vol:66, Iss:3, Pub Date:2018-08-14	13
"Citizens but for Papers:" Undocumented Youth Organizations, Anti-Deportation Campaigns, and the Reframing of Citizenship	Caitlin Patler	Vol:65, Iss:1, Pub Date:2017-02-28	10
Motherwork Under the State: The Maternal Labor of Formerly Incarcerated Black Women	Susila Gurusami	Vol:66, Iss:1, Pub Date:2018-02-13	9
The Digital Activism Gap: How Class and Costs Shape Online Collective Action	Jen Schradie	Vol:65, Iss:1, Pub Date:2018-01-09	8
Gun Culture in Action	F Carson Mencken	Vol:66, Iss:1, Pub Date:2017-11-20	8
Criminalized Masculinities: How Policing Shapes the Construction of Gender and Sexuality in Poor Black Communities	Forrest Stuart	Vol:65, Iss:2, Pub Date:2017-05-29	7
Differentiated Threat and the Genesis of Prejudice: Group-Specific Antecedents of Homonegativity, Islamophobia, Anti-Semitism, and Anti-Immigrant Attitudes	Bart Meuleman	Vol:66, Iss:2, Pub Date:2018-02-13	7
Brothermothering: Gender, Power, and the Parenting Strategies of Low-Income Black Single Mothers of Teenagers	Sinikka Elliott	Vol:65, Iss:4, Pub Date:2017-05-30	5
The One Friend Rule: Race and Social Capital in an Interracial Network	Christopher W Munn	Vol:65, Iss:4, Pub Date:2017-06-21	5

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Table 11

Institutional Subscriptions by Subscription Type
 How are subscription types changing over time?

	2018	2019	2020
Collection	1,658	1,865	1,968
Conventional Academic	666	600	546
Grand Total	2,324	2,465	2,514

Table 13

Online Publication Speeds

How long after receipt into Production has it taken to publish content online in the last 12 months?

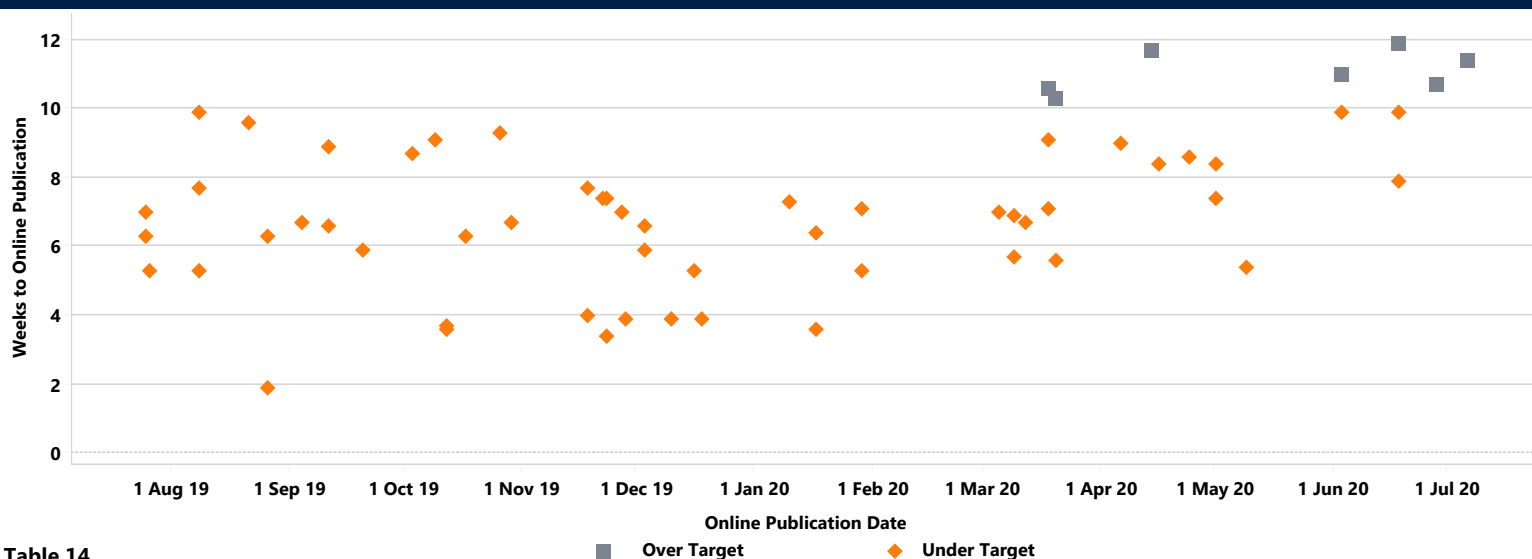


Table 14

Average Time to Online Publication

How do mean times from receipt to online publication compare for recent years?

	2018	2019	2020
Mean Weeks to Online Publication	5.7	6.4	8.2

Table 15

Copy Flow

How does copy flow in the last 12 months compare to the previous 12 months?

Manuscripts Received Last 12 Months	74
Manuscripts Received 12-24 Months Ago	41
Manuscripts Published Online Last 12 Months	65
Manuscripts Published Online 12-24 Months Ago	35

Table 16

Author Feedback

How have authors rated the production process on average out of 5 since the start of 2018?

Number of Responses	7
Quality	4.0
Speed	4.3
Service	4.6
Communication	4.4

Table 12

2020 Institutional Subscriptions by Region

What is the breakdown of institutional subscriptions by geographic region?

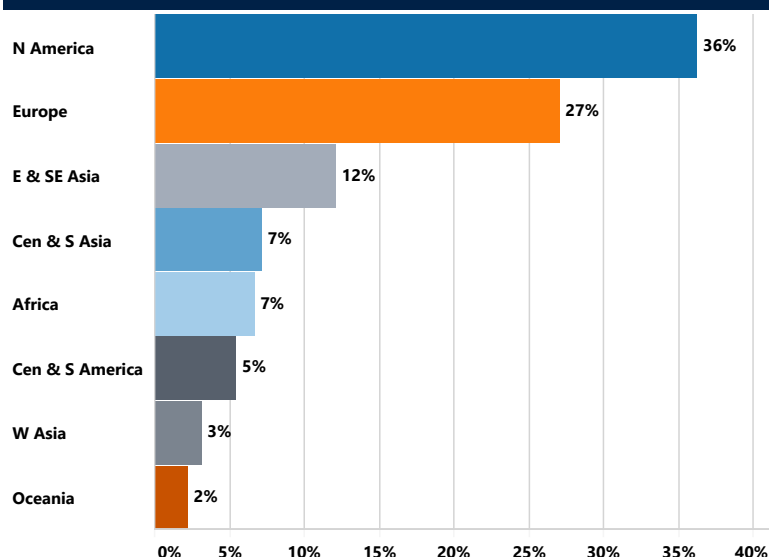
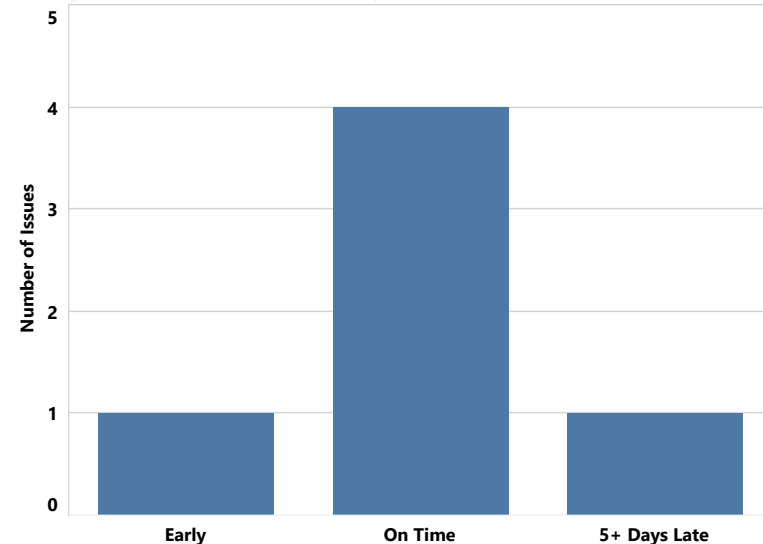


Table 17

Issue Timeliness

Have regular issues in 2019 and 2020 volumes published online on schedule?



Volume 67- Latest Estimate

ROYALTY STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Actual 30-June-20 Volume 67 \$	Latest Estimate 2020 Volume 67 \$	Budget 2020 Volume 67 \$	Actual 2019 Volume 66 \$
INCOME:				
Subscription income:				
Traditional	87,279	176,559	177,813	183,687
Collections	76,368	153,736	154,113	149,171
	163,647	330,295	331,926	332,858
Non-subscription income:				
Digital archive	7,098	7,098	4,217	4,468
Advertising	645	675	675	635
Open access	1,117	1,117	-	-
Online submission receipts	4,442	6,500	1,500	9,396
Secondary rights	17,677	23,398	31,398	26,646
Pay per view	392	540	1,126	1,100
Single & back issues	121	121	-	-
Editorial processing fees and submission fees	-	-	-	400
	31,492	39,449	38,916	42,645
TOTAL INCOME	195,139	369,744	370,842	375,503
Royalty due to SSSP @ 50%	97,454	184,872	185,421	187,752

Volume 68 - Draft Budget

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Draft Budget 2021 \$
INCOME:	
Subscription income:	
Subscriptions	160,700
Consortia	158,397
	<hr/>
	319,097
Non-subscription income:	
Digital archive	2,800
Advertising	625
Online submission receipts	3,500
Secondary rights	20,000
Pay per view	650
	<hr/>
	27,575
	<hr/>
TOTAL INCOME	346,672
	<hr/>
Royalty due to Society @ 50%	173,336
	<hr/>

N.B. This is a draft budget based on our current estimations. However, because of the Covid-19 pandemic certain revenue streams may be more severely impacted, particularly secondary rights and subscription income.

Marketing

Email Alerting Services

How many registrants are there for the journal's email alerts?

	Jan. 1, 2019	Jan. 1, 2020	Percent Change
New issue alerts	1,607	2,063	+ 28.38%
Advance article alerts	466	526	+ 12.88%

Altmetric

How/when/where is content being shared and discussed?

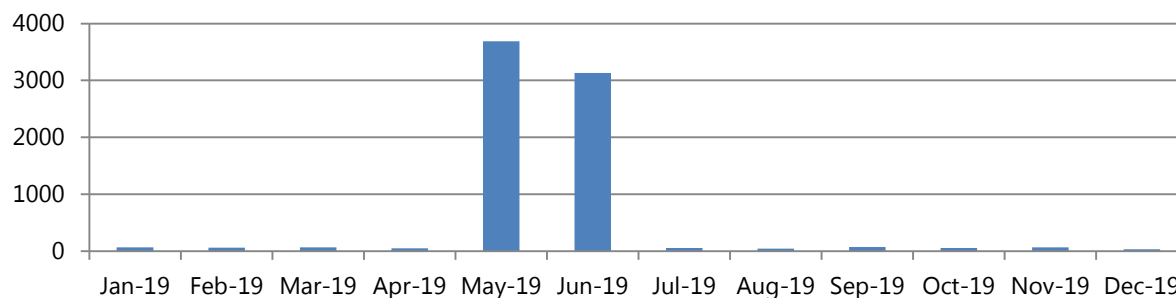
Altmetric tracks and collates online activity by monitoring non-traditional sources searching for references to published research to produce an "Attention Score" for each article. The Altmetric Attention Score is an automatically-calculated, weighted count of all of the attention a research output has received.

Results

Total tracked research outputs (all time)	678
Average Altmetric Attention score (all time)	12.4
Average Altmetric Attention Score for content published in 2019	18.3
Average Altmetric Attention Score for content published in 2020 (YTD)	23.3
Percent Change (2019 to 2020)	+27.32%

2019 Articles In the News / Headline Hitting Research Page

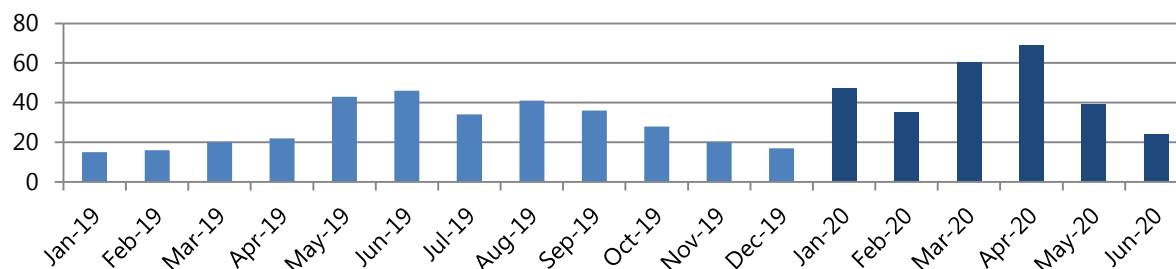
Campaign landing page views [Jan. – Dec. 2019]



A "Headline Hitting Research" page was created as an additional touchpoint for readers to access content with high Altmetric scores. The page was updated monthly to feature five articles. The page received a total 7,396 views in 2019, the majority correlating with Google Advertisements in May/June.

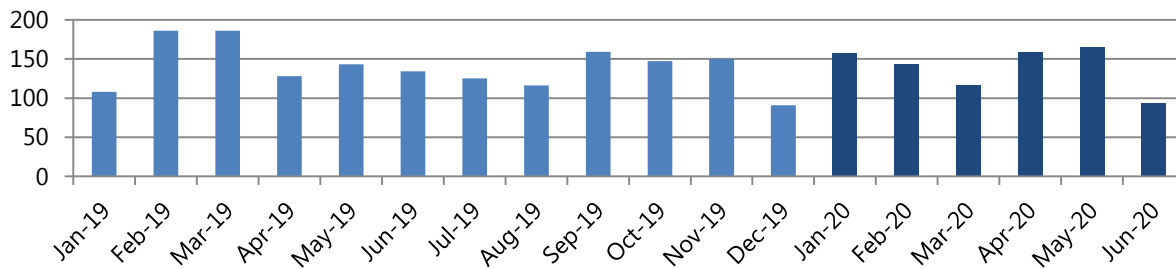
Author's Attic Page

Campaign landing page views [Jan. 2019 – June 2020]



This page is updated as soon as new videos are available. It is linked to from the navigation bar and highlighted on the homepage to facilitate discoverability. The page received a total 338 views in 2019.

Award-Winning Articles Page Campaign landing page views [Jan. 2019 – June 2020]



This page highlights articles that have received an award will be updated at the request of the editorial team. This creates an online archive of *Social Problems'* awards, and acts as an additional touchpoint for readers to access impactful content. The page received a total 1,673 views in 2019.

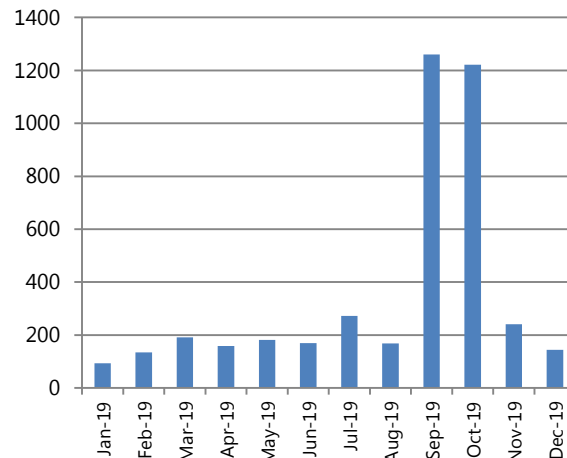
2019 Highly Cited Article Collection

The "Highly Cited Article Collection" included the five most highly cited articles published in 2017 and 2018. The articles were made freely accessible throughout 2019, and hosted on a dedicated landing page. Citation data was re-examined mid-year and included articles were updated.

Articles (January – June)	Views
Producing Colorblindness: Everyday Mechanisms of White Ignorance (10.1093/socpro/spw061)	2,832
Can a Flexibility/Support Initiative Reduce Turnover Intentions and Exits? Results from the Work, Family, and Health Network (10.1093/socpro/spw033)	337
Racial Discrimination, Racial Socialization, and Crime: Understanding Mechanisms of Resilience (10.1093/socpro/spw036)	750
Women Who Stay: A Morality Work Perspective (10.1093/socpro/spx016)	187
Economic Breakdown and Collective Action (10.1093/socpro/spw030)	224

Articles (July - December)	Views
Producing Colorblindness: Everyday Mechanisms of White Ignorance (10.1093/socpro/spw061)	1,447
Can a Flexibility/Support Initiative Reduce Turnover Intentions and Exits? Results from the Work, Family, and Health Network (10.1093/socpro/spw033)	466
Racial Discrimination, Racial Socialization, and Crime: Understanding Mechanisms of Resilience (10.1093/socpro/spw036)	1,711
Women of Color in the Academy: Navigating Multiple Intersections and Multiple Hierarchies (10.1093/socpro/spx009)	555
What We Were, What We Are, and What We Should Be: The Racial Problem of American Sociology (10.1093/socpro/spx006)	512

Campaign landing page views*



*Spikes in page views correlate with Google Advertisements.

Results

Promotional period	Jan. – Dec. 2019
Landing page views	4,234 page views
Article views during promotional period	9,021 full-text views

Virtual Issue: Sexual Violence

This online-only virtual issue, co-edited by Nicole Bedera and Trenton M. Haltom, highlights articles that address sexual violence, the social regulation of survivors, and the resistance to sexual violence.

Results

Promotional period	Jan. – Aug. 2019
Landing page views (launch – June 2020)	9,146 page views

Virtual Issue: Immigrants' Incorporation

This online-only virtual issue, edited by Sevsem Cicek-Okay, highlights articles that address immigrants' incorporation into their host counties.

Results

Promotional period	Jul. – Dec. 2019
Landing page views (launch – June 2020)	1,086 page views

2020 High Impact Article Collection

In 2020, the [High Impact Article Collection](#) replaced the former Highly Cited and Headline Hitting article collections to offer a single, larger, and more robust marketing touchpoint for readers. *This campaign is ongoing, updated data will be included in the next report.*

Most Cited Articles

Views

"Coal is Not Just a Job, It's a Way of Life": The Cultural Politics of Coal Production in Central Appalachia (10.1093/socpro/spx030)	537
"Citizens but for Papers:" Undocumented Youth Organizations, Anti-Deportation Campaigns, and the Reframing of Citizenship (10.1093/socpro/spw045)	423
Motherwork Under the State: The Maternal Labor of Formerly Incarcerated Black Women (10.1093/socpro/spx045)	495
Brothermothering: Gender, Power, and the Parenting Strategies of Low-Income Black Single Mothers of Teenagers (10.1093/socpro/spx021)	296
The One Friend Rule: Race and Social Capital in an Interracial Network (10.1093/socpro/spx020)	399

Most Read Articles

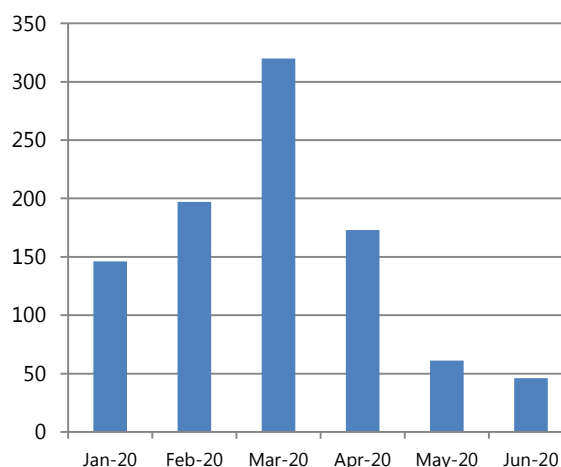
Views

How Political is Political Consumption? The Case of Activism for the Global South and Fair Trade (10.1093/socpro/spx022)	683
Mexican Americans and Immigration Attitudes: A Cohort Analysis of Assimilation and Group Consciousness (10.1093/socpro/spw053)	310
Who Gets Ahead and Who Falls Behind During the Transition to High School? Academic Performance at the Intersection of Race/Ethnicity and Gender (10.1093/socpro/spx044)	558
Identity of Distance: How Economically Marginalized Black and Latina Women Navigate Risk Discourse and Employ Feminist Ideals (10.1093/socpro/spx025)	249
Criminalized Masculinities: How Policing Shapes the Construction of Gender and Sexuality in Poor Black Communities (10.1093/socpro/spx017)	560

Results

Promotional period	Jan. – Dec. 2020
Landing page views (YTD)	943 page views
Article views during promotional period (YTD)	11,462 full-text views

Campaign landing page views



Most Discussed Articles

Views

Damages Done: The Longitudinal Impacts of Natural Hazards on Wealth Inequality in the United States (10.1093/socpro/spy016)	1,285
The Digital Activism Gap: How Class and Costs Shape Online Collective Action (10.1093/socpro/spx042)	1,895
Code of the Tweet: Urban Gang Violence in the Social Media Age (10.1093/socpro/spz010)	2,792
The Mobilization of Title IX across U.S. Colleges and Universities, 1994-2014 (10.1093/socpro/spy005)	704
Racialized Equity Labor, University Appropriation and Student Resistance (10.1093/socpro/spz011)	276