

Arlene Kaplan Daniels Award Committee Report 2022

Submitted by Judith R. Halasz, Committee Chair, July 8, 2022

Committee Members: Judith R. Halasz, Nancy A. Naples, Jennifer E. Cossyleon, Meghan Daniel, Erin Elan Gibbs Van Brunschot, Barbara Wejnert, Ashleigh E. McKinzie (alternate)

This committee is comprised of six members.

The committee received 25 nominations. Our charge was to evaluate how well the nominated papers published in calendar years 2020 or 2021 met the following three criteria:

1. Addresses contemporary issues of women's justice locally, nationally, and globally;
2. Brings a fresh perspective to women's inclusion in global society and advances new theoretical directions discussing women and social justice;
3. Is theoretically informed and possess an empirical orientation.

Our process as a committee was to read each paper, and to rank order our top 5 papers. We then met (virtually) to discuss all of the papers that made the ranked list. After this discussion, we selected one winner and one honorable mention. Three of the nominated papers were not yet published or were published in 2022; therefore, they were ineligible for the award (two of the ineligible papers were not published at all, which the committee chair confirmed with the paper authors; the third was published in 2022). The committee discussed this matter.

The 2022 Arlene Kaplan Daniels Paper Award winner was C. Shawn McGuffey's self-nominated article "Rape Appraisals: Class Mobility, Social Geography, and Sexual Morality Tales in Ghana, South Africa, and Rwanda" (*Journal of Black Psychology*, 47(6): 401-444). Advancing the social psychology of sexual trauma, McGuffey examines how women rape survivors across classes and cultures in three African countries apply sexual morality tales to "appraise their accounts of violence, assess their coping strategies, and manage traumatic events" (401). The diversity of their appraisals reflects differences in their class, geography, gender, sexuality, and in some cases race-based social structural identities, that work to perpetuate structural inequalities and the marginalization of rape survivors while simultaneously generating opportunities for novel solidarities. The committee was especially impressed by the intersectional, cross-cultural scope and scale of the research, which included interviews with 146 sexual assault survivors in Ghana, South Africa, and Rwanda.

The honorable mention went to Poulami Roychowdhury's self-nominated article "Incorporation: Governing Gendered Violence in a State of Disempowerment" (*American Journal of Sociology*, 126(4): 852-888). Based on over two years of ethnographic fieldwork in West Bengal, India, Roychowdhury presents a well-theorized, novel analysis of the power dynamics between survivors of gendered violence and state actors. Contrary to existing scholarship, Roychowdhury's findings reveal how women outside dominant groups who do not perform hegemonic femininity are able to pressure law enforcement officials by using their organizational connections to gain extra-legal authority to carry out repossessions and punishment of perpetrators of gendered violence.