Call for Chapter Proposals

Agenda for Social Justice: Solutions for 2028

A Project of the Justice 21 Committee of the Society for the Study of Social Problems

Chapter Proposals Extended Deadline: November 13, 2026
Chapter Drafts Due: April 9, 2027
Final Chapter Due: August 20, 2027
Anticipated Publication Date: August 2028

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) and the Justice 21 Committee are beginning our work on the publication the *Agenda for Social Justice*. This iteration of the series – *Agenda for Social Justice: Solutions for 2028* – is the U.S.-focused volume that coincides with the US Presidential election cycle. It is designed to inform the public-at-large about America's most pressing social problems and to propose actionable responses and solutions to those social problems.

The previous volume, Agenda for Social Justice 3: Solutions for 2024, earned a 2025 Outstanding Academic Title award by Choice 360. For other previous volumes, New Books Network, Transforming Society, Applied Worldwide, and the London School of Economics–USAPP blog, have featured individual chapters.

This project affirms the resiliency and commitment of the SSSP to social justice scholarship. This volume will be an "agenda for social justice," in that it will contain specific recommendations for action for elected officials, policy makers, and community members.

This work is scheduled to be published by Policy Press, an imprint of Bristol University Press, as a project in public sociology.

We ask you, individually or with colleagues, to submit a brief proposal (1-2 pages max.) identifying a significant social problem in the United States. **The proposal should include all three sections below and provide responses to each**:

- *Identify and define a concrete social problem of national scope and then answer the following three prompts in your proposal. We encourage all authors to simply copy and paste the prompts below into their proposal and fill in their answers underneath each prompt.*

  - ***Prompt 1 - Definition and Scope of Social Problem**: Clearly define the social problem and scope of the social problem for a non-specialist/generalist audience (i.e., what is the definition and extent of the social problem?).*

  - ***Prompt 2 - Evidence of Social Problem**: Describe how we know this is a pressing social problem (i.e., what are the sources of data, information, or evidence that tell us about this social problem?).*

- ***Prompt 3 - Example Recommendations to Address the Social Problem****: Explain the kinds of law, policy or social actions that can alleviate the social problem. These should be viable and actionable solutions for reducing, mitigating, solving, or abolishing the social problem.*

Please submit a copy of your 1 to 2-page proposal using the Google Form by November 13, 2026. Chapter drafts will be due April 9, 2027, and final manuscripts will be due August 20, 2027. Final contributions will be limited to 3,000 words maximum (or roughly ten double-spaced manuscript pages). The volume is expected to launch in August 2028.

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For more information on the **J-21 Project**, see Robert Perrucci's presidential address in the May 2001 issue of *Social Problems* ("Inventing Social Justice"). Past rapid response e-volumes produced by the J-21 committee are on the following SSSP webpage.

Topics of Interest Include, but are not limited to:

- Agricultural & Food Policy
- Authoritarianism
- #BLM Black Lives Matter
- Children's Rights
- Climate Change
- Commodity Chains
- Corporate Regulation
- Crime & Justice
- Declining Middle Class
- Disability Rights
- Drug Policy
- Economic Policy & Inequality
- Education
- Employment/Unemployment
- Energy Policy
- Environmental Policy
- Family Policy
- Financial Systems
- Foreign Policy
- Gender Equity
- Global/Regional Governance
- Globalization
- Green Economy
- Gun Violence/Control
- Hate Crimes & Groups
- Health Care Policy
- Human Rights & Violations
- Human Trafficking/Slavery
- Immigration/Border Issues
- Income Security/Social Security
- Indigenous Rights
- Internet/Digital Policy
- Journalism & Journalistic Issues
- Labor Issues & Rights
- LGBTQ+ Rights
- Mass Incarceration

- Mass Media
- #MeToo Movement
- Migration
- Militarization
- Minority Rights
- Nuclear Policy
- Police Violence
- Political Processes/Campaign Finance
- Population/Demography
- Privacy/Surveillance
- Protest Movements
- Racism
- Refugees/Asylum/Detention
- Religious Issues
- Reproductive Rights
- Resource Extraction
- Right Wing Nationalism
- Rule of Law
- Sex Work & Sex Workers
- Sexual Assault & Harassment
- Social Welfare Systems
- Student Loans
- Terrorism
- Trade Agreements
- Violence Against Women
- Voting Rights/Barriers
- War/Peace