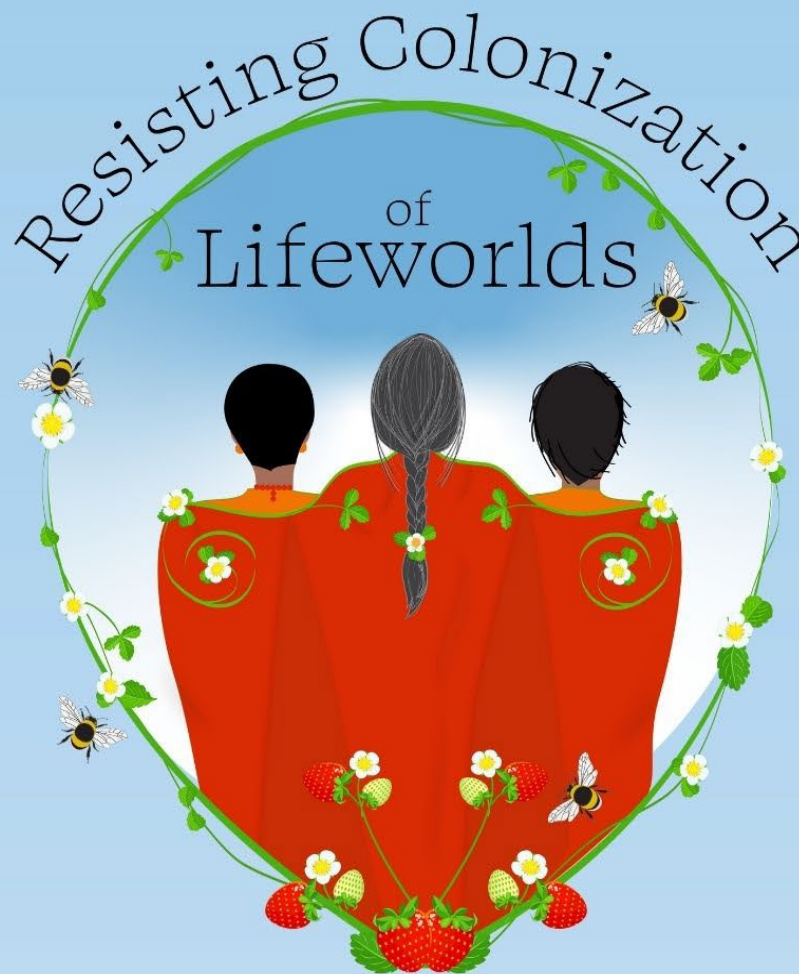


76th ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM



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**August 6-9
2026**

Westin New York at Times Square
New York City, NY

Dr. Sarah Jane Brubaker
SSSP President
Virginia Commonwealth University



**Society for the Study
of Social Problems**
In Pursuit of Social Justice

Final Program Schedule

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Thursday, August 6

11:30am – 4:30pm Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting I, 2025-26

Room: Minetta

5:00pm – 6:30pm Plenary Session

PLENARY

Session 001: Opening Plenary: Engaging Lifeworlds as Resistance through Organizing, Activism, and Scholarship

Room: Ambassador II

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer: Hadi Khoshnevis, Rhodes College

Presider: Sarah Jane Brubaker, Virginia Commonwealth University

Description:

This panel of activists and scholars share their strategies for resistance to contemporary social problems including war, gender violence, oppressive education and climate emergencies. Emphasizing anti-war and international solidarity campaigns, interdisciplinary scholarship, storytelling to foster community dialogue, shifting cultural norms, organizing and mobilizing teachers, developing curriculum, and working with community, parents, and student organizations, and empowering all of us to transform despair into effective “emergency mode” action.

Panelists:

Felicia Arriaga, Baruch College, CUNY

Kristen M. Budd, The Sentencing Project

Tonya Gayle, Green City Force

Jennifer (Jenna) Queena, New York Collective of Radical Educators

Jorge Rocha, Democratic Socialists of America International Committee

Friday, August 7

8:30am – 10:10am Meeting

Program Committee, 2025-26

Room: Minetta

8:30am – 10:10am Sessions

Session 002: The Biopolitics of LGBTQ+ Lives in the Age of Disinformation

Room: Ambassador I

Sponsor: Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities

Organizer: Kat Fuller, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Presider &

Discussant: Michelle L. Estes, Rowan University

Description:

This session examines how transgender, nonbinary, and intersex communities are governed through the overlapping forces of state power, medical authority, and disinformation. Presenters analyze how contemporary political actors increasingly rely on distorted narratives, conspiracy theories, pseudoscience, and media-driven fear to justify surveillance, restriction, and exclusion. Across national and institutional contexts, the papers demonstrate how transgender, nonbinary, and intersex individuals are constructed as threats to be managed through law, policy, and bureaucratic classification, resulting in dehumanization and material harm.

Papers:

“Codifying Binaries: Moral Entrepreneurs and Anti-Transgender Legislation in U.S. State Legislatures Between 2018-2024,” Anneliese M. Schenk-Day and Jack G.R. Wippell, The Ohio State University, Honorable Mention of the Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Executive Order Declares Intersex People Do Not Exist! Federal Efforts to Recapitulate Victorian Misunderstandings of Sex,” Cary Gabriel Costello, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

“‘Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government’: What Does This Mean for Incarcerated Transgender Individuals?” Michelle L. Estes, Rowan University, Rachel Schmitz, Oklahoma State University and Zachary T. Carlisle, St. Ambrose University

“‘Gender’ and the Triumph of the MAGA Right in the Heritage Foundation Projects 2025 and 2026 and the First Year of the Trump Administration,” Gillian Niebrugge Brantley and Patricia Lengermann, The George Washington University

"The Glocal Right Circuits: Mapping the Transnational Flows of Anti-LGBTQ Conservatism between Taiwan and the United States," Ying-Chao Kao, Virginia Commonwealth University

Session 003: Advocacy and Change

Room: Ambassador II

Sponsors: Conflict, Social Action, and Change
Institutional Ethnography

Organizers: Lauren Eastwood, SUNY Plattsburgh
C. Michael Awsumb, Northwest Missouri State University

Presider & Discussant: C. Michael Awsumb, Northwest Missouri State University

Description:

This session features presentations that broadly address advocacy and social change. Institutional ethnographers begin from the "everyday," with the premise that people's experiences are organized by larger ruling relations. However, to paraphrase Marx, the goal is not simply to analyze these phenomena but to change them, as "ruling relations" refer to power dynamics that generate disjunctures, inequalities, and marginalization. The papers in this session take up this dynamic through research, activism, or both.

Papers:

"At All Costs: Testifying for Housing Justice through Canada's Federal Human Rights Review Panels," Alex Nelson, University of Toronto Scarborough, Honorable Mention of the Institutional Ethnography Division's Student Paper Competition

"Call It Power and Resistance: Naming and Conceptualizing, Carefully, in Institutional Ethnography," Brenda Solomon, University of Vermont

"Layered Youth: How a South Korean Housing Movement Made 'Youth' Politically Usable," Eunchoong Cho, University of California, San Diego

"Playing Their Game(s): Legible Contention through Strategic Mirroring at the Paris 2024 Olympics," Sara Lancieri, Sapienza University of Rome

"The Role of Women in the Promotion of Peace and Social Justice in the Philippines: Lived Experiences, Challenges, and Lessons," Diana Therese M. Veloso, De La Salle University

THEMATIC

Session 004: Doing Research in Global/Transnational Contexts with Critical Decolonial Lenses: Tools and Epistemologies

Room: Minskoff

Sponsor: Global

Organizer, Presider & Discussant: Angela Vergara, University of Central Florida

Description:

This session explores the methodological and epistemological challenges of conducting research in global and transnational contexts through critical decolonial lenses. Presenters will engage with innovative tools and approaches that disrupt dominant knowledge hierarchies, foreground community voices, and center relationality, reciprocity, and justice in the research process. By highlighting diverse case studies and reflexive practices, the session aims to foster dialogue on decolonizing methodologies, ethical collaboration across borders, and reimagining knowledge production beyond Eurocentric frameworks.

Papers:

"Am I (Theoretically Speaking) the Drama? A Reflexive Examination of Anti-Blackness Research and Its Potential to Reify Coloniality and Hegemony," Bryan L. Greene, Morris College

"Denaturalizing Borders through 'Community-Engaged Scholarship': Maya-Mam Articulations of Indigenous Resistance across the Guatemala-Mexico Border," Jeffrey A. Gardner, Sam Houston State University

"Studying Elite but Racialized Immigrants in the United States: How Transnational and Decolonial Methodologies Unpack the Paradox of Privilege and Precarity," Rianka Roy, Wake Forest University

"'Play This Song Next!': Becoming More Than an Objective Interviewer as a Researcher of Sexual Violence," Sukanya Bhattacharya, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Session 005: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Contingency and the Professions

Room: Palace

Sponsor: Labor Studies

Organizer & Presider/ Discussant: Seth Kahn, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Description:

This session explores how contingency shapes professional identities and practices across diverse fields. Presenters examine the rise of precarious employment and shifting expectations within their professions. Talks address academic contingency and its implications for professionals navigating precarious structures. These papers highlight how contingency destabilizes traditional notions of professionalism while raising new questions about labor, legitimacy, and the future of work.

Papers:

“‘We’re All Gig Workers Now’: Perspectives of Professional Human Service Workers on Workplace Precarity,” Cheryl A. Hyde, Temple University

“Financial Precarity and Professional Distress: The Impact of the Gig Economy in Social Work,” Alison Fedoris Leslie, Widener University

“From ‘Professor Staff’ to ‘Professional Staff’: Contingency, Solidarity, and the Mission of Higher Education,” Maria C. Maisto, Independent Scholar

“Organizational Tacitness and Gendered Risks: Cultural Matching Reexamined,” Yinan Wang and Zehra Yildirim, Harvard University, Winner of the Labor Studies Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Resisting the Trope of ‘De-Professionalizing’ Higher Education,” Seth Kahn, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

“How the Rise in Nonstandard Work Changes ‘Good Jobs’ in Creative Industries,” Erica Mildner, University of British Columbia

Session 006: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Inventing Criminality across the Globe
Room: Pearl

Sponsor: Crime and Justice

Organizer: Rafia Javaid Mallick, Georgia State University

Presider/
Discussant: Jennifer M. Carpenter, Georgia State University

Description:

This session critically examines the social, political, and legal construction of “criminality” as a transnational phenomenon. We interrogate how laws, state policies, and media discourses across the globe invent and racialize categories of crime and deviance to control marginalized populations. Presentations explore the exportation of carceral logics, the criminalization of migration and poverty, and the governance of bodies through globalized “wars” on drugs and terror. By analyzing these processes, the session seeks to uncover how power operates to designate threats, legitimize inequality, and expand punitive

systems, challenging the naturalized assumptions about who and what are deemed criminal.

Papers:

“Colorblind Crimmigration: Anti-Blackness and the Hart-Celler Act of 1965,” Nicolas R. Howard, Coe College

“State Data and the Production of Quantitative Knowledge: The Case of Police Stops in the United States and France,” Michael Zanger-Tishler, Harvard University, Winner of the Crime and Justice Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Economic Connectedness or Social Exposure? Reassessing Cross-National Homicide Rates Using Social Dimensions of the KOF Globalization Index,” Ali O. Shodunke, The Pennsylvania State University

“Scare Tactics as Communicative Performance in Low-Budget Scams: Why People Still Fall for Them in the 21st Century,” Essien Oku Essien, Drexel University

“‘Now I’m Older So I Really Try Not to Fight’: Adolescence, Criminality, and Black Youth Advocacy in Post-2020 Philadelphia,” Sophia Lindner, Yale University

Session 007: Colonial Racial Capitalism Today: Spectacularization, Dispossession, and Resistance
Room: Plymouth

Sponsor: Critical Race and Ethnic Study

Organizers: Nicolas Juarez, University of Michigan
Marta M. Maldonado, Oregon State University
Forough Mohammadi, Acadia University

Presiders: Nicolas Juarez, University of Michigan
Marta M. Maldonado, Oregon State University

Description:

Overt and spectacularized forms of colonial and racial dispossession have become increasingly common in the United States (e.g., the White House’s use of AI imagery to depict alligators in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) uniforms; federal agents deployed into cities to “hunt down” immigrants). These acts have gone hand in hand with new forms of dispossession and privatization, such as the expansion of drilling on federal land and increased disinvestment in public institutions. This session invites work that examines the connections between spectacularized forms of extra-economic violence and dispossession in the current era of colonial racial capitalism. It also invites work that examines and/or implements innovative resistance strategies and possibilities.

Papers:

“World-Economy and Global Supply Chains: Theoretical Background,” David A. Smith, University of California, Irvine

“‘Were They Coming Back For Revenge?’: State Violence and Indigenous Stereotypes in Minnesota Ghost Stories,” Kevin Revier, SUNY Cortland

“Alienation in the Colonial Context of Palestine: The Occupied Laborers in Israel as a Case Study,” Vilitcia Barghouti, Michigan State University

“Children’s Perceptions of Conflict after October 7, 2023: An Analysis of Drawings Collected from the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme between 2024–2025,” Uzma H. Chowdhury, Columbia University

“Infrastructures of Pain, Disorientation, and Dispersal: How the Unhoused Navigate Hostile Architecture in Washington, DC,” Ganesh A. Bhojwani, Denison University

“Freedom Doing: Abolitionist Movement Narratives in the U.S., 1820–2023,” Jadelynn C. Zhang, Emory University

10:30am – 11:45am Plenary Session

PLENARY

Session 008: SSSP Business Meeting
Room: Ambassador III

Sponsor: Program Committee

Facilitator: Sarah Jane Brubaker, Virginia Commonwealth University

All members are invited to attend the SSSP Business Meeting for an update on the status and future of SSSP. Summary reports on the Society and its key activities this year will be given. In addition, thirty minutes will be allocated to a discussion in favor of or in opposition to all proposed resolutions. The meeting concludes with the traditional transfer of the gavel, marking the transition of duties from President Sarah Jane Brubaker to incoming President David G. Embrick.

11:50am – 12:25pm Plenary Session

PLENARY

Session 009: Town Hall: An Open Forum
Room: Ambassador III

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer & Presider: Sarah Jane Brubaker, Virginia Commonwealth University

Description:

This year’s town hall continues the tradition of inviting all SSSP members – new and established – to join us for an open discussion of the current state of our organization. We want to hear from you about your experiences with SSSP and welcome your innovative ideas for moving us forward as a welcoming, inclusive space where academics, activists, and practitioners working together for social justice can thrive in community. Help us re-envision and recreate what SSSP can be!

Panelists:

Sarah Jane Brubaker, Virginia Commonwealth University

Jamella N. Gow, Bowdoin College

Rafia Javaid Mallick, Georgia State University

Elroi J. Windsor, University of West Georgia

12:30pm – 2:10pm Meeting

Editorial and Publications Committee, 2025-26 & 2026-27

Room: Minetta

**12:30pm – 2:10pm Divisional Meetings
(Open to SSSP Members)**

Social Problems Theory

Room: Ambassador III

Sociology, Social Work, and Social Welfare

Room: Ambassador III

Sport, Leisure, and the Body

Room: Ambassador III

12:30pm – 2:10pm Sessions

THEMATIC

Session 010: Law in/as Crisis: Spatial Mechanisms of Legal Control

Room: Ambassador I

Sponsor: Law and Society

Organizers: Michael Branch, Hawai’i Community College
Sino V. Esthappan, Northwestern University

Presider & Discussant: Michael Branch, Hawai’i Community College

Description:

This thematic session on law and its (dis)contents examines how law operates through space to produce and manage crisis. Panelists will trace how legal regimes shape access to housing, public space, neighborhood belonging, and basic survival. Panelists will address the ways in which law structures precarity spatially, transforming the contexts of daily life into contested terrains of control and resistance.

Papers:

“Sacred Spaces and Queer Geographies: Spatial Violence in Homeless Services,” Taylor June and Madeline Yu Carrola, The Ohio State University

“Against Evictability: How Tenants Experience and Resist Precarity in the Chicago Housing Authority,” Rahim Kurwa, Almethia Franklin, Ronikia Beane and Sally Schmisek, University of Illinois Chicago

“Symbolic Violence in the Privatization of U.S. Public Housing,” Grace C. Sementilli, University at Buffalo, Winner of the Sociology, Social Work, and Social Welfare Division’s Student Paper Competition

“The Digitally Defended Neighborhood: Suburban Neighborhood Change, Racial Threat, and Surveillance,” Max Lubell, The University of Texas at Austin

“Waiting for Housing: The Supply-Side Origin of Administrative Burden in Affordable Housing Provision,” Katherine Smock, University of California, Los Angeles

Session 011: On Palestine

Room: Ambassador II

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer: Hadi Khoshnevis, Rhodes College

Presiders: Hadi Khoshnevis, Rhodes College
hephzibah v. strmic-pawl, LaGuardia Community College

Discussant: hephzibah v. strmic-pawl, LaGuardia Community College

Description:

This panel examines the history and contemporary dynamics of colonialism in Palestine and the broader Southwest Asia and North Africa region. Drawing on theoretical frameworks ranging from bare life to necropolitics, presenters analyze how colonial technologies converge to produce spatial and representational displacement of Palestinians. Amid ongoing violence and global political debate over rights to defense, sovereignty, and resistance, the session engages critical inquiry into these urgent questions. It also explores the rise of grassroots solidarity movements in the face of state-level denial and repression, asking whether a postcolonial future is possible and what pathways forward might look like.

Panelists:

Louise A. Cainkar, Marquette University

Hajar Yazdiha, University of Southern California

Zahra Ali, Rutgers University

Session 012: GSBPC Works in Progress

Room: Ambassador III

Sponsor: Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities

Organizers: Kat Fuller, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Hannah R. Regan, Flora Stone Mather Center for Women and Case Western Reserve University

Description:

This roundtable is open to all topics related to gender and sexuality and their many intersections, especially projects that are early in the research process and seeking feedback or input.

Roundtable #1 Title: GSPCP Works in Progress

Presider &

Discussant: Ronald E. Bulanda, Miami University

Papers:

“Feminist Methods? Virtual Intimacy, Positionality, and Qualitative Methods in the Field,” Lauren Nicole Danielowski, University of Connecticut

“Fempathy? Femme Attitudes toward LGBTQ Individuals,” Meredith G. F. Worthen, The University of Oklahoma

“Negotiating Patriarchy in Public: Women-Only Spaces as Sites of Resistance and Reproduction in Pakistan,” Mahnoor Ahmed and Yvonne A. Braun, University of Oregon

“Marital Pressures and Well-Being among LGBTQ+ South Asians in the U.S.,” Ronald E. Bulanda, Miami University, Debarun Majumdar, Texas State University and Akshay Sharma, University of Michigan

“World-making within Difference: Queer Identity Negotiation in Intercultural Host Families,” Michael Andres Cook, University of Oregon

Session 013: WORKS IN PROGRESS: Problems and Issues in Medical Education, Policy, and the Health Professions in a Time of Social Backlash

Room: Ambassador III

Sponsors: Educational Problems
Health, Health Policy, and Health Services

Organizers: Jennifer Roebuck Bulanda, Miami University
Christine A. Beach, University of Arizona

Description:

Many current and prospective educators and learners in academic medical and higher education are excluded from full participation based on race, ethnicity, gender, nationality, ableism, sexual orientation, and related characteristics. Yet many employ strategies such as leaning on epistemic communities, drawing on cultural connections, contributing expert knowledge, and resisting and persisting despite historical exclusion. This session explores how marginalized educators and learners participate in medical and health education. We also welcome works in progress highlighting innovative research designs and decolonizing methodologies that examine how members exert agency as they navigate their worlds. We are interested in the potential futures of medical and health education and broader institutions during this period of backlash against the participation of minoritized communities and the implications this has for society.

Roundtable #1 Title: Problems & Issues in Medical Education & Health Professions

Presider & Discussant: Christine A. Beach, University of Arizona

Papers:

“Building a Theoretical Framework of the U.S. Academic Medical Center as a Premier Institution and Site of Power: An Integrated Model Drawing from Neo-Institutional Theory and Foucauldian Governmentality, Normalization, and Discipline,” Christine A. Beach, University of Arizona

“Changing Hearts at Risk Today (C.H.A.R.T.) Study: Examining Social, Cultural and Institutional Factors that Influence Black Males Receiving Health Recommendations for Cardiovascular Disease,” Carlos N. Chapman II and Junior R. Hopwood, Grambling State University

“Cut Open, Shut Out: Black Women’s Cesarean Birth Experiences, 1970–1990s,” Jonzelle Bell, University of Central Florida

“Preparing for Failure: A Mixed-Methods Investigation of Preparedness to Care for LGBTQ+ Patients by Healthcare Students and Trainees Learning in the United States,” Atticus M. Wolfe, Agnes Scott College, Lexie Wille, Columbia University and Irving Medical Center and Tess Jewell, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

“‘I Want People to Know That I Am Here’: A Grounded Theory Analysis of International Medical Students in U.S. Academic Medical Centers,” Christine A. Beach, University of Arizona

Roundtable #2 Title: Policy in a Time of Social Backlash

Presider & Discussant: Jennifer Roebuck Bulanda, Miami University

Papers:

“Racial, Gendered, and Income-Based Inequalities in Health Care Access and Health Status: An Intersectional Analysis of U.S. Adults,” Syeda Erena Alam Dola, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

“Health Care Policy Knowledge and Education among Future Health Care Providers,” Jennifer Roebuck Bulanda, Miami University

“The Health Dangers of Anti-Trans Political Discourse and Public Policy,” Ashley C. Rondini, Franklin & Marshall College

Session 014: Teaching Research Methods and Sociology Fundamentals: A Workshop for Learning about Open-Access Resources and Crowdsourcing Tips for Teaching
Room: Minskoff

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer: Victor Tan Chen, Virginia Commonwealth University

Presenter/

Facilitators: Gabriela León-Pérez, Virginia Commonwealth University
Victor Tan Chen, Virginia Commonwealth University

Description:

Do you teach research methods, introduction to sociology, or other courses on sociology fundamentals? Join us to discuss tips for teaching these classes in an engaging, accessible way. The authors of an open-access research methods textbook, *The Craft of Sociological Research* (<https://viva.pressbooks.pub/sociology-research-methods>), will introduce you to the wide world of open educational resources (OER), course materials that anyone is free to use and customize. We’ll discuss our methods textbook, how to find other open-access materials, and how to integrate them into your teaching. Then we’ll crowdsource ideas for what course structures, assignments, etc., work in teaching methods and other fundamentals. At the end, we’ll distribute the crowdsourced list—and raffle off a print copy of our textbook!

SPECIAL

Session 015: Building Community at SSSP
Room: Palace

Sponsor: Membership & Outreach Committee

Organizer &

Presider: Rin Ferraro, Sam Houston State University

Description:

This session is designed to build community at SSSP. We welcome new and seasoned participants to dialogue about how to get the most out of this unique professional experience. The Membership and Outreach Committee and Executive Officer will share insights into organizational benefits, and your engagement will help SSSP cultivate the relationships our academic networks seek.

Panelists:

Rin Ferraro, Sam Houston State University

Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University

Jalia L. Joseph, James Madison University

Samantha Marazzi, University of Connecticut

Kayla M. Martensen, The University of New Mexico

Elroi J. Windsor, University of West Georgia

Session 016: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Institutional Inequalities: Constraints on Communication, Research, Organizing, and Action

Room: Pearl

Sponsor: Poverty, Class, and Inequality

Organizer & Presider/

Discussant: Nicole Kraus, West Texas A&M University

Description:

This session invites research addressing institutional stratification in the capacity to conduct research, organize social action, and communicate both internally and with the broader public. How are institutions weathering political and economic challenges, and what strategies have proven successful in retaining independence of thought and action both on and off campus?

Papers:

“Higher Education Faculty and Students-Part of Today’s Working Class Struggle,” Walda Katz-Fishman, League of Revolutionaries for a New America and Howard University

“Racist Bullying and Betrayal in Higher Education,” Angie Beeman, Baruch College, CUNY

“Fighting Fascism is the Only Education That Matters,” Corey Dolgon, Eastern Connecticut State University

Session 017: Algorithmic Injustices: Effect of AI on Vulnerable (Marginalized) Communities

Room: Plymouth

Sponsors: Crime and Justice

Critical Race and Ethnic Study

Environment and Technology

Organizers: Miltonette Olivia Craig, Sam Houston State University

Marko Salvaggio, Tulane University

Presider &

Discussant: Marko Salvaggio, Tulane University

Description:

This session explores how AI technologies affect marginalized communities and the environment. Contributions may examine how algorithmic bias emerges in the criminal legal system—such as in predictive policing, crime risk assessments, and surveillance monitoring—as well as in environmental injustices, including biased resource management and inadequate allocation of environmental resources in low-income areas. Drawing on sociological theory, social research methodologies, and case studies, papers analyze the connections between AI technologies, marginalized groups, and environmental issues while proposing solutions for algorithmic accountability.

Papers:

“Algorithmic Fraud Detection as Digital Redlining,” Mahir Takak, University of Connecticut

“Data Center Development, Community Organizing, and the Perception of Environmental Harm,” Sophia Cimino, University of Delaware

“Unsound Science in Policing Technology: Corporate Resistance to Social Movement Activism,” Gabriel Rojas, The University of Chicago

2:30pm – 4:10pm

Meeting

Program Chair(s), 2025-26 & 2026-27 (Closed Meeting)

Room: Minetta

2:30pm – 4:10pm

Divisional Meetings

(Open to SSSP Members)

Educational Problems

Room: Ambassador III

Family, Aging, and Youth

Room: Ambassador III

Global

Room: Ambassador III

Poverty, Class, and Inequality

Room: Ambassador III

2:30pm – 4:10pm

Sessions

Session 018: Masculinities & Political Power

Room: Ambassador I

Sponsor: Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities

Organizer: Kat Fuller, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Presider &

Discussant: Jillian Sunderland, University of Toronto

Description:

This session explores the dynamic interplay among masculinities, male supremacy, politics, and social structures, highlighting how gender norms both shape and are shaped by contemporary social issues. Presentations examine how constructions of masculinity intersect with political ideology, expertise, health discourse, and institutional power.

Papers:

“Masculinity after Hegemony: Gender in the Interregnum,” Jillian Sunderland, University of Toronto

“Disorganized Loneliness: A Technofascist Framework,” Liz Wilcox, Boston College

“Illegitimate Expertise: Stigmatized Knowledge and Masculinity among Domsday Preppers,” Jonathan Nathaniel Redman, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and Saverio Michael Roscigno, University of California, Irvine

“‘It’s Misogyny, Not a Diagnosis’: Reddit Discourse on Boys’ Mental Health and Masculinity in Netflix’s Adolescence,” Esmeralda Ramirez and Spenser Dill, The University of Texas at Austin, Jessica Frankeberger, Arizona State University and Manuel A. Ocasio, Tulane University School of Medicine

“Women in Policing: The Trinidad and Tobago Gender Experience,” Karen Lancaster-Ellis, The University of the West Indies

THEMATIC**Session 019: All the Feels: Emotions as Acts of Resistance**

Room: Ambassador II

Sponsors: Social Problems Theory
Sport, Leisure, and the Body

Organizers: Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University
Joshua H. Stout, Illinois State University

Presider: Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University

Discussant: Joshua H. Stout, Illinois State University

Description:

Emotions in sport, leisure, and bodily performance are more than entertainment. They are social forces that challenge domination, subvert authority, and reclaim joy. From locker rooms to stadiums, emotions have long resisted the corporatization and bureaucratization of play. Athletes, fans, comedians, and participants use feeling to confront racism, sexism, ableism, and political control. This session invites papers exploring emotions as lifeworld practices that resist colonization, whether through stand-up, memes, digital critique, community theater, or parody leagues that disrupt gender norms. We welcome work that examines feeling and performance as embodied resistance, a tool for solidarity, and a medium for reimagining the social, political, and economic conditions of sport and leisure.

Papers:

“A ‘Spoonful of Sugar’: Comedy, Connection, and LGBTQ+ Social Change,” Lisa M. Stulberg, New York University

“Sociological Perspectives of Sports and Politics,” Sanjay Tewari, Indian Sociological Society and Federal Center of Theoretical and Applied Sociology of the Russian Academy of Sciences

“Burlesque Performance and Emotional Vulnerability: Therapy, Play, Community, and Catharsis,” Nicole Boussein Oehmen, Shenandoah University

“Humor, Embodied Emotional Play, and Resistance,” Leslie Wasson, Independent Scholar

“‘Being Jamaican Isn’t Just a Nationality, It’s an Experience’: Emotion and Black Placemaking among Ethnic Return Migrants to Jamaica,” Kayonne Christy, University of Michigan

Session 020: Caregivers, Care Recipients, and Health

Room: Minskoff

Sponsors: Health, Health Policy, and Health Services
Sociology, Social Work, and Social Welfare
Organizers: William D. Cabin, New York University Silver School of Social Work
Erica FS Jablonski, University of New Hampshire

Presider: Erica FS Jablonski, University of New Hampshire

Description:

This session focuses on research examining the nature of, or alternatives to, current policies and practices governing formal and informal caregiving for individuals with health concerns. Presentations may address any jurisdictional level (international, regional, national, state, or local) and may either analyze the impact of existing policies or practices on health outcomes or evaluate alternative approaches aimed at improving caregiving and health.

Papers:

"Diverse Forms of Caregiving through Homeshare Programs with Older Adults," Angela K. Perone, University of California, Berkeley, Molly Calhoun, California State University, Chico, Susanna R. Curry, California State University, Sacramento, Leyi Zhou, Army Kieu Vi Ton Nu and Caitlin Subijanto, University of California Berkeley School of Social Welfare

"The Policies, Politics, and Contradictions of the Financialization of Care," Robyn R. Rowe, The Graduate Center, CUNY and Hunter College, CUNY

"Caregiving Datasets and Access Issues for an Independent Scholar," Erica FS Jablonski, University of New Hampshire

"Trends in the Public Health Discourse Regarding a Sustained Crisis: Magnitude and Nature of Divergence from Public Health Principles and Competencies," Chandra L. Ford, Emory University and Natalie J. Bradford, The University of Texas at San Antonio

"The Cost of a Misunderstood Lived Experience: Exploring Black and African Identity Formation through a Second-generation," Abou Ibrahim-Biangoro, University of California, San Francisco

"A Cross-National Comparative Study of the Social Determinants of Health and their Role in Under-5 Mortality Rates," Maxwell Walter Ilecki, Miami University

SPECIAL

Session 021: Navigating Graduate School: Stress, Support, and Student Well-Being
Room: Palace

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer & President: Zehra Sahin Ilkorkor, Virginia Commonwealth University

Description:

This panel brings together graduate students from diverse backgrounds to explore the unique challenges and stressors they encounter during their academic journey. Panelists will discuss a range of factors that contribute to graduate student stress, including navigating relationships with supervisors, maintaining work-life balance, overcoming cultural and institutional barriers, and managing financial pressures. By sharing personal experiences and strategies for self-care, this panel aims to foster a supportive dialogue and provide practical insights for sustaining well-being throughout graduate education.

Panelists:

Rafia Javaid Mallick, Georgia State University

Zehra Sahin Ilkorkor, Virginia Commonwealth University

Stephen Silva-Brave, The University of Texas at Arlington

Session 022: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Teaching and Engaging with Reparations and Restorative Justice
Room: Pearl

Sponsors: Community, Research, and Practice
Critical Race and Ethnic Study

Organizers & Presiders/

Discussants: Sarah E. Stanlick, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Marta M. Maldonado, Oregon State University

Description:

In the current political context, pressures to erase marginalized histories and to ban the teaching of colonial, racialized, gendered, and classed histories—and their profound legacies and ongoing consequences—continue to mount. This session invites critical pedagogical interventions, analytical works, and case studies that center reparations as an ongoing political and practical necessity for reckoning with and addressing the impacts of historical and systemic harms.

Papers:

"Exploring the Efficacy of Support for Entrepreneurship in Detroit's Motor City Match Program," Marya R. Sosulski and Randi Mae Clayton-Ames, Michigan State University School of Social Work and Nathaniel G. Nowsch, Michigan State University

"Grassroots Agency: Community-Embedded Efforts to Address Urban Violence," Cheryl A. Hyde, Temple University

"Wounded Healers: Community Resilience and Laughter Yoga in Rwanda and Detroit," Paul Draus, University of Michigan—Dearborn

"Countermapping the City: Engaging Narrative and Visual Praxis for Urban Epistemic Justice," Alexa Cinque, The University of Chicago

"Nothing about Us without Us? Allyship, Collective Identity, and Leadership in the Movement to Abolish Life without Parole Sentencing," Kelsey Weymouth-Little, University of California, Irvine, Honorable Mention of the Conflict, Social Action, & Change Division's Student Paper Competition

THEMATIC

Session 023: Beyond Therapeutic Regimes: Critiquing Traditional Medical and Criminal Legal Responses
Room: Plymouth

Sponsors: Crime and Justice
Disability, Mental Wellness, and Social Justice
Law and Society

Organizers: Peper E. Rivers, Indiana University
Stephani Williams, Northern Arizona University
Melinda Leigh Maconi, Moffitt Cancer Center

Presider: Peper E. Rivers, Indiana University

Description:

Medical and legal systems have long relied on one another to manage populations deemed mentally ill, yet this interdependence produces outcomes far more complex than a simple medicalization-versus-criminalization binary. This session examines how therapeutic and punitive logics intertwine in practice, revealing institutional structures that perpetuate or obscure the challenges facing people with mental illness, substance use disorders, and criminal legal system involvement.

The session also explores new directions in the study of drug use. Papers examine implementation strategies for community-based interventions and present collaborative research models that center the expertise of people who use drugs. Collectively, these contributions challenge us to move beyond false binaries, recognize carcerality wherever it operates, and imagine alternatives grounded in autonomy and meaningful community participation.

Papers:

“Beyond Criminalization versus Medicalization: Reconceptualizing the Criminalization of Mental Illness,” Mariya A. Khan, University of Illinois Chicago

“‘Artificial Motivation’: Civil Commitment, Rehabilitation, and the Cultural Production of Addiction as Legal Pathology (1961–1971),” Peper E. Rivers, Indiana University

“Identifying Implementation Strategies to Support Programming That Addresses Criminal Risk Factors for People with Serious Mental Illness within Community Behavioral Health Service Settings,” Natalie Bonfine, Northeast Ohio Medical University, Amy Blank Wilson, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Faith Scanlon, Massachusetts General Hospital - Harvard Medical School, Anna Parisi, George Mason University, Jonathan Phillips, University of Minnesota, Robert D. Morgan, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Jamie Swaine and Caroline Ginley, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“Socioecological Correlates of Prison-Based MOUD Initiation among Persons with Opioid Use Disorder,” Carrie B. Oser, Marisa Booty and Maria Rockett, University of Kentucky

“Pursuing Legitimacy through Criminalization: A General Systems Theory Analysis of Behavioral Health System Response to Familiar Faces,” Leslie L. Wood, York Technical College, Stacey L. Barrenger and Shiah Kleinman, Northeast Ohio Medical University

“Doing Community-Based Research for Real,” Hiawatha Collins, Terrell Jones, Tom Blazsek and William Almodovar, Peer Network

of New York, David Frank, Alex S. Bennett and Holly Hagan, New York University

4:15pm – 6:15pm Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting II, 2025-26

Room: Minetta

4:30pm – 6:10pm Sessions

Session 024: Families in Distress: Caregiving for and with Family Members with Disabilities and/or Social Identity Challenges
Room: Ambassador I

Sponsors: Disability, Mental Wellness, and Social Justice
Family, Aging, and Youth

Organizer &

Presider: Muhammed Faisol Olaitan, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology

Description:

As the first social institution, the family plays a vital role in the survival and growth of its members. Families provide resources, nurturance, socialization, development of life skills, and support. Yet achieving these goals often comes with stress as families experience transitions, unexpected events, and shifting societal and political realities—all of which may be intensified for families of people with disabilities. This session explores how families experience and navigate such challenges, with particular attention to the development and integration of a family member with disabilities. Families can simultaneously provide support and serve as sites of additional crises. This session focuses on research examining the reciprocal relationship between support and stress within and around the family.

Papers:

“‘We (Don’t) Want to Be Like Them’: Self-Identity and Dramaturgical Dilemmas among Alcohol Abstainers at the University of Botswana,” Tebogo B. Sebeelo, University of Botswana

“Ajumobi O Kan T’Anu: Perpetrators of Victimization and the Effect on Women with Disabilities in Lagos State, Nigeria,” Muhammed Faisol Olaitan, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology

“Between Joy and Social Exclusion: A Systematic Literature Review on the Recreational Sports Experiences of People with Overweight or Obesity,” Johannes Müller, University of Vienna

“Governance in Crisis, Families in Distress: Pandemic Management and Divorce across Nations,” Banafsheh Aghayeeabianeh, Arkansas State University, Janet P. Stamatel, University of Kentucky and Veena Kulkarni, Arkansas State University

“Narrative of Self-Care, Responsibility, and Moral Soundness in End-of-Life Social Care Services,” Rebecca M. Blackwell, University of South Florida and Marta C. Blackwell, Canadian Council for the Americas

“Health Insurance Coverage and Access to Care among Older Immigrants: Evidence from the National Health Interview Survey, 2020–2023,” Momna Rani, University of North Texas

Session 025: Weaponization of Child Welfare
Room: Ambassador II

Sponsors: Crime and Justice
Sociology, Social Work, and Social Welfare

Organizers: Miltonette Olivia Craig, Sam Houston State University
Denae J. Cook, University of Utah

Presider: Denae J. Cook, University of Utah

Description:

This session examines how child welfare systems often operate as tools of control and surveillance to regulate lifeworlds. Within contemporary child welfare systems, marginalized families and BIPOC communities are disproportionately surveilled, investigated, and separated. Under the guise of “protection,” policies and practices dismantle kinship networks, impose white, middle-class family norms, and punish families for systemic inequities beyond their control. Panelists demonstrate how these patterns reflect colonial practices and dominant carceral systems while overlooking community-driven solutions. Discussants explore ways to resist harmful colonialist practices and imagine new approaches to child and family well-being rooted in dignity, solidarity, and collective care.

Papers:

“‘I Wouldn’t Want Your Job’: Child Protection as Dirty Work,” Keith R. Johnson, Independent Scholar

“Disparate Child Welfare Responses to Sexual Abuse Cases involving AI/AN Children: Context, Actions, and Outcomes,” Paul D. Steele, Professor Emeritus, The University of New Mexico

“Girls, Take Care and Boys Be a Man: Gendered Interventions in Policing ‘Delinquency’ among Latina Youth,” Alexia Palomino-Cortez, University of Illinois Chicago

“Governing the Poor: Poverty, Perception, and Child Welfare Reunification: A Scoping Review of Poverty Bias in Child Welfare between 2015–2025,” Denae J. Cook, University of Utah

“Racial Violence in the Name of Care: Neoliberalism, Carcerality, and the Afterlives of MacLaren Hall,” Akhila L. Ananth, California State University, Los Angeles

Session 026: PAPERS IN THE ROUND: Scholar Café: Building Collective Wisdom through Intergenerational Scholar Sharing
Room: Ambassador III

Sponsor: Community, Research, and Practice

Organizer: Sarah E. Stanlick, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Description:

This session offers a roundtable opportunity for intergenerational sharing of experiences as social justice and social problems scholars. In a recent gathering, participants identified the significant wisdom within the membership of SSSP, as well as a clear opportunity to build stronger bonds to sustain scholars during an increasingly challenging higher education landscape. This session is designed as a set of prompted roundtable discussions to encourage participants to share their professional journeys, discuss pressing issues in their work, and build connections for future scholarship and action.

Roundtable #1 Title: Scholar Café: Building Collective Wisdom through Intergenerational Scholar Sharing

Presider: Sarah E. Stanlick, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Papers:

“A Systematic Review of Prejudice against Immigrant Women in Organizational Leadership in the United States,” Vanessa Ampofoa Boadu, Ohio University

“Contesting the Court: Reform and Retrenchment in Criminal and Racial Justice Activism,” Cathy Hu, University of California, Berkeley

“Elders’ Stories of Resilience and Resistance Guide Young People into a Climate-Changed Future: A Student-Led Oral History Collection,” Finn McLafferty Bell, University of Michigan-Dearborn

“Navigating Civilian Life After Combat: Veterans’ Perspectives,” Melissa Villarreal, Nicholas K. Stevenson and Angel M. Burns, Grand Valley State University

“Teaching and Researching Race, Gender and Migration in Texas,” Luis A. Romero and Amina Zarrugh, Texas Christian University

“Which Relationships Matter? The Mediating Effect of Social Bonds on Immigration and Crime,” Sirat Kaur, University at Buffalo

Session 027: WORKS IN PROGRESS / RESEARCH FEEDBACK:
Media and Technology as Sites of Digital
Contestation and Resistance
 Room: Ambassador III

Sponsor: Conflict, Social Action, and Change

Organizer: Sara Tehrani, University of Central Florida

Description:

Resistance and social action manifest across a range of spaces, including the symbolic and discursive realms of media and technology. This session conceptualizes media and technology as dynamic arenas of social engagement, contestation, and transformation. It examines how individuals, communities, and movements strategically mobilize digital platforms, technological tools, and AI systems to articulate identities, confront inequality, amplify marginalized voices, raise awareness of social problems, organize collective action, and contest dominant narratives. Papers may examine a range of topics at the intersections of media, technology, and social change, including digital activism, cultural production, political communication, grassroots organizing, algorithmic bias, platform politics, and the role of media technologies in shaping public discourse and policy outcomes.

Roundtable #1 Title: AI, Technology, and Education and Pedagogy

Presider &

Discussant: Kea Saper, University of California, San Diego

Papers:

“Visualizing Opportunity: Using Community Asset Mapping to Uncover Trends in Resource Mobilization and Positive Outcomes in Detroit’s Motor City Match Grant Program,” Marya R. Sosulski, Michigan State University School of Social Work, Nathaniel G. Nowsch, Michigan State University and Randi Mae Clayton-Ames, Michigan State University School of Social Work

“Experiments in AI-Engaged Pedagogy,” Greg Shawn Scott and Julie Patarin-Jossec, DePaul University

“Co-Creating Artificial Intelligence Classroom Policies,” Atticus M. Wolfe, Agnes Scott College

“Exploring Motivations for Online Courses at MSIs and PWIs,” Kea Saper, University of California, San Diego

“Digital Connectivity and Social Solidarity,” Yuying Shen, Norfolk State University

Roundtable #2 Title: Media, Technology, and Inequality

Presider &

Discussant: Yvonne A. Braun, University of Oregon

Papers:

“Digital Activism: Social Media, Framing and Collective Action in the Struggle against Femicide in Kenya,” Constance Manga Ndeleko and Yvonne A. Braun, University of Oregon

“Beyond Basic Skills: Intersectional Digital Health Literacy Challenges and Resources for Ethnic Minority Older Adults in Hong Kong,” Padmore Adusei Amoah, Lingnan University and Adwoa Owusua Koduah, Tung Wah College

“Media as a Site of Transformation and Resistance in the Weight-Inclusive Healthcare Movement,” Gabby Gomez, Macalester College

“Supply and Care: Campus Food Pantries and Graduate Student Hunger at an Elite University,” Ambria Jones, Brandeis University

Session 028: The Problem Pipeline: How Social Problems Become Research Agendas - Special Issue of Global Discourse
 Room: Minskoff

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer, Presider &

Discussant: Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University

Description:

This session examines how social problems come to be defined, prioritized, and legitimized within academic research. It asks how scholarly agendas are shaped by institutional incentives, funding structures, publication economies, and disciplinary traditions. In dialogue with the 2026 Society for the Study of Social Problems theme, Resisting Colonization of Lifeworlds, the session treats the “problem pipeline” as a site where academic knowledge production can either reproduce extractive logics or defend lifeworlds as spaces of meaning, care, and solidarity. We invite theoretical, empirical, methodological, and reflexive contributions that interrogate how special issues, edited volumes, and other gatekeeping mechanisms shape research priorities, distribute scholarly attention, and influence justice, equity, and public engagement within the social sciences.

Panelists:

Joel Best, University of Delaware

Jarrett Robert Rose, SUNY Polytechnic Institute

Virginia Kuulei Berndt, McDaniel College

Douglas V. Porpora, Drexel University

Session 029: Humanist Sociology: past, Present and Future
 Room: Palace

Sponsors: Association for Humanist Sociology
 Program Committee

Organizer &

Presider: Corey Dolgon, Eastern Connecticut State University

Description:

This session will examine the history of humanist sociology and its role in encouraging, supporting and practicing activist scholarship. While some panelists will look at past efforts and the Association for Humanist Sociology in particular, most will focus on contemporary practices and approaches for humanist sociology. After brief comments from the panelists we hope to spend much of our time in critical dialogues about the future of humanist sociology and its place within and outside of the discipline.

Panelists:

Bhoomi K. Thakore, University of Connecticut

Willow Sipling, Western Michigan University

Armani Beck, Dartmouth College

Chenesia Brown, SUNY Oswego

Nancy Rios-Contreras, Chapman University

Session 030: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Fighting Global Inequalities: Actions towards Social, Ethnoracial and/or Gender Justice
Room: Pearl

Sponsors: Global Poverty, Class, and Inequality

Organizers: Nicole Kraus, West Texas A&M University
Beatriz Padilla, University of South Florida

Presider/

Discussant: Nicole Kraus, West Texas A&M University

Description:

Since the onset of globalization, inequalities have been on the rise. While class struggle remains central, other forms of inequality—such as those based on gender, race, and ethnicity—have become increasingly recognized across societies. These inequalities have a decisive global impact, particularly in the asymmetries between the Global North and the Global South in terms of power differentials, access to resources, and extractivism. This critical dialogue invites speakers to address these issues, with particular attention to examples of resistance that seek to confront and transform such inequalities.

Papers:

“From Women’s Gold to Men’s Market: Global Value Chains and Evolving Traditions in Nigeria’s Shea Economy,” Idowu Alabi, Wayne State University, Winner of the Global Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Haryarvi Jaat Girls’ Affective Resistance as Micro-Modal Feminist Activism,” Namrata Shokeen, Arizona State University

“La Colectiva: A Plática about Collective, Community-Centered Care and Resistance Responding to the Impacts of ICE Family Separations,” Florence Emily Castillo, Rice University; La Colectiva NTX, Sandra E. Avalos, La Colectiva NTX; People of Color in Action, Angélica Elizabeth Andrade and Francisco Mercado-Romero, La Colectiva NTX

“Methamphetamine Use in Mexico City: Identifying Preliminary Patterns, Drug Checking, and HIV Risk,” Alice Cepeda, Jessica Frankeberger, Mario Dominguez, Eduardo Zafra and Carlos Zamudio, Arizona State University, Nefertari Rincon-Guerra, University of Southern California, Esmeralda Ramirez, The University of Texas at Austin and Avelardo Valdez, Arizona State University

“Unstable Categories: Creativity and Vulnerability in Transnational Transgender Politics,” J. Michael Ryan, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

Session 031: Gender and Violence: International Perspectives
Room: Plymouth

Sponsors: Crime and Justice
Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities
Law and Society

Organizer: Lloyd Klein, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY

Presider &

Discussant: hara bastas, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY

Description:

This session examines the intersections of gender and violence across global contexts. Papers explore gender-based violence, gendered patterns in criminal behavior, and anti-violence movements, with attention to legal systems and broader institutional dynamics.

Papers:

“Everyday Violence and Structural Inequality: Caste and Gender Oppression of Dalit Women in Punjab,” Ritu Singh, University of Delhi and Ravinder Goyat, Independent Researcher

“Feminist Knowledge as Praxis: Resisting Femicide in Türkiye,”
Fatime Güneş, Anadolu University

“Strategizing Gender: Experiences of Transmasculine Folk with
Police and Security Forces in the Metropolitan Area of Buenos
Aires,” Francis J. Fabre, The University of Chicago, Winner of the
Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division’s
Student Paper Competition

6:30pm – 7:30pm Reception

Welcoming Reception: Open to SSSP Registrants

Location: Gershwin Foyer

All meeting registrants are invited to the Welcoming Reception.
This social hour provides opportunities to renew past
acquaintances, chat with old friends, and find a newcomer to
befriend. New members and first-time meeting attendees are
particularly encouraged to attend. Complimentary beer, wine,
and non-alcoholic beverages and hors d’oeuvres will be available.

7:45pm – 8:45pm Student Social Hour

Student Social Hour: Open to SSSP Student Members

Location: Foundry Bar

All student members are invited to attend the Student Social
Hour. One complimentary beer, wine, or non-alcoholic beverage
will be provided to each attending student member.

Saturday, August 8

7:15am – 8:15am New Member Breakfast

New Member Breakfast
(Open to SSSP New Members and Invited Hosts)

Location: Ambassador III

The New Member Breakfast strives to make our new members' first experience with SSSP memorable. Enter the room with a "New Member" or "Host" ribbon on your SSSP name badge and be ready to:

- Network
- Meet established members
- Ask questions
- Socialize

Long-term SSSP members will be there to welcome you to SSSP, network, and answer questions you have about our vital organization.

8:30am – 10:10am Meetings

Anti-Harassment Committee, 2025-26 & 2026-27

Room: Booth Boardroom

Program Co-Chairs, 2026-27 Meeting with the President and Administrative Officer

Room: Majestic Ballroom

8:30am – 10:10am Sessions

Session 032: Invisible Families

Room: Broadway I

Sponsors: Family, Aging, and Youth
Poverty, Class, and Inequality

Organizer: Tia M. Dickerson, Columbia University

Presider &

Discussant: Chris Wellin, Illinois State University

Description:

This session focuses on diversity within family life, highlighting forms of family beyond the white, middle-class, heteronormative households that receive the bulk of attention in family research. We welcome submissions that address topics such as racial and ethnic identity in family experiences, LGBTQ+ family life, diverse forms of parenting and parenthood, and the experiences of children and adults with disabilities within families. Work on other forms of family diversity is also encouraged.

Papers:

"Earning Money the Hard Way: Former Seasonal Farmworker Youth's Entry into Labor as Precarity Management," Natalia Candelaria Gonzalez, University of California, Irvine, Winner of

the Family, Aging, and Youth Division's Student Paper Competition

"Found Family: Queering Families to Survive and Thrive," Sameera V. Akella, Stonehill College

"Gendered Sensemaking in Heterosexual Relationship Formation Narratives: A Computational Text Analysis of Online Dating and Relationship Intermediaries," Cristina Zito, University of California, Davis

"Reframing Adolescent Children of Sex Workers as Care Receivers and Caregivers Using the Southern Feminist Lens of Deep Care," Anuneeta Chatterjee, University of Calgary, Honorable Mention of the Family, Aging, and Youth Division's Student Paper Competition

THEMATIC

Session 033: Law in/as Crisis: Punishment and the Legitimacy of State Violence

Room: Broadway II

Sponsor: Law and Society

Organizers: Michael Branch, Hawai'i Community College
Sino V. Esthappan, Northwestern University

Presider: Michael Branch, Hawai'i Community College

Description:

This panel interrogates how punishment shapes, justifies, and destabilizes the legitimacy of state violence. The papers examine immigration enforcement, migrant crisis governance, and the relationship between economic contribution and ICE arrests, revealing tensions between labor demand and deportation regimes. Panelists will also address the ways in which state violence is normalized through bureaucratic practice and public discourse, even as affected communities question, reinterpret, and resist its authority.

Papers:

"'Money Instead of Change': How Civil Compensation for Police Violence Shapes Litigants' Views of the State," Solome Solomon Haile, Princeton University, Winner of the Law and Society Division's Student Paper Competition

"Lessons Learned: Government Response to the Migrant Crisis," Edwin Grimsley, Felicia Arriaga, Masooma Amin, Daisy Flores and Nishanthini Mahendran, Baruch College, CUNY

"Making a Worker: Manufacturing Consent for Penal Labor through News Media Coverage of Incarcerated Women Firefighters," Raquel Guzman Delorme, University of Southern California

"The Costs of Justice: Assessing the Legitimacy of Fines and Fees in Florida," Tanajia D. Moye-Green, Stanford University

"Technologies of Immigration Enforcement: Understanding the Role of Private Industry," Eyako Heh, Northwestern University

THEMATIC

Session 034: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Decolonizing Solutions: Lessons from the Global South for the Global North

Room: Broadway III

Sponsors: Conflict, Social Action, and Change
Global
Social Problems Theory

Organizers: Sione Lynn Pili Lister, Arizona State University
Ghassan Moussawi, University of Illinois Chicago

Presider/

Discussant: Sione Lynn Pili Lister, Arizona State University

Description:

Theoretical foundations for addressing social problems have primarily relied on frameworks developed in, and often applied to, the Global North. Frequently, such frameworks are applied in a colonial fashion to the Global South. In an effort to decolonize this dimension of the conversation, this session centers the theoretical frameworks and social change strategies of the Global South in addressing social problems in the Global North.

Papers:

"Does the U.S. State's Violation of the National Sovereignty of Venezuela Mark a Deviation from Its Foreign Policy, or Is It Merely Par for the Course?" Vince Montes, Northeastern University

"Indigenous Epistemological Traditions of the Natural World: Coming to Know Nature-Beings and Cosmological Lessons," Doreen E. Martinez, Colorado State University

"Plantation Politics: U.S. Empire's Farmworker Paradox," Alejandro Tovar, The University of New Mexico

"Recognition Without Rights? Public Policy, Social Inclusion, and the Human Rights Landscape for Hijra (Third Gender)," Ridwan Islam Sifat, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

"Red (Re)orientations and the Reels/Reals Line: Re-Indigenizing Frameworks for Unmasking Redface, Resistance, and Indigenous Media Sovereignty," Rowan Greywolf Moore, Arizona State University

"Tribute Grammar: The Art of Staying Otherwise," Sarai Richter, Arizona State University

Session 035: Disasters and Health

Room: Manhattan

Sponsor: Health, Health Policy, and Health Services

Organizer, Presider &

Discussant: Virginia Kuulei Berndt, McDaniel College

Description:

Disasters are increasing in frequency and severity, spanning climate-related events, epidemics and pandemics, social disruptions such as war and conflict, and more. The impacts of disasters on health, healthcare, and health policy are substantial. Social vulnerability perspectives suggest that disasters disproportionately affect marginalized populations by exacerbating preexisting inequalities in disaster contexts. This session includes papers examining disasters and health, including migration, the COVID-19 pandemic, homelessness, and environmental concerns.

Papers:

"'Like a House Fire Every Week': Urban Homelessness Management and the Dispossession of Life-Affirming Belongings," Nicolas Gutierrez III, University of Southern California, Honorable Mention of the Poverty, Class, and Inequality Division's Student Paper Competition

"Place Matters: Regional and Residential Predictors of Environmental Worry across the United States," M. E. Betsy Garrison, University of Arkansas, Elisabeth Ponce-Garcia, The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Charleen McNeill, The University of Southern Mississippi, Robert V. Rohli and Nazla Bushra, Louisiana State University and Shobha Yadav, Texas A&M University

"Re-entry Is Re-injury: The Consequences of Multiple Border Crossings on Deportees' Reintegration in the U.S.," Angie Monreal, University of California, Irvine

"Social Vulnerability and COVID-19 Vaccination Rates: A Comparative Analysis across U.S. States and Counties," Ting-Hui Lin, University at Buffalo, SUNY, Winner of the Health, Health Policy, and Health Services Division's Student Paper Competition

"Post-Pandemic Perspectives on Children's Social-Emotional Development," Nicholas K. Stevenson and Melissa Villarreal, Grand Valley State University

THEMATIC

Session 036: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Resistance and Joy

Room: Melville

Sponsor: Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities

Organizer & Presider/

Discussant: Ying-Chao Kao, Virginia Commonwealth University

Description:

Following in the call from Shuster & Westbrook to center joy better in sociological work, this session looks at ways in which, amid a global rise of fascism and anti-LGBTQ+ movements, those of varying identities are engaging in resistance movements. In particular (though not limited only to this), we seek papers which look at how these resistance movements embrace cultures of joy as resistance tactics.

Papers:

“Joy as Method: Black Queer Placemaking in Higher Education and Family,” Amina P. Melendez-Mayfield, Arizona State University

“Bounded Desirability: How Anti-Blackness Shapes Interracial Intimacy among and between Queer Men of Color,” Jyun-Jie Yang, University of California, Davis, Winner of the Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Feeling Categorization: Gender Outside the Binary and Alternative Epistemologies,” Rae Willis-Conger, University of California, Berkeley

“From Doing to Being Transgender: A Collective Path to Inclusion,” Martina Speranza, University of Florida

“Trans Joy as Collective Practice: Filipino Domestic Workers and Sunday Public Gatherings in Hong Kong,” Dongyoung Kim, Boston University

“Resistant Legitimizing Body: Iranian Women and the Decolonization of Moral Legitimacy,” Neda Haji Vosough, Rowan University

THEMATIC

Session 037: Teaching Hope, Joy, and Justice: Reclamation of Lifeworlds
Room: Palace

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer &

Presider: Hadi Khoshnevis, Rhodes College

Discussant: Evelyn M. Perry, Rhodes College

Description:

As students confront unprecedented challenges—such as climate change, restrictive abortion laws, and the rise of nativism—how can educators integrate historical analysis with contemporary struggles without fostering a sense of historical

stasis or political fatalism? This session explores how teaching—through syllabus design, classroom practice, and assessment—can cultivate hope, joy, and justice while maintaining sociology’s commitment to structural analysis. Participants consider how the discipline might offer students plausible pathways toward transformation and emancipation. Drawing on critical traditions, including Angela Davis’s critique of reform as cosmetic and deferred justice, the session asks whether we can envision a revolutionary horizon and articulate its plausibility within contemporary capitalism.

Panelists:

Sarah Jane Brubaker, Virginia Commonwealth University

hephzibah v. strmic-pawl, LaGuardia Community College

Kayla M. Martensen, The University of New Mexico

stef m. shuster, Michigan State University

Evelyn M. Perry, Rhodes College

Session 038: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Under Siege: Power, Resistance, and Solidarity in Higher Education
Room: Pearl

Sponsors: Critical Race and Ethnic Study
Educational Problems

Organizers & Presiders/

Discussants: Amani M. Awwad, SUNY Canton
Christina Perez, Dominican University

Description:

Students, faculty, and institutions face escalating authoritarian threats such as political attacks, funding cuts, and efforts to silence academic inquiry. These assaults intensify longstanding racial, ethnic, gendered, and class disparities within higher education. This session examines how authoritarian pressures reinforce inequality and how communities of scholars and students are developing practices of resistance, solidarity, and participatory democracy. Ethnic studies and other critical traditions have historically played a central role in these struggles, and they continue to provide vital frameworks for surviving this moment, resisting authoritarianism, and fighting for liberation.

Papers:

“‘Canada Is Welcoming, but...’: Racism, Discrimination, and Macroaggressions among International Students in Nova Scotia, Canada,” Eugena Kwon, Trent University

“Missing the Boat: Social Class and Extracurriculars in the Elite Education-to-Employment Pipeline,” Joyce J. Kim and Tristan Ly, University of Pennsylvania, Winner of the Educational Problems Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Pedagogy amidst Polarization: Teaching Systemic Inequalities alongside the Rise of Far-Right Student Organizing,” Melissa A. Alvare, Monmouth University

“Racialized Framing in Higher Education Policy: A Case Study from Florida,” Annie Jones, University of Central Florida, Honorable Mention of the Educational Problems Division’s Student Paper Competition

Session 039: Mass Incarceration and Perpetual Punishment I
Room: Plymouth

Sponsor: Crime and Justice

Organizer: Kristen M. Budd, The Sentencing Project

Presider &

Discussant: Breana Frazier, Florida International University

Description:

This session on mass incarceration explores the intersection of mass incarceration and the U.S. criminal legal system’s overreliance on perpetual punishment. Perpetual punishment is broadly defined to include the pains of incarceration, extreme sentencing, denials of criminal legal relief, and other collateral consequences that result from a criminal conviction.

Papers:

“A Marked Decrease in Detentions’: Lessons from the Immigration and Naturalization Service’s Decarceration Experiment, 1933,” Audrey Augenbraum, University of California, Berkeley

“Advocating for ‘The Worst of the Worst’: Alliance-Building in the Movement to Abolish Life without Parole Sentencing,” Kelsey Weymouth-Little, University of California, Irvine

“From Foster Care to the Juvenile Justice System,” Breana Frazier, Florida International University

“Mapping Carceral Landscapes: Towards a Multi-Institutional Theory and Measure of State Punishment,” Kendall Riley, University of Iowa

“Sex in the Carceral State,” Maximillian Calleo, University of Massachusetts Amherst

10:30am – 12:10pm Meeting

Membership and Outreach Committee, 2025-26 & 2026-27
Room: Booth Boardroom

10:30am – 12:10pm

Sessions

SPECIAL

Session 040: Academic Freedom in the Current Climate: A Conversation with the Scholars at Risk Network
Room: Broadway I

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer: Sarah Jane Brubaker, Virginia Commonwealth University

Presenters: Reed Couvillon, Scholars at Risk
Sarah Jane Brubaker, Virginia Commonwealth University

Description:

Scholars at Risk has helped thousands of at-risk scholars, documented attacks on higher education in over 100 countries, and advocated for stronger protections for academic freedom worldwide. The theme for their 25th anniversary, “Truth Matters,” is an opportunity to recommit to this work and the values behind it. This session will provide an opportunity to learn more about SAR’s work and ways to increase protection for scholars. We invite SSSP members to come and share their experiences and concerns and work toward solutions in community.

Session 041: PAPERS IN THE ROUND: Building Collective Wisdom through Intergenerational Scholar Sharing
Room: Majestic Ballroom

Sponsors: Community, Research, and Practice
Labor Studies

Organizer: Leticia Morales, University of Southern California

Description:

This session brings together scholars at different career stages to reflect on the value of intergenerational exchange in knowledge production, mentorship, and community building. Presenters explore how sharing experiences across generations strengthens collective wisdom, sustains critical traditions, and nurtures emerging scholars. Topics include navigating academic pathways, fostering supportive professional networks, and leveraging diverse perspectives to reimagine the future of scholarship. By foregrounding collaboration and dialogue, the panel demonstrates how intergenerational engagement enriches research practices, democratizes expertise, and cultivates more inclusive intellectual communities.

Roundtable #1 Title: Session: PAPERS IN THE ROUND: Building Collective Wisdom through Intergenerational Scholar Sharing

Presider & Discussant: Leticia Morales, University of Southern California

Papers:

"Digital Lives, Street Realities: Rethinking Abuse and Psychological Well-Being among Street Youth," Padmore Adusei Amoah, Lingnan University

"Learning from Academic Life Histories: Intervening on an Intergenerational Deficit in Academic Mentorship," Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia

"Lessons from the League of Revolutionary Black Workers for Working-Class Struggle Today," Walda Katz-Fishman, League of Revolutionaries for a New America and Howard University and Jerome Scott, League of Revolutionaries for a New America

"The Pandemic's Silver Lining: How COVID Improved My Teaching and Mentoring," Wendy Simonds, Georgia State University

Session 042: WORKS IN PROGRESS: Environment, Inequality, and Marginalized Knowledge
Room: Majestic Ballroom

Sponsors: Environment and Technology
Poverty, Class, and Inequality

Organizers: Tanesha A. Thomas, Montclair State University
Nicole Kraus, West Texas A&M University

Description:

Environments, inequality, and marginalized knowledge are deeply interrelated aspects of social and ecological life, yet inequality shapes who bears the burden of environmental harm and who enjoys its benefits. Indigenous peoples and low-income communities of color are disproportionately exposed to environmental hazards, while wealthier populations have greater ability to influence policy. Marginalized and Indigenous knowledge plays a crucial role in challenging these dynamics. This inclusive session is designed to foster intellectual and community-based connections and to encourage both ongoing and emerging projects.

Roundtable #1 Title: WORKS IN PROGRESS: Environment, Inequality, and Marginalized Knowledge

Presider: Tanesha A. Thomas, Montclair State University

Papers:

"Beyond the Victim/Perpetrator Binary: Subaltern Political Ecology and Human-Elephant Conflicts in Odisha, India," Lalatendu Keshari Das, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

"Feminist Environmental Justice in Practice: Women as Agents of Change in the Niger Delta's Oil Conflict," Oyeintarimboere P. Azebi and Yvonne A. Braun, University of Oregon

"Global Capitalism, Extractivism, and the Age of the Anthropocene: Challenges from Indigenous Women of the Global South and Their Implications for the Marxist-Feminist Deglobalization Movement," Ligaya Lindio McGovern, Indiana University

"Visual Case Study of Natural Green Spaces in Chula Vista, CA: Otay Valley Regional Park," Kevin Guerrero, San Diego State University & University of California, Irvine

"Women, Food Sovereignty and Postharvest Management in Northern Ghana," Sabina Mensah, Hulda Sakyi and Yvonne A. Braun, University of Oregon

"A New Century, an Old Problem: A Nationwide Intersectional Analysis of Landfills across the United States," Clare E. B. Cannon, University of California, Davis

THEMATIC

Session 043: Anticolonial Social Movements
Room: Manhattan

Sponsor: Sociology, Social Work, and Social Welfare

Organizer, Presider & Discussant: Agata Pacheco, Purdue University

Description:

Anticolonial social movements have been a significant force in struggles for freedom and self-determination. Emerging from diverse regions around the world, these movements have been driven by demands for cultural sovereignty, political independence, and the dismantling of oppressive systems. They have employed a range of strategies—from nonviolent resistance to armed struggle—to challenge colonial rule and advance the rights of colonized peoples. Colonization, in its many forms, relies on processes such as objectification, commodification, corporatization, financialization, criminalization, militarization, and bureaucratization. Papers in this session examine how anticolonial movements have resisted the colonization of lifeworlds historically and how they continue to shape struggles in the present.

Papers:

"'We Are the Answer': Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Advocates Defending Indigenous Lifeworlds and Resisting Coloniality," Sara Tehrani, University of Central Florida

"Complicity and Resistance: Japanese Feminism and Relational Power in the 1970s," Riko Kobayashi, The University of Chicago

"Grassroots Empowerment Innovations in African Cultures: Drawing on Participatory Research Initiative," Warner Woodworth, University of Utah

"Stewardship as Resistance to Colonization Forces," Diana Papademas, SUNY Old Westbury

"Doing the Work: How Frontline Mental Health Social Workers Make Meaning of Their Roles and Effectiveness in NYC Nonprofit Agencies," Sabrina Hathweh-Stellwag, Adelphi University

THEMATIC

Session 044: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Medicalization and Surveillance of Gender and Sex
Room: Melville

Sponsors: Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities
Health, Health Policy, and Health Services

Organizer & Presider/

Discussant: Ronald E. Bulanda, Miami University

Description:

This session focuses on the ways gender and sex have been medicalized and how medicalization and surveillance enact and enforce inequalities. In this critical dialogue, presenters engage attendees in a discussion of how institutions function as systems of control and consider ways we might reimagine these structures.

Papers:

"A Theoretical Evaluation of the Minority Stress Model: A Nursing Perspective," John A. Fuller, Emory University

"'Connected to Both Places': How Community-Building Shapes the Mental Health Care Experiences of Transgender Adolescents and Young Adults," Emily A. Flesher and Meredith G. F. Worthen, The University of Oklahoma

"Exploring the Healthcare Experiences of Intersex Individuals in the United States," Ridwan Islam Sifat, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

"In the Name of Fair Play: The Sport of Policing Gender and Sex in Women's Athletic Competitions," Kathryn Henne, Australian National University

"Investigating the Medical Cistem: Researcher Positionality as Resource and Vulnerability," Jennifer Hites-Thomas, SUNY Oswego

"The Structural-Relational Ecosystem of Inequity (SREI): An Intersectionality-Informed Model of Harm in Health and Social

Service Systems," Dejamarie Crozier, Howard University; An Insightful Journey and Rita Jacobs, Howard University

Session 045: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Exploring and Resisting Academic Ableism
Room: Palace

Sponsors: Disability, Mental Wellness, and Social Justice Educational Problems

Organizer & Presider/

Discussant: Melinda Leigh Maconi, Moffitt Cancer Center

Description:

Despite the existence of policies mandating accessibility in education, learning institutions of all types continue to perpetuate and reify ableism. Educational policies are not made with accessibility in mind but are instead created for certain bodies, minds, and abilities, with ad hoc accommodations later offered—often inconsistently—to those whose needs do not fit these norms. People with disabilities can and do resist this marginalization, yet they often remain within institutions designed to uphold ableism. This critical dialogue explores both the oppression of people with disabilities in academic settings and the forms of resistance that emerge in response.

Papers:

"'Schools Don't Give a Fuck about Mental Health': Mental Health Discourse in a Public High School," Karlyn J. Gorski, The University of Chicago

"Accessing Help through a Top Canadian University's Not-So-Accessible Accessibility Office: Retracing a Disabled Doctoral Student's Accessibility Advising Encounters," Justin Chen, University of Toronto

"College, Ableism, and the Systemic Exclusion of People with Disabilities," Sydney Ruskey, Wilkes University

"Dismantling Ableism in the Qualitative Research Process: Developing Guidelines for Understanding Lived Experiences of Disabled Communities," Jimin Sung, Columbia University

"In Support of the Masked Classroom: Enhancing College Student Engagement, Leadership, and Access through Course Masking Policies," Atticus M. Wolfe, Agnes Scott College

"Intercepting Sanism in Higher Education," Gillian V. Bryant, Arizona State University

Session 046: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Right to Resist: Counter-Hegemonic Agency and Emancipatory Anti-colonial Political Praxis
Room: Pearl

Sponsor: Critical Race and Ethnic Study

Organizers: C. Michael Awsumb, Northwest Missouri State University
Watoii Rabii, Oakland University
Marta M. Maldonado, Oregon State University

Presiders/

Discussants: C. Michael Awsumb, Northwest Missouri State University
Marta M. Maldonado, Oregon State University

Description:

You will not be emancipated by the benevolence of an oppressor”—and so, how shall we resist? This session explores questions and lived experiences of unapologetic and transformative political praxis against oppression and injustice (e.g., colonization, violence, genocide, crimes of the powerful, racism, ethnocentrism, sexism, structural violence) and the political systems that sustain them. Of particular interest are papers that engage the question: “Who determines the ‘right’ or ‘acceptable’ way to resist your oppressor?”

Papers:

“The Radical Sociological Imagination: Mapping Decolonial Possibility through Mutual Aid Practice in Political Witchcraft and Kashmiri Scholar-Activism,” Apoorva Joshi, Rutgers University

“Expanding Antiracist Agency in Organizations,” Fernando A. Ospina, Western Michigan University and Ruth T. Butters, Western Michigan University School of Medicine

“Lessons from the Peripheries: Resistance among U.S. Territorial Peoples,” Sione Lynn Pili Lister, Arizona State University, Honorable Mention of the Global Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Protection, Care, and the ‘Right Way’ to Advocate: Racial Resistance in Chicago High Schools,” Ana Vasan, The University of Chicago

“Is This Love or a New Power Struggle?: Malian Women’s Perceptions of Chinese and Russian Influence under Coloniality,” Kadidja Vohou-Diaby, Kennesaw State University

Session 047: Mass Incarceration and Perpetual Punishment II
Room: Plymouth

Sponsor: Crime and Justice

Organizer: Kristen M. Budd, The Sentencing Project

Presider &

Discussant: Jennifer M. Carpenter, Georgia State University

Description:

This series on mass incarceration examines the intersection of mass incarceration and the U.S. criminal legal system’s overreliance on perpetual punishment. Perpetual punishment is broadly defined to include the pains of incarceration, extreme sentencing, denials of legal relief, and other collateral consequences resulting from a criminal conviction. This session focuses on punishment, collateral consequences, reentry, and the challenges of living in community after incarceration.

Papers:

“Examining and Comparing the Specific Needs of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Individuals after Criminal Justice Involvement,” Jennifer M. Carpenter, Georgia State University

“Indignant Citizens: Strategizing Belonging by Family Members of People on the Sex Offender Registry,” Margaret E. Buckridge, University of California, Irvine, Chrysanthi Leon, University of Delaware, Ashley Kilmer, Towson University and Lucy Nistler, University of Delaware

12:30pm – 2:10pm Meeting

Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee, 2026-27

Room: Booth Boardroom

**12:30pm – 2:10pm Divisional Meeting
(Open to SSSP Members)**

Institutional Ethnography

Room: Majestic Ballroom

12:30pm – 2:10pm Sessions

THEMATIC

Session 048: Law in/as Crisis: Legal Consciousness and Rights Mobilization

Room: Broadway II

Sponsor: Law and Society

Organizers: Michael Branch, Hawai’i Community College
Sino V. Esthappen, Northwestern University

Presider &

Discussant: Michael Branch, Hawai’i Community College

Description:

This session examines how legal consciousness shapes the mobilization, interpretation, and limits of rights claims across varied contexts. Moving between post-conflict justice, workplace equity, legal pluralism, and everyday dispossession, the papers analyze how people understand, invoke, and contest law in moments of uncertainty and structural inequality.

Papers:

"Mapping 'The Overlay for the Underplay': Abstract Law and Concrete Dispossession," Nicole Trujillo-Pagan, Wayne State University

"Emotion-First Theory and Practice: Emotional Intelligence as Foundational Infrastructure for Equity Practice," Cherise Fanno Burdeen and Alison Bloomquist, EIDEIA Institute

"Perceptions of the Colorado Equal Pay for Equal Work Act among UCCS Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty," Edwardo L. Portillos, Esther Lamidi, Lei Zhang and Haruki Eda, University of Colorado Colorado Springs

SPECIAL

Session 049: Author Meets Critics: *Anti-Racism as Communism* by Paul Gomberg, Bloomsbury, 2024

Room: Broadway I

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer &

Presider: Alan J. Spector, Purdue University Northwest

Description:

The author's thesis is that capitalist society has processes and structures that create and perpetuate modern racism and as long as inequality exists, it will be impossible to eliminate racist practices and ideas. His use of the word "communism" is meant to express Marx' definition of "From each according to ability, to each according to need." The core of the book expresses optimism. The book gives example after example of black/white unity especially in the South, in workplaces and communities in the pre-WWII era. The second part of the book is more analytical as he develops his anti-capitalist, anti-classist argument. The optimism is an antidote to the psychological reductionism of some antiracists but Gomberg critiques narrow class reductionism as well.

Author:

Paul Gomberg, University of California, Davis

Critics:

David G. Embrick, University of Connecticut

Johnny Eric Williams, Trinity College

Session 050: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Teaching Social Problems through Experiential Learning

Room: Broadway III

Sponsors: Conflict, Social Action, and Change Teaching Social Problems

Organizer & Presider/

Discussant: Jessica S. Pearce, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Description:

Addressing social problems and advocating for social justice requires research, collaboration, and innovation. This session focuses on the power and utility of experiential learning to teach about social problems in our classrooms and communities.

Papers:

"Letter Writing as a Feminist Pedagogical Practice," Julia Gutierrez, Agnes Scott College

"Making Sociology Real for Online Students," Jessica S. Pearce, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

"Practicing Power: Social Work Students and Advocacy Modalities," Sara Terrana and Shahira Amin, Adelphi University

"Teaching at the Mexico-U.S. Border: Experiential Learning Through an Alternative Spring Break," Patricia Sanchez-Connelly, Framingham State University

"The Contention between Abolition as a Political Project and Abolition as Pedagogy," Kayla M. Martensen and Libby Vigil, The University of New Mexico

"Time Banking in Class: Engaging Students in Mutual Aid and Community Creation," Jacqueline Daugherty, Miami University

"From Active Learning to Praxis-Oriented Experiential Learning: A Case for Qualitative Approaches to Engaging Students in the Study of Social Problems," Doris E. Stanley, University of Central Florida

Session 051: Medicalization as a Social Problem: A Tool of Oppression and Resistance

Room: Manhattan

Sponsors: Disability, Mental Wellness, and Social Justice Social Problems Theory

Organizers: Melinda Leigh Maconi, Moffitt Cancer Center Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia

Presider &

Discussant: Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia

Description:

Medicalization offers a diagnosis, an explanation, and, in some cases, even an identity to people with disabilities and mental illness. However, these same diagnoses can function as tools of oppression, used to control and disenfranchise bodies and minds deemed too different or inconvenient by those in power. This session explores how medicalization is socially constructed both

as a mechanism of colonization and as a site of resistance, and considers the ways in which medicalization itself can be understood as a social problem.

Papers:

“‘I Could Take My Social Work Hat Off... but, within the Context of Capitalism, That Does Not Feel Like an Option’: Transgender Social Workers’ Experiences of Identity Management,” A.P. Spoth, Evergreen State College

“Receiving a Psychiatric Diagnosis in Adolescence: Appropriation, Negotiation, and Identity Recomposition in Relation to Biomedical Discourse,” Marie-Laurence Bordeleau-Payer, University of Quebec and Benazir Khalimat Rachida, University of Quebec in Montreal

“Seeking Solidarity: An Examination of Villains and the Role a Diagnosis Plays in Posts by People with Chronic Illnesses in Online Spaces,” Melinda Leigh Maconi, Moffitt Cancer Center

“The Medicalization of Pregnancy on Social Media: Authority, Risk, and Lived Experience in Instagram Representations of Prenatal Genetic Testing,” Sara Tehrani, Sofia Lahsaini, Crystal Chanthasone, Donia Fouissi and Shannon K. Carter, University of Central Florida

THEMATIC

Session 052: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Intersecting Margins: Comparative Health of African Diasporas and Racial Minorities in the Americas
Room: Melville

Sponsor: Health, Health Policy, and Health Services

Organizer: Raja Staggers-Hakim, University of Connecticut

Presider/

Discussant: To Be Determined

Description:

This session explores the comparative health outcomes of African diasporic and other racialized minority populations across the United States, Canada, and South America. Grounded in medical sociology and public health, and drawing on a comparative framework, presenters will analyze how intersections of race, region, and citizenship status shape health disparities between marginalized groups—including African diasporic, Indigenous, Latinx, and Asian communities—and dominant populations. Case studies will include comparisons of African Americans and recent African immigrants in the U.S., as well as parallels in health challenges faced by Black Brazilians and Black Canadians, highlighting the structural, social, and transnational forces driving health inequities across the Americas.

Papers:

“Colourism-Related Experiences, Skin Tone Preferences, and Skin-Lightening Behaviors in Young Adults,” Atinuke Arinola Ajani and Macellina Yinyinade Ijadunola, Obafemi Awolowo University

“Reimagining Care and Wellness Support for Black Women: Addressing Collective Racial Trauma, Misogyny, and Violence in the Context of Post-COVID U.S. Society,” Shani K. Saxon, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Marya R. Sosulski, Michigan State University School of Social Work

Session 053: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Labor and Class I

Room: Palace

Sponsors: Labor Studies
Poverty, Class, and Inequality

Organizers: Leticia Morales, University of Southern California
Sara Maani, University of Bologna

Presider/

Discussant: Leticia Morales, University of Southern California

Description:

This session examines how labor and class intersect to shape lived experiences, social structures, and professional opportunities. Presenters highlight the dynamics of working-class life, the impact of precarity and contingent labor, and the ways class stratification intersects with race, gender, and migration. The papers foreground how class is reproduced, contested, and transformed within institutions and everyday life.

Session I explores stratification, mobility, and social reproduction across education, care, migration, health, and policy regimes, showing how class positions are allocated, institutionalized, and reproduced over time.

Session II focuses on labor processes, workplace organization, precarity, and lived experience. Papers analyze how work is structured, intensified, and governed across sectors, and how insecurity, health risks, and vulnerability emerge within specific settings.

Papers:

“‘Brain Drain’ vs. ‘Brain Circulation’: Skilled Migration and Capitalist Inequality in Bangladesh,” Arifa Akter, The University of Texas at El Paso

“Beyond the Class Ceiling: The ‘Institutional Floor’ and Elite Convergence in South Korea, 1960s–1980s,” HongJin Jo, The University of Chicago

“Beyond the Office: Exploring the Role of Job Satisfaction and Health Disparities in Teleworking,” Taylor D. Sumpter, University of Miami

"Examining the Role of Parental and Personal Education in Earnings Disparities for American Indians and Alaska Natives," Kimberly R. Huyser, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Sofia Locklear, University of Toronto Mississauga, Madi Lou Abel, Gabriella M. Mota and Dara Shifrer, Portland State University, Ned Tilbrook, University of Arizona, Allison Laing and Mary G. Jessome, University of British Columbia

"Pricing Care Labor: A Computational Systematic Review of How Care Work Is Economically and Socially Devalued," Waris Ahmad Faizi, Virginia Tech

"The 'Woman Penalty': Gender Inequality, Mental Health, and Work-Family Conflict in the United States," Katherine Maich, Paula Cornejo-Abarca, Zoraya Berlanga Aguilar and Rafia Akter, Texas A&M University

Session 054: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Where We Belong: Responses to Exclusion and Harm in 2026
Room: Pearl

Sponsor: Community, Research, and Practice

Organizer & Presider/

Discussant: Sarah E. Stanlick, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Description:

Many communities are facing divisions over what or who "belongs" and where; what and whose history should be memorialized and how; and what and whose futures are invested in and why. Questions of belonging have been further complicated in the current political moment. This session centers on contested places shaped by legacies of exclusion, violence, and threats to well-being that result from the devaluation of certain people and communities and, concurrently, the places they inhabit. The papers in this session explore how communities are responding to place-based harms, including activist and grassroots efforts, NGO initiatives, and state-sponsored policies.

Papers:

"A Place to Belong: Homelessness and the Counter Third Space," Sara Brallier and Stephanie Southworth, Coastal Carolina University

"From the Ground Up: A Relational Account of Migration Governance in Chicago, 2022–2025," Sophia Costa, The University of Chicago

"Hanging Out or Staying In: Belonging and Exclusion in the Social Life of Students on a Small Rural Campus," Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University

"Legal Inclusion, Spatial Exclusion: Housing Vouchers and Source-of-Income Laws," Zehra Sahin Ilkorkor, Virginia Commonwealth University

"Symbolic Violence and Trans* Kids in Rural Texas," Nicole Kraus and Shanna Peebles, West Texas A&M University

"The Mark of Segregation: Redlining's Impact on the Relationship Between Racial Diversity and Social Capital," Victor Tan Chen, Virginia Commonwealth University, Giemyung Lee and Myeong Lee, George Mason University, Alex Mikulas, University of Colorado Boulder and Sara A. Peters, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Session 055: State of Policing I
Room: Plymouth

Sponsor: Crime and Justice

Organizers: Jennifer M. Carpenter, Georgia State University
Kelly M. Tabbutt, Alfred University

Presider: Jennifer M. Carpenter, Georgia State University

Discussant: Kelly M. Tabbutt, Alfred University

Description:

This session welcomes work across the spectrum of perspectives on policing. This includes challenges to effective crime control as well as concerns arising from policing practices themselves. Contributions may range from analyses of police abolition and disparate police involvement (overpolicing) to examinations of insufficient police responsiveness (underpolicing) to victimization within marginalized communities. Topics may address effective policing and questions about the necessity and value of policing, particularly in relation to misuse of force, bias in surveillance, interactions and interrogation practices, and carceral system capture (e.g., arrest). Discussions of the criminalization of immigration and the expanded enforcement powers of Immigration and Customs Enforcement are also welcome.

Papers:

"Benign Neglect and the Differential Policing of Racially Motivated Hate Crime in America," Jack Mitchel Mills, Brendan Lantz, Maeve E. Donnelly and Marin Ruth Wenger, Florida State University

"Rotted Roots or Bad Apples?: The Value of Institutional Theory for Understanding ICE Operations under the Trump Administration," Janelle M. Pham, Oglethorpe University

"The Fire This Time: How Policing Holds Together Race, Space, and Time," Korey Tillman, Northeastern University

"Use of Social Media in Police Operations and Practices in Nigeria," Muhammed Faisol Olaitan, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology

2:30pm – 4:10pm Meeting

Accessibility Committee, 2025-26

Room: Booth Boardroom

2:30pm – 4:10pm Sessions

THEMATIC

Session 056: Unequal Environments: Ecological Disparities and Violence

Room: Broadway I

Sponsor: Conflict, Social Action, and Change

Organizers: Jack Mitchel Mills, Florida State University
Andrew Schoeneman, University of Virginia

Presider & Discussant: Jack Mitchel Mills, Florida State University

Description:

Examining ecological disparities and violence demands an interdisciplinary lens that interrogates the complex interplay of environmental, cultural, political, and economic systems. This session explores how structural forces—including toxic colonialism, racial capitalism, and environmental racism—produce and reinforce ecological injustices that disproportionately affect marginalized communities across global and local contexts. Papers may address a range of topics related to environmental inequality, including climate change, resource extraction, land, food and water access, pollution, and other forms of ecological violence.

Papers:

“Running Dry: The Covert Competition for Water under Industrial Colonialism in Curaçao,” Archana Ramanujam, Brown University

“‘The Dead River Is Killing Us’: Environmental Risk and Reproductive Decision-Making in Colombia’s Caribbean Coast,” Maria Ximena Davila, The University of Texas at Austin, Winner of the Environment & Technology Division’s Student Paper Competition

“Water Materialities and Infrastructures: Forging Future Paths,” Yomna ElSharony, Cornell University

Session 057: New Directions in Institutional Ethnography

Room: Broadway II

Sponsor: Institutional Ethnography

Organizer: Katherine E. Koralesky, University of British Columbia

Presider & Discussant: Lauren Eastwood, SUNY Plattsburgh

Description:

This session explores innovative applications of Institutional Ethnography (IE) that address contemporary social issues, shifting political contexts, and emerging methodological intersections. Presenters highlight how IE continues to evolve as a critical, justice-oriented sociology for uncovering ruling relations in everyday life.

Papers:

“Everyday Experience, Institutional Context, and Global Learning: The CRIISIS COIL Model,” Hans-Peter de Ruiter, Minnesota State University

“Insulating Public Health Policymaking: Regulatory Counterpower and Lessons from Chile,” A. Susana Ramírez, University of California, Merced

“On the Value of Voting,” Paul Luken, University of West Georgia

“Towards an Institutional Ethnography of Resisting State Violence,” C. Michael Awsumb, Northwest Missouri State University

“When Flexibility isn’t Flexible: How International Graduate Student Motherhood is Institutionally Coordinated,” Fredricka R. Saunders and Laura J. Parson, North Dakota State University

SPECIAL

Session 058: Publishing Tips from the Editors of *Social Problems*

Room: Broadway III

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer & Presider: Andrew Fullerton, Oklahoma State University

Description:

The publishing process can be confusing at times even for the seasoned scholar. In this session, the co-editors of *Social Problems* share their experiences as editors, authors, and reviewers and discuss the process of publishing in the journal.

Panelists:

Kelley J. Sittner, Oklahoma State University

Andrew Fullerton, Oklahoma State University

Rachel Schmitz, Oklahoma State University

Session 059: The Politics of Disinformation and Gender

Room: Manhattan

Sponsor: Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities

Organizer: Kat Fuller, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Presiders: Evansha Andre, University of Central Florida
Shannon K. Carter, University of Central Florida

Description:

With the rise of disinformation, misleading narratives in the public sphere have contributed to ongoing societal conflicts. This session explores the role disinformation plays in fascist movements, particularly in relation to gender violence. Examples include anti-LGBTQ+ conspiracy theories, pseudoscience, and the connections between anti-intellectualism and anti-feminism. The session also examines how disinformation shapes public opinion and policy in everyday life, as well as strategies for debunking and preventing the spread of misinformation.

Papers:

“Correcting Gender Disinformation in Higher Education: Evaluating Safe Zone Allies Training as an Institutional Intervention,” Shannon E. Hart, Rutgers University, M. E. Betsy Garrison and Kate Chapman, University of Arkansas

“Disinformation and Citation Politics in Gen-AI: Scholarly Essays on Race Inequities in Cesarean Births,” Shannon K. Carter, Sara Tehrani, Jonzelle Bell, Tara Delgado and Evansha Andre, University of Central Florida

“Crafting Tradition: Examining Constructions of Gender Expectations in the #TradWife Movement,” Kelli Ann C. Kimura, University of California, Irvine and Katelyn Rose Malae, Utah Valley University

“How Black Women Harm Black Women,” Tyshawn Khaalis Smithers, Virginia Commonwealth University

“Disturbing Queer Black Youth: A Systematic Literature Review of the Intersections of Race, Queer Identity, and Student Voice in Special Education Scholarship on Emotional Disturbance,” Jocardo Edward Ralston, University of Pennsylvania

“SORVO: Systemic Oppression and Sexual Violence,” Omny Miranda-Martone, Katie Knick and Michelle Reilly, Sexual Violence Prevention Association (SVPA)

Session 060: NYC Immigrant Organizers in Conversations
Room: Melville

Sponsor: Critical Race and Ethnic Study

Organizer & Facilitator: Felicia Arriaga, Baruch College, CUNY

Description:

This session brings together immigrant organizers and immigrant rights advocacy group representatives based in New York City to examine ongoing immigration enforcement, detention, and

deportation practices, as well as collective responses to challenge them. The discussion encourages attendees to consider how these insights might inform efforts in their own communities. Participants are also invited to share their experiences to foster an informed dialogue about organizing and advocacy efforts across the country.

Panelists:

Lemmah Nasrati, Community Lawyer

Tania Mattos, Unlocal

Janay Cauthen, Families for Freedom

Session 061: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Labor and Class II
Room: Palace

Sponsors: Labor Studies
Poverty, Class, and Inequality

Organizers: Leticia Morales, University of Southern California
Sara Maani, University of Bologna

Presider/ Discussant: Leticia Morales, University of Southern California

Description:

The session examines how labor and class intersect to shape lived experiences, social structures, and professional opportunities. Presenters highlight dynamics of working-class life, the impact of precarity and contingent labor, and the ways in which class stratification intersects with race, gender, and migration. The papers foreground how class is reproduced, contested, and transformed within institutions and everyday life.

Session I

Papers explore stratification, mobility, and social reproduction across education, care, migration, health, and policy regimes, showing how class positions are allocated, institutionalized, and reproduced over time.

Session II

Papers examine labor processes, workplace organization, precarity, and lived experience. They analyze how work is structured, intensified, and governed across sectors, and how insecurity, health risks, and vulnerability emerge within concrete settings.

Papers:

“Cut Labor: Perceptual Fragmentation in the Social Form of Service Work,” Yiming Bai, Brandeis University

“Disposable Products, Disposable Workers: Understanding How Dollar Stores Profit from Poverty,” Tracy L. Vargas, University of North Carolina at Pembroke

"Invisible Labor: Substance Use among Agricultural Workers,"
Leticia Morales, University of Southern California

"Job Insecurity in the AI Age: Squaring Predictions with U.S.
Workers' Realities," Jeffrey C. Dixon, College of the Holy Cross

"Precarity Chains: The Interlocking Vulnerabilities of Working-
Class Life," Victor Tan Chen, Katrina Hamilton and Erin C. Tucker,
Virginia Commonwealth University

"The Household Precarity Index: Measuring Objective and
Subjective Elements of Insecurity during the Pandemic," Emily R.
D. Bonner, The University of Oklahoma, Rin Ferraro, Sam
Houston State University and Yung Chun, Washington University
in St. Louis

**Session 062: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Co-constructing
Methodologies for Community-engaged,
Participatory Action Research**
Room: Pearl

Sponsors: Community, Research, and Practice
Global

Organizers & Presiders/

Discussants: Sarah E. Stanlick, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Beatriz Padilla, University of South Florida

Description:

In this session, we seek work rooted in community voice that
disrupts deficit-based narratives in community-based
participatory action research. We highlight methodologies that
center epistemic justice through meaningful co-creation. This
session promotes research ethics grounded in relationality,
challenges the university-academic divide, and interrogates
Global North-South divides in knowledge production and social
problem definitions.

Papers:

"'Us for Ourselves': Civil Society Organizing under Poverty
Dysgovernance in a Brazilian Informal Settlement," Anjuli
Fahlberg, Tufts University, Cristiane Martins, Building Together
Research Collective, Sophia Costa, The University of Chicago, Ana
Claudia Araujo, Lidiane Santos and Joiceane Lopes, Building
Together Research Collective

"Capturing Community Knowledge about Reconciliation through
Interactive Theatre: Developing Phenomenological Methods for
Arts-Based Research," Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia

"Collective Knowing: Feminist Relationality and a Community-to-
Be," Liying Huang, University of Chicago Crown Family School of
Social Work, Policy, and Practice

"Podcasting, Conscientization, and the Rebirth of a Marriage
Migrant Women's Movement in Taiwan," Hsiao-Chuan Hsia,
National Chengchi University

"Teaching Graduate Qualitative Methods through Community-
Based Participatory Research and Decolonizing Methodologies:
Strengths, Limitations, and Challenges," Angela Vergara,
University of Central Florida

"Through the Lens of Trauma: Justice-Informed, Community-
Engaged Reflections from Cross-Cultural Trauma-Informed
Research in Kenya," Rashad Freeman and Jerono P. Rotich,
Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington,
Josephine Mwangi, Kenyatta University, Erin Cooperman, Indiana
University School of Public Health-Bloomington, Channa Beth
Butcher, E3 Kenya and Priscilla A. Barnes, Indiana University
School of Public Health-Bloomington

Session 063: State of Policing II
Room: Plymouth

Sponsor: Crime and Justice

Organizers, Presiders &

Discussants: Jennifer M. Carpenter, Georgia State University
Kelly M. Tabbutt, Alfred University

Description:

This session welcomes work across the spectrum of perspectives
on policing. It includes research addressing challenges to
effective crime control as well as challenges arising from policing
practices. Contributions may range from analyses of police
abolition and disparate police involvement (overpolicing) to
examinations of insufficient responsiveness (underpolicing)
within marginalized communities. Topics may also address the
necessity and value of policing, including misuse of force, bias in
surveillance and interactions, interrogation practices, carceral
system capture (e.g., arrest), and the criminalization of
immigration, including the expanded powers of Immigration and
Customs Enforcement.

Papers:

"'What Should Have Been': The Relationality and
Disenfranchisement of Grief after Police Violence," Nora Gross,
Barnard College, Columbia University, Uzma H. Chowdhury and
Betselot Wondimu, Columbia University and Joseph Sanchez,
Teachers College, Columbia University

"Challenges of Police Accountability and Data Collection
regarding Civilian Complaints in California, 2019-2025,"
Alexandra Hiropoulos, California State University, Stanislaus

"Producing Stigma at the Street Level: Policing Overdose and
Moral Regulation," Stephanie Cecava-Scott and Joshua H. Stout,
Illinois State University

"The Health Costs of Social Control: A Mixed-Methods Study of
Structural Violence, Policing, and Mental Well-Being among
African Americans," Robert L. Peralta, The University of New
Mexico, Daniela Jauk-Ajamie and Joann Xi, The University of
Akron and Harun Rashid, Kent State University

“Widening the Gap: Identifying a Mismatch between Policing and Community Needs in Addressing Violent Crime,” Stacey L. Barrenger, Northeast Ohio Medical University, Daniela Jauk-Ajamie, The University of Akron, Leslie L. Wood, York Technical College, Insun Park, The University of Akron and Natalie Bonfine, Northeast Ohio Medical University

4:30pm – 5:30pm Plenary Session

PLENARY

Session 064: Presidential Address
Room: Majestic Ballroom

Sponsor: Program Committee

Introduction: Xavier L. Guadalupe-Díaz, Framingham State University

President: Sarah Jane Brubaker, Virginia Commonwealth University

Presidential Address:

In Search of a Sociology of Lifeworlds: Resistance through Reclamation

5:45pm – 7:00pm Plenary Session

PLENARY

Session 065: Awards Ceremony
Room: Majestic Ballroom

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer &

President: Sarah Jane Brubaker, Virginia Commonwealth University

AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED

- SSSP Division Awards: Winners of the Student Paper Competitions
- Arlene Kaplan Daniels Paper Award
- SWS Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship
- C. Wright Mills Award
- Doris Wilkinson Faculty Leadership Award
- Indigenous Peoples’ Social Justice Award
- Joseph B. Gittler Award
- Kathleen S. Lowney Mentoring Award
- Lee Founders Award
- Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Fellowship
- Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award

7:15pm – 8:15pm Reception

Division-Sponsored Reception: Open to SSSP Registrants
Location: Gershwin Ballroom

All meeting registrants are invited to the Division-Sponsored Reception. This social hour offers an opportunity to reconnect with colleagues, renew past acquaintances, and meet new attendees. New members and first-time participants are especially encouraged to attend. Complimentary beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages and hors d’oeuvres will be available.

Sunday, August 9

8:00am – 12:00pm Meeting

Board of Directors, 2026-27

Room: Minetta

8:30am – 10:10am Sessions

Session 066: Class Across the Lifecourse: Birth, Health, Aging, Death

Room: Belasco

Sponsor: Poverty, Class, and Inequality

Organizer, Presider &

Discussant: Nicole Kraus, West Texas A&M University

Description:

This session focuses on the intersection of class and demographics ranging from the beginning to the end of the lifecourse.

Papers:

“Long-Term Health Consequences of Gang Life,” Avelardo Valdez, Arizona State University

“Socioeconomic, Urbanicity, and Intersectional Inequalities in Sexually Transmitted Infections among Adults with Substance Use Disorder: Evidence from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health,” Carol A. Lee, The University of Texas at Arlington

“The Influence of Childhood Residential Instability and Neighborhood Quality on Teen Parenthood,” Anna Maria Santiago and Iris Margetis, Michigan State University

“Who Gets Heard Later in Life? Access, Aging, and the Experiences of Older Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Adults,” Ashley Butler and Sara Terrana, Adelphi University

THEMATIC

Session 067: Resisting Colonization of the Family

Room: Broadway I

Sponsors: Family, Aging, and Youth
Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities

Organizer, Presider &

Discussant: Ami MH Frost, The University of Oklahoma

Description:

The day-to-day work of living within a family system often shields individuals from recognizing the influence of colonization in their midst. Yet rather than existing outside the family, colonizing forces are exerted both on and within family life. This session explores the gendered objectification, commodification, and

financialization of families through divisions of unpaid and paid labor, processes of gender socialization and rejection, concerted cultivation, and care work. The politicization and control of bodies, sexual behavior, gendered roles, and related dynamics are often socialized and enacted within families, yet families can also serve as sites of resistance to these forces.

Papers:

“Beyond Core and Balance: How Families Frame Fun in Contemporary Parenting Culture,” Julie A. Mikles-Schluterman and David Ward, Arkansas Tech University

“Interraciality as a Family Affair: An Intersectional Analysis of East Asian Immigrant Families’ Responses to East Asian–Black Unions,” Olivia Y. Hu, University of Pennsylvania

“‘Family Authority, Formation, and Cohesion’: The Heritage Foundation’s Patriarchal Agenda,” Brandie S. Pugh, Faith Burrill and Ansley Shamblin, West Virginia University and Ava Carcieri, Delaware Alliance Against Sexual Violence

“A Paradox of Power: White Women, Traditionalism, and Political Agency in the American New Right, 1950s – 2000s,” Evangeline McDonald, University of West Georgia

THEMATIC

Session 068: No Man Behind the Curtain: The Post-Modern Imperial Power

Room: Broadway II

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizers: Alexandra Ravenelle, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Barbara Katz Rothman, The Graduate Center, CUNY

Presider: Barbara Katz Rothman, The Graduate Center, CUNY

Discussant: Alexandra Ravenelle, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Description:

The forces of colonization in the current era go beyond the classic Empire, with its image of a single emperor as ruler. Profit, Domination and Coercion, as our meeting theme stresses, cover more and more arenas of life, from the very gates of life itself, birth and death colonized by Biomedical Industries, to our daily work, our education, our values coming under the colonizing forces of the new post-industrial world. This thematic will address these processes and how they are shaping the world in which we live.

Papers:

"THE BIOMEDICAL EMPIRE: Bringing Medical Sociology into the Contemporary World, Studying the Gates of Life," Barbara Katz Rothman, The Graduate Center, CUNY

"Human Capitalization of Children and Financialization of Parenting," Nina Bandelj, University of California, Irvine

"Polyemployment and the Fragmentation of the Lifeworld When Meaning is Split Across Gigs," Alexandra Ravenelle, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

"Strong Ties or Strong Arms?: Vulnerability, Coercion, and Profits in Multi-Level Marketing Work," Nicole Christine Muffitt, University of Illinois Chicago

THEMATIC

Session 069: People Have the Power?: Community Power and Community Decision-making

Room: Broadway III

Sponsor: Community, Research, and Practice

Organizer: Sarah E. Stanlick, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Presider &

Discussant: Paul Draus, University of Michigan–Dearborn

Description:

The papers in this session explore how power operates at the community level, who represents a community, and how communities build the power to influence decision-making. The communities examined in these studies vary and include coalitions, neighborhoods, schools, cities, and other collective groups. All serve as sites of contested power and exemplify communities' recognition of, and responses to, social problems.

Papers:

"If You Put It on a Map, It Means a Lot More': Place-Based Youth Participatory Action Research at an Urban High School," Lauren E. Ashby, Syracuse University

"Community Power in Brooklyn: A Half-Century of the Good, Bad, and U," Jerome Krase, Brooklyn College, CUNY and Judith N. DeSena, St. John's University

"Putting It All on the Map: A Community Storytelling Project in Detroit," Paul Draus, University of Michigan–Dearborn

"The People's Purse: Building Trust and Community through Participatory Budgeting," Brittany Keegan, Virginia Commonwealth University - L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, Victor Tan Chen, Virginia Commonwealth University and Matthew Slaats, Richmond City Council

"Toward Community-Led Redevelopment: The Kingsbridge Armory Campaign and Reconfiguration of Urban Governance," Gladys Chiku Mbugua, Fordham University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Session 070: Racial Politics and Resistance in the Midst of Settler Colonialism I

Room: Manhattan

Sponsors: Conflict, Social Action, and Change
Critical Race and Ethnic Study

Organizers: Foroogh Mohammadi, Acadia University
Sara Tehrani, University of Central Florida

Presider: Sara Tehrani, University of Central Florida

Description:

Only recently have Ethnic and Racial Studies and Indigenous Studies engaged in sustained dialogue about how the racial state has functioned as a settler colonial state. This session examines how historical and contemporary racial politics and social movements confront and resist the intertwined structures of settler colonialism and racial capitalism. It highlights the work of racialized movements in exposing, challenging, and disrupting ongoing colonial violence, racialized dispossession, and carceral regimes.

Papers:

"Becoming More Chinese: How Ethnic Identity is Made through Practice," Charlotte Xue Lian Wang, Columbia University, Winner of the Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Division's Student Paper Competition

"U.S. Panethnicity and Its Effect on Political Alignments of Latino/as and Asian Americans," Christine M. Capili, University of La Verne

"Fort Lewis Indian Boarding School Report: A Case Study in Sexual and Gender-Specific Violence and Targeted Destruction of Indigenous Kinship Systems," Deanne L. Grant, Fort Lewis College

"Slow Violence, Uncare, and the Nantucket Wampanoag," Stephanie A. Bohon and Shaylee Hodges, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

"Revolutionary Melancholia toward Reclaiming Life: Fanon's Politics of Endurance and the Practice of Sumud in Palestine," Uzma H. Chowdhury, Columbia University

"Role Collapse: The Israeli Settler–State Compact and Pathways to Hybrid Domination in the Occupied West Bank," Joseph Rafael Kaplan Weinger, University of California, Los Angeles, Winner of the Conflict, Social Action, and Change Division's Student Paper Competition

Session 071: Social Problems Theory: Past to Present

Room: Melville

Sponsor: Social Problems Theory

Organizer, Presider &

Discussant: Joshua H. Stout, Illinois State University

Description:

This panel brings together social problems theory scholars to reflect on the history, evolution, and current state of this theoretical tradition. The Social Problems Theory Division Outstanding Book Award winner will also participate, highlighting their contributions and future directions in social problems theory.

Panelists:

Joel Best, University of Delaware

R.J. Maratea, St. Francis College

David C. Lane, Illinois State University

Shannon Malone Gonzalez, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

THEMATIC

Session 072: Colonization, Inequality, and the Changing Classroom

Room: Palace

Sponsor: Teaching Social Problems

Organizers: Morena Tartari, Northumbria University
Laurie J. Linhart, Des Moines Area Community College

Presider: To be Determined

Description:

This session examines how educational institutions and classroom practices are shaped by broader structures of inequality and power. While traditional discussions of colonization in education focus on historical and epistemic domination, the papers in this session extend the concept to examine multiple expressions of structural inequality in education – from racialization and spatial segregation in schooling to policy reforms that structurally exclude adult learners and the growing influence of artificial intelligence in the classroom. At the same time, several contributions explore pedagogical strategies aimed at fostering more ethical, supportive, and critically engaged learning environments. Together these papers illuminate the dialectic between educational systems that reproduce social problems and the pedagogical practices that work to disrupt them.

Papers:

“Local School Zoning as a Spatialized Form of Social Reproduction,” Karen Manges Douglas and Rin Ferraro, Sam Houston State University

“The Straining of Comprehensive Student Support in Scottish Further Education: A Primary Barrier to Retention under Austerity,” Ema Inoue, Osaka University of Economics

“Mind the Gap: A Critical Analysis of the Relationship between Racialization, Poor Mental Health, and Academic Performance in K-12,” Taylor J. Hall, Wilkes University

“The Impact of Timing of Expanded Adverse Childhood Experience Exposure on Academic Performance in a Sample of Child Protective Service–Involved Youth,” Rashad Freeman, Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington

“The Art of Gentle Teaching: Establishing Rigorous Learning Environments with Care and Compassion,” Stephanie M. Baran, Xavier University of Louisiana

“The Colonization of Our Lifeworld (the Classroom),” Gillian Niebrugge Brantley and Patricia Lengermann, The George Washington University

Session 073: Mass Incarceration and Perpetual Punishment III

Room: Plymouth

Sponsor: Crime and Justice

Organizer, Presider &

Discussant: Kristen M. Budd, The Sentencing Project

Description:

This series on mass incarceration examines the intersection of mass incarceration and the U.S. criminal legal system’s overreliance on perpetual punishment. Perpetual punishment is broadly defined to include the pains of incarceration, extreme sentencing, denials of legal relief, and other collateral consequences resulting from a criminal conviction. This session focuses on the socioeconomic drivers and consequences of punishment, the criminal legal system, and mass incarceration.

Papers:

“Partner Incarceration and Women’s Income Packaging,” Tanajia D. Moye-Green, Stanford University

“Poverty Penalty: How the Cash Bail System Consistently Violates the 14th Amendment,” Nyra Thakkar, Cambridge Centre for International Research

“Social Workers with Criminal Records and Their Navigation of the Social Work Licensure Process,” Ke’Ana Robinson, Philadelphia Mental Health Care Corporation-Family Training and Advocacy Center, Margo Campbell, Widener University and Casey Bohrmann, West Chester University

"The Cost of Freedom: Financial Precarity following Long-Term Imprisonment," Kristen M. Budd, The Sentencing Project

"The Greatest Show on the Dirt: The McAlester, Oklahoma, Prison Rodeo as Punishment and Performance in the Making of Carceral Spectacle," Maggie León-Corwin, The University of Oklahoma and Michelle L. Estes, Rowan University

10:30am – 12:10pm Sessions

Session 074: Disability, Mental Health, and Society
Room: Belasco

Sponsor: Disability, Mental Wellness, and Social Justice

Organizer: Melinda Leigh Maconi, Moffitt Cancer Center

Presiders: Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia
Rebecca Qin, University of British Columbia

Description:

How do individuals experience, create, and challenge identities of disability and mental illness? How do communities come together to understand, support, advocate for, and research disability and mental health? This session explores the policies, institutions, and organizations that shape individual and community experiences of disability and mental health, and how they are changing. It invites a wide spectrum of papers that develop sociological understandings of disability and mental health.

Papers:

"Embodied Insights: Sensitive Practices for Trauma-Informed Research," Lauren M. Fishel, The University of Oklahoma

"From Peace of Mind to Peace of Being: Operationalizing Inner Peace for Empirical Research," Joann Xi, The University of Akron and Robert L. Peralta, The University of New Mexico

"Health-Related Visual Social Science: A Methodological Examination of Visual Participatory and Autoethnographic Projects and Experiences," Luc Pauwels, University of Antwerp

"Named, Blamed, and Maimed: Special Education, Surveillance, and the Regulation of Queer Black and Latine Boys in New York City," Jocardo Edward Ralston, University of Pennsylvania

"Resisting the 'Managing-Away' of Disability: (Dis)Appearing Stories of Voice and Silence in Workplace Accommodations," Justin Chen, University of Toronto

"The Use of Serious Games in Elementary Schools to Improve Executive Functioning among Autistic Children," Aisha Maryam Ahmed, Ontario Tech University

Session 075: New Directions in Social Problems Theory
Room: Broadway I

Sponsor: Social Problems Theory

Organizer, Presider & Discussant: Clara Mey, University of Delaware

Description:

This session explores new trends and developments in social problems theory.

Papers:

"Rebranding Restriction and Surveillance: Noom as a Case Study of the Cultural Politics of the Body," Sydney Dyck and Clara Mey, University of Delaware

"Using Culture in Everyday Life," Amir B. Marvasti, Penn State Altoona

"Genocide Denial and Narrative Affordances," Lois Presser, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

"A Framework for Ongoing Settler Colonialism Rooted in Indigenous Sociology," Melissa Horner-Petrone, University of Missouri, Winner of the Social Problems Theory Division's Student Paper Competition

"Repowering: An Indigenous-Centered Theoretical Elaboration of Empowerment Theory," Stephen Silva-Brave, The University of Texas at Arlington

SPECIAL

Session 076: Author Meets Critics: Indefensible Spaces: Policing and the Struggle for Housing by Rahim Kurwa, University of California Press, 2025
Room: Broadway II

Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer & Presider: Theresa Ysabel Rocha Beardall, University of Washington

Description:

Indefensible Spaces: Policing and the Struggle for Housing offers a vivid case study of the national crisis of the policing of housing, told through a history of struggle over Los Angeles' northernmost outpost, the Antelope Valley. It opens on a place of refuge, exchange, and experimentation, then follows its postwar turn toward segregation and militarization. It centers Black residents who fought back by building Sun Village, an all-Black town and hub for civil rights organizing. After the civil rights revolution, the valley defended itself as a white space, using policing for racialized eviction and exclusion through sweeps,

citations, and landlord pressure. In the early 2000s, displaced tenants organized, stayed housed, and forced change through abolitionist struggle for housing justice.

Author:

Rahim Kurwa, University of Illinois Chicago

Critics:

Louise Seamster, University of Iowa

Frank Edwards, Rutgers University

Chris Herring, University of California, Los Angeles

Zawadi Rucks-Ahidiana, SUNY Albany

THEMATIC

Session 077: Rural Spaces and Services I

Room: Broadway III

Sponsors: Community, Research, and Practice
Sociology, Social Work, and Social Welfare
Sport, Leisure, and the Body

Organizers: Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University
Linda Lobao, The Ohio State University

Presider &

Discussant: Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University

Description:

This thematic session examines the challenges and opportunities shaping rural communities. Rural areas face persistent inequalities, limited resources, and structural barriers across health, education, housing, and social services. At the same time, they foster resilience, care, and solidarity that warrant sociological attention. Presentations explore structural constraints and opportunities within rural environments, analyze how policies and politics shape service delivery, and consider how residents navigate and resist systems of support. Drawing on sociology, social work, and social welfare, the session highlights rural life as essential for understanding broader issues of justice, equity, and social well-being, emphasizing both constraint and creativity in these communities.

Papers:

"Beyond Little House on the Prairie: How the Myth of 'Real America' Shapes Rural Broadband Policy and Digital Inequality," Jonathan Andrew Kraus, West Texas A&M University, Winner of the Poverty, Class, and Inequality Division's Student Paper Competition

"Implementing a Child Welfare Intervention in Two Rural Communities," Miriam J. Landsman, University of Iowa

"Our School, Our Community, Our Future," Casey T. Jakubowski, Utica University

"Rural Evictions in North Carolina: Analyzing Hotspots of Housing Precarity," Daniel J. Rose, Rachel A. Midgett, Richard G. Moye and Tangel G. Towns, Winston-Salem State University

"We Built This City: Reimagining Rural Space Through Urban Performances of Joy and Resistance," Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University

**Session 078: The Colonisation of Environmental Protection
CANCELLED**

Session 079: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: New Trends in Global Migrations and (Im)mobilities in Anti-immigration Contexts

Room: Melville

Sponsor: Global

Organizer & Presider/

Discussant: Beatriz Padilla, University of South Florida

Description:

This session focuses on recent migration flows and diverse forms of mobility and immobility unfolding globally amid rising anti-immigration discourses and reactions against migrants. We invite presentations examining different world regions, including both the Global North and the Global South.

Papers:

"Affective Survival in Motion: Gendered Migration from Russia and Belarus to Latin America after 2020-2022," Viktoryia Sliaptsova, University of South Florida

"Living on the Edge of Belonging: Racialization, Poverty, and Migrant Lifeworlds in Urban Turkey," Begüm Ergün, Boston University

"The Embodied Experience of Crossing and Surviving the Darien Gap," Monica Salmon Gomez, The New School for Social Research

"Ukrainian War Refugees in Poland," Nicole Kraus, West Texas A&M University

"Bringing Law Home: Gender, Race, and Household Labor," Katherine Maich, Texas A&M University

"From Pro-migration to Anti-immigration Policies in Argentina: Will Copy-cat Policies Replace the Human Right Approach?" Beatriz Padilla, University of South Florida

THEMATIC

Session 080: The Border Crossed Me: Shifting Lifeworlds of Immigration

Room: Plymouth

Sponsors: Crime and Justice
Critical Race and Ethnic Study
Labor Studies
Law and Society

Organizers: Miltonette Olivia Craig, Sam Houston State University
Rafia Javaid Mallick, Georgia State University
Forough Mohammadi, Acadia University

Presider &

Discussant: Rafia Javaid Mallick, Georgia State University

Description:

This session critically examines the lived experiences of immigrants navigating the profound social and psychological shifts precipitated by global migration. Moving beyond traditional narratives, we explore the idea that immigrants are not merely crossing borders; rather, borders—in their legal, social, and cultural forms—actively cross and reconstitute their lives. Presentations explore themes of racialization, belonging, and identity formation within transnational social fields. We investigate how immigrants and their descendants negotiate power, agency, and resistance within these contested spaces, offering a nuanced analysis of the constantly evolving lifeworlds shaped by the relentless movement of political and social borders.

Papers:

“Contesting Deportability: Racialized Enforcement and the Struggle for Black Immigrant Belonging,” Fadilat Olatunji, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

“Fugitivity as Resistance: Precarious Futures and Mystical Belonging among UndocuAsian Students,” Siyue Lena Wang, University of California, Los Angeles

“Latin American Experiences in the NYC Migrant Crisis,” Edwin Grimsley, Felicia Arriaga, Masooma Amin, Daisy Flores and Nishanthini Mahendran, Baruch College, CUNY

“Marginal Sovereignty: A Case for Tribal Nations as Borderlands,” Jesús Ayala-Candia, University of California, San Diego

12:30pm – 2:10pm

Sessions

THEMATIC

Session 081: Community Approaches to Mental Health: Educators, Policy-Makers Activists, and Social Identities

Room: Belasco

Sponsor: Disability, Mental Wellness, and Social Justice

Organizer: Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia

Presiders: Lily Ivanova, University of British Columbia
Rebecca Qin, University of British Columbia

Discussant: Keith R. Johnson, Independent Scholar

Description:

How do activists, communities, experts, and researchers come together to understand, support, frame, and advocate for community mental health and disability? Disabled bodies and people experiencing mental illness have long been marginalized and continue to be controlled and disenfranchised. However, people with disabilities and mental illness, along with community leaders, have organized and fought for their rights to exist and thrive within society. These efforts take many forms, including traditional protests, internet activism, artistic expression, organizational work, and policy advocacy. This session explores the innovative ways disability and mental health activists, their communities, organizations, and researchers collaborate to address complex community challenges.

Papers:

“‘Hope Is Our Guiding Light’: How Social Workers Experience Hope in Their Practice,” Alison Fedoris Leslie, Widener University

“Bridges Through Wellness: Inclusive Mental Health Education for International Students and People with Disabilities,” Natasha I. Kabir, Bosch Alumni Regional Coordinator, South Asia

“Repowering Indigenous Knowledges in Colonial Spaces,” Stephen Silva-Brave, The University of Texas at Arlington

“When Policy Enters the Home: Dependent Visas and the Colonization of Everyday Life among South Asian Migrant Spouses,” Melicha Rahaman, The University of Texas at El Paso

THEMATIC

Session 082: How Institutional/Systemic Factors Impact Family, Health & Well-Being

Room: Broadway I

Sponsors: Health, Health Policy, and Health Services
Institutional Ethnography

Organizer &

Presider: Hans-Peter de Ruiter, Minnesota State University

Description:

This session explores how institutions extend their reach into the lifeworlds of individuals and communities, shaping the rhythms of daily life in ways that often remain hidden. By mapping these processes, we uncover how policies, organizational practices, and global systems influence personal choices, relationships, and opportunities. Drawing on examples from diverse contexts, the session highlights both the subtle and overt ways institutions colonize lived experience, and considers how approaches such as Institutional Ethnography (IE) can make these dynamics visible and open pathways for change.

Papers:

“‘Reading for Social Organization’ in Music Students’ Health Research: What Institutional Ethnography Makes Visible,” Jeffrey Sabo, University of Ottawa, Winner of the Institutional Ethnography Division’s Student Paper Competition

“An Institutional Ethnography of Graduate Student Enrollment and Retention,” Fredricka R. Saunders, Laura J. Parson, Isaac Mensah, Doriane E. Paso and Francisca Dadzie Nyarko, North Dakota State University

“Disappearing by Design: The Disabling Politics of Homelessness,” Brenna E. Jones, Illinois State University

“Making the Model Work for All: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Hospital-at-Home Programs,” Nels R. Paulson, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Andrew D.A. Marshall and David M. Levine, Harvard Medical School

“Mental Health of U.S. Return Migrants to Mexico City,” Esmeralda Ramirez, The University of Texas at Austin, Alice Cepeda and Jessica Frankeberger, Arizona State University, Kathryn Nowotny, University of Miami, Nefertari Rincon-Guerra, University of Southern California and Avelardo Valdez, Arizona State University

“When Policy Meets Practice: How Healthcare Systems Shape Nursing Clinical Care Leaders’ Work,” Emily S. Johnson and Laura J. Parson, North Dakota State University

THEMATIC

Session 083: Rural Spaces and Services II

Room: Broadway III

Sponsors: Community, Research, and Practice
Sociology, Social Work, and Social Welfare
Sport, Leisure, and the Body

Organizers: Linda Lobao, The Ohio State University
Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University

Presider &

Discussant: Michael O. Johnston, William Penn University

Description:

This thematic session examines the challenges and opportunities shaping rural communities. Rural areas face persistent inequalities, limited resources, and structural barriers across health, education, housing, and social services. At the same time, they foster resilience, care, and solidarity that warrant sociological attention. Presentations explore structural constraints and opportunities within rural environments, analyze how policies and politics shape service delivery, and consider how residents navigate and resist systems of support. Drawing on sociology, social work, and social welfare, the session highlights rural life as essential for understanding broader issues of justice, equity, and social well-being, emphasizing both constraint and creativity in these communities.

Papers:

“Digital Market Access, Unequal Services: How Platform Rules Shape Farmers’ Net Returns and Risk,” Qingze Zhu, University of Columbia

“Masculinity, Structural Precarity, and the Erosion of Rural Support Systems: Dairy Farm Consolidation and Mental Health in Rural New York,” Conor Hammersley, New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health; Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety

“Regional Disparities in Access to Mandatory Sex Offender Treatment: Findings and Recommendations,” Paul D. Steele, Professor Emeritus, The University of New Mexico

Session 084: Racial Politics and Resistance in the Midst of Settler Colonialism II

Room: Manhattan

Sponsors: Conflict, Social Action, and Change
Critical Race and Ethnic Study

Organizers: Sara Tehrani, University of Central Florida
Forough Mohammadi, Acadia University

Presider: Sara Tehrani, University of Central Florida

Description:

Only recently have Ethnic and Racial Studies and Indigenous Studies begun to engage in systematic dialogue about how the racial state has long functioned as a settler colonial state. This session explores how both historical and contemporary racial politics and social movements confront and resist the intertwined structures of settler colonialism and racial capitalism. It highlights the work of racialized social movements in exposing, challenging, and disrupting ongoing colonial violence, racialized dispossession, and carceral regimes.

Papers:

"A Place Called Liberty: Education," Rodney D. Coates, Miami University

"Living the Contradictions: International Students' Experiences of Shifting Immigration Policies in Canada," Isla Parker, Acadia University

"The Master's House: Emotional Segregation and Exploitation in Academia," Angie Beeman, Baruch College, CUNY

"Nullifying Sanity: How Prominent Think Tanks Oppose Social Activism through Racialized Framing," Annie Jones, Ricardo Garcia-Rivera and J. Scott Carter, University of Central Florida

"Bounded Belonging: Discrimination and the Limits of Social Networks," Rafia Javaid Mallick and Deirdre Oakley, Georgia State University

"Repackaging Reconstruction: The 'GREAT Trust' Plan for Gaza as a Paradigm of Global Urbanism," Mekarem Eljamal, Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Salma Moustafa-Kamel and Vineet Xie-Gupta, Northwestern University

THEMATIC

Session 085: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: American Colonization of the Sociological Imagination: The Intersection of Colonization and PCI
Room: Melville

Sponsor: Poverty, Class, and Inequality

Organizer & Presider/

Discussant: Nicole Kraus, West Texas A&M University

Description:

This session examines how American hegemonic dominance has shaped the broader sociological imagination. It asks how scholars might move beyond U.S.-centric frameworks without marginalizing non-American research and considers how these questions intersect with scholarship on poverty, class, and inequality.

Papers:

"Beyond the 'Leaky Pipeline': Domesticated Sponsored Mobility of Credentialed Daughters in South Korea, 1950s–1980s," HongJin Jo, The University of Chicago

"Creating Panethnicity: Latino/a and Asian American Identity and Attachment in the United States," Christine M. Capili, University of La Verne

Session 086: WORKS IN PROGRESS: "Bring Your Own Brilliance": Sharing Our Ideas That Have Been Successful in Teaching
Room: Palace

Sponsors: Educational Problems
Teaching Social Problems

Organizers: Janelle M. Pham, Oglethorpe University
Jacqueline M. Zalewski, West Chester University

Presider: Janelle M. Pham, Oglethorpe University

Description:

In this session, presenters are invited to share their most innovative and successful teaching strategies, techniques, and ideas. Participants may offer insights, experiences, and best practices that have enhanced learning in higher education classrooms. Presenters may showcase unique approaches, including engaging pedagogical methods, creative uses of technology, strategies for fostering inclusivity and supporting student well-being, and writing practices that strengthen course content. This session provides an opportunity to learn from one another and to build a collective resource for teaching excellence. Participants may include seasoned educators and junior scholars who wish to share their experiences.

Papers:

"Demonstrating the Practical Value of Sociology through Applied Research and Career Preparation," Melissa A. Alvare, Monmouth University

"Laughing to Learn: Inclusive Humor as a Teaching Strategy in Higher Education," Monnica Gavin, Clark State College

"Self-Coding: A Cross-Disciplinary Approach to Developing Critical Praxis," Lesley N. Siegel, West Chester University of Pennsylvania and Kristina M. Valtierra, Colorado College

"Sociological Pedagogy in the Age of ChatGPT: Critical Thinking and Curriculum in Transformation," Martin Jacinto, California State University, Chico and Jess Lee, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

"Teaching Ethics," Stephani Williams, Northern Arizona University

"The Sociological Top 100: Using Music Videos as Entry Points to Sociology," Claire M. Reardon, University of Kentucky

Session 087: Gender and Violence: Structural Issues

Room: Plymouth

Sponsors: Crime and Justice
Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and
Communities
Law and Society

Organizer, Presider &

Discussant: Lloyd Klein, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY

Description:

This session examines strain and the formation of values—such as gender norms, attitudes toward pornography, and perspectives on feminism—at the intersection of gender and violence. Presentations draw on theoretical and empirical approaches to analyze how social stressors, gendered expectations, and ideological frameworks shape experiences of victimization, emotional responses, and patterns of violence.

Papers:

“Gender? Responsivity: An Argument for Incorporating a Multilevel Framework,” Mackenzie Niness, University of Delaware

“Abolition Feminism: Bridging the Gap between Theory and Practice,” Clarissa M. Punla, University of California, Irvine

“Radicalization, Masculinity, and Adolescent Violence: A Case Study of ‘Adolescence,’” Lydia M. Ryan, The George Washington University

“Target and Perpetrator Behavior Indices: A New Framework for Assessing Pornography’s Relationship to Gender-Based Violence,” Mara I. Hernandez Estrada, National Autonomous University of Mexico, Jennifer A. Johnson, Virginia Tech, Ana C. Gómez-Ugarte, Insad.mx, Sarah Aadahl, Virginia Tech, Ana J. Bridges, University of Arkansas, Fernanda Conde, National Autonomous University of Mexico, José Luis Palma, Insad.mx, Matthew B. Ezzell, James Madison University and Chyng F. Sun, New York University

2:30pm – 4:10pm

Meetings

Council of Division Chairpersons and Program Chair, 2026-27

Room: Minetta

White Anti-Racist Sociologists - Meeting

Room: Palace

Organizer: Elroi J. Windsor, University of West Georgia

Description:

Please join a meeting for the White Anti-Racist Sociologists. We are a group of white anti-racist sociologists interested in accountability, solidarity, and critical praxis. Each of us has

witnessed ongoing institutionalized forms of racial oppression within sociological settings. We began discussions about how to reflect and root out internalized and unconscious racism within ourselves and take action in solidarity with others’ accountability work in response to intentional and unintentional racism and white supremacy. We invite other scholars interested in this work to join us.

2:30pm – 4:10pm

Sessions

THEMATIC

Session 088: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Mapping Colonization of Lifeworlds: “How Institutions Invade Daily Life”
Room: Melville

Sponsors: Global
Institutional Ethnography

Organizers: Lauren Eastwood, SUNY Plattsburgh
Brenda Solomon, University of Vermont

Presider/

Discussant: Brenda Solomon, University of Vermont

Description:

This session examines how powerful institutions shape and colonize everyday life across the globe. By tracing how rules, policies, and systems embed themselves into daily routines, the session explores how these “invasions” influence personal experiences, limit choices, and transform the ways people live, work, and relate to one another.

Papers:

“‘We Work for the Elderly, Not the Form!’: Institutional Ethnography as a Decolonizing Practice for Indigenous Care,” Frank TY Wang, National Chengchi University

“Institutional Ethnography of the Promotion and Tenure Processes in Higher Education,” Laura J. Parson, North Dakota State University

“Mapping Policy Lifeworlds: Sexual Citizenship in Transnational Feminist Perspective,” Nancy A. Naples, University of Connecticut

“Mapping Policy Lifeworlds: The Daily Life of ‘the Environment’ Subsumed under UN Discourses,” Lauren Eastwood, SUNY Plattsburgh

“Reflections on Institutional Capture: Intentional and Unintentional,” Paul Luken, University of West Georgia

“The Ship and Her Captain: Discursive Formations of Global White Space(s),” Samantha Marazzi, University of Connecticut

Session 089: Gender and Violence: Institutional Perspectives

Room: Plymouth

Sponsors: Crime and Justice
Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and
Communities
Law and Society

Organizer, Presider &

Discussant: Lloyd Klein, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY

Description:

This session examines gender and violence across a range of institutional settings, focusing on social and policy issues related to the military, the January 6 insurrection, human trafficking, immigration, prisons, and the legal system. Presentations analyze how institutions structure gendered power, shape public narratives, and produce or contest forms of violence within political, legal, and carceral contexts.

Papers:

“Making an American Martyr: Anti-Immigration Co-option of White Women’s Death,” Emma-Claire LaSaine, University of Wisconsin-Madison

“‘Thank You for Your Cervix’: Online Reactions to Women in the Military,” Hannah M. Galicia, Texas Woman's University

“Shelter from the Storm: Sexual Violence against Women and the Impact of the Legal System,” Lloyd Klein, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY

“The Coercive and Transformative Potential of Gendered Care Work among Incarcerated People,” Lauren Hagani, The University of Chicago

Plenary, Thematic, and Special Sessions
(All conference programming will take place in Eastern Time.)

PLENARY SESSIONS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

5:00pm-6:30pm

Session 001: Opening Plenary: Engaging Lifeworlds as Resistance through Organizing, Activism, and Scholarship

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

10:30am-11:45am

Session 008: SSSP Business Meeting

11:50am-12:25pm

Session 009: Town Hall: An Open Forum

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

4:30pm-5:30pm

Session 064: Presidential Address

5:45pm-7:00pm

Session 065: Awards Ceremony

THEMATIC SESSIONS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

8:30am-10:10am

Session 004: Doing Research in Global/Transnational Contexts with Critical Decolonial Lenses: Tools and Epistemologies

12:30pm-2:10pm

Session 010: Law in/as Crisis: Spatial Mechanisms of Legal Control

2:30pm-4:10pm

Session 019: All the Feels: Emotions as Acts of Resistance

Session 023: Beyond Therapeutic Regimes: Critiquing Traditional Medical and Criminal Legal Responses

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

8:30am-10:10am

Session 033: Law in/as Crisis: Punishment and the Legitimacy of State Violence

Session 034: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Decolonizing Solutions: Lessons from the Global South for the Global North

Session 036: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Resistance and Joy

Session 037: Teaching Hope, Joy, and Justice: Reclamation of Lifeworlds

10:30am-12:10pm

Session 043: Anticolonial Social Movements

Session 044: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Medicalization and Surveillance of Gender and Sex

12:30pm-2:10pm

Session 048: Law in/as Crisis: Legal Consciousness and Rights Mobilization

Session 052: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Intersecting Margins: Comparative Health of African Diasporas and Racial Minorities in the Americas

THEMATIC SESSIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

2:30pm-4:10pm

Session 056: Unequal Environments: Ecological Disparities and Violence

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

8:30am-10:10am

Session 067: Resisting Colonization of the Family

Session 068: No Man Behind the Curtain: The Post-Modern Imperial Power

Session 069: People Have the Power?: Community Power and Community Decision-making

Session 072: Colonization, Inequality, and the Changing Classroom

10:30am-12:10pm

Session 077: Rural Spaces and Services I

Session 080: The Border Crossed Me: Shifting Lifeworlds of Immigration

12:30pm-2:10pm

Session 081: Community Approaches to Mental Health: Educators, Policy-Makers Activists, and Social Identities

Session 082: How Institutional/Systemic Factors Impact Family, Health & Well-Being

Session 083: Rural Spaces and Services II

Session 085: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: American Colonization of the Sociological Imagination: The Intersection of Colonization and PCI

2:30pm-4:10pm

Session 088: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: Mapping Colonization of Lifeworlds: "How Institutions Invade Daily Life"

SPECIAL SESSIONS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

12:30pm-2:10pm

Session 015: Building Community at SSSP

2:30pm-4:10pm

Session 021: Navigating Graduate School: Stress, Support, and Student Well-Being

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

10:30am-12:10pm

Session 040: Academic Freedom in the Current Climate: A Conversation with the Scholars at Risk Network

12:30pm-2:10pm

Session 049: Author Meets Critics: *Anti-Racism as Communism* by Paul Gomberg, Bloomsbury, 2024

2:30pm-4:10pm

Session 058: Publishing Tips from the Editors of *Social Problems*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

10:30am-12:10pm

Session 076: Author Meets Critics: *Indefensible Spaces: Policing and the Struggle for Housing* by Rahim Kurwa, University of California Press, 2025

Special SSSP-Hosted Activities for 2026

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) is pleased to offer activities in addition to the 76th Annual Meeting Program. The activities below are being hosted by SSSP at the request of individuals participating in the Sociologists for Palestine boycott of the 2026 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA). Some of these sessions were originally developed by ASA sections and members for presentation at the 2026 ASA Annual Meeting. ASA is not sponsoring, endorsing, or co-hosting these activities.

All locations for these activities will take place at The Westin New York at Times Square (270 W 43rd St, New York, NY 10036); meeting room details are below.

Saturday, August 8

8-9:30am

- Session: “Racialization and Immigration Enforcement”
 - Session of presentations organized by members of the ASA Section on International Migration
 - Location: Gershwin I, 4th Floor

8:30-10:10am

- Presentation: "Technologies of Immigration Enforcement: Understanding the Role of Private Industry" Eyako Heh, Northwestern University
 - Individual presentation organized withing SSSP Session 033: “Law in/as Crisis: Punishment and the Legitimacy of State Violence”
 - Location: Broadway II, 3rd Floor

10-11:30am

- Session: “The Increasing Significance of Local Context in Immigrant Integration”
 - Session of presentations organized by members of the ASA Section on International Migration
 - Location: Gershwin I, 4th Floor

10:30am-12:10pm

- Session: “Session on Anti-Capitalist Feminisms”
 - Session of presentations organized by members of the ASA Sections on Sex and Gender and Marxist Sociology
 - Location: Broadway II, 3rd Floor

2-3:30pm

- Session: “Return Migration in the Era of Enforcement: Uncertainty and Transnational Lives”
 - Session of presentations organized by members of the ASA Section on International Migration
 - Location: Gershwin I, 4th Floor

2:30-4:10pm

- Presentation: “Water Materialities and Infrastructures: Forging Future Paths” Yomna ElSharony, Cornell University
 - Individual presentation organized within SSSP Session 056: “Unequal Environments: Ecological Disparities and Violence”
 - Location: Broadway I, 3rd Floor

4-5:30pm

- Session: “Work, Education, and Migration”
 - Session of presentations organized by members of the ASA Section on International Migration
 - Location: Gershwin I, 4th Floor
-

Sunday, August 9

8-9:30am

- Session: “Beyond Asylum and Resettlement: Diverse Modes of Refugee Migration”
 - Session of presentations organized by members of the ASA Section on International Migration
 - Location: Gershwin I, 4th Floor

10-11:30am

- Session: “Migration Policies”
 - Session of presentations organized by members of the ASA Section on International Migration
 - Location: Gershwin I, 4th Floor

12-1:30pm

- Session: “From Youth to Elders: The Social Worlds of Immigrants Across the Lifespan”
 - Session of presentations organized by members of the ASA Section on International Migration
 - Location: Gershwin I, 4th Floor

12:30-2:10pm

- Presentation: “Repackaging Reconstruction: The ‘GREAT Trust’ Plan for Gaza as a Paradigm of Global Urbanism” Mekarem Eljamal, Columbia University, Salma Moustafa-Kamel, Northwestern University, and Vineet Xie-Gupta, Northwestern University
 - Individual presentation organized within SSSP Session 084: “Racial Politics and Resistance in the Midst of Settler Colonialism II”
 - Location: Manhattan, 5th Floor

2:30-4:10pm

- Mentoring Event: ASA Community and Urban Sociology Section
 - Organized by members of the ASA Community and Urban Sociology Section
 - Space for junior scholars and graduate students who are going to be most impacted by the boycott and related activities
 - Location: Gershwin I, 4th Floor
- Organizing Meeting: Sociologists for Palestine
 - Organized by members of Sociologists for Palestine
 - Location: Gershwin II, 4th Floor
- Business Meeting: ASA Section-in-Formation Global Middle East and North Africa
 - Organized by members of Global MENA ASA Section-in-Formation
 - Location: Pearl, 9th Floor

Committee and Divisional Meetings
(All conference programming will take place in Eastern Time.)

<u>Committee Meetings</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Accessibility Committee, 2025-26	Saturday	2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Booth Boardroom
Annual Review Committee of the Executive Officer, 2025-26			Virtual
Anti-Harassment Committee, 2025-26 & 2026-27	Saturday	8:30 AM - 10:10 AM	Booth Boardroom
Arlene Kaplan Daniels Paper Award Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Board of Directors Meeting I, 2025-26	Thursday	11:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Minetta
Board of Directors Meeting II, 2025-26	Friday	4:15 PM - 6:15 PM	Minetta
Board of Directors Meeting, 2026-27	Sunday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Minetta
Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee, 2026-27	Saturday	12:30 PM - 2:10 PM	Booth Boardroom
C. Wright Mills Award Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Committee on Committees, 2025-26 & 2026-27	CANCELLED		
Committee on Mentorship, 2025-26			Virtual
Committee on Social Action, 2025-26			Virtual
Council of Division Chairpersons and Program Chair, 2026-27	Sunday	2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Minetta
Council of Division Chairpersons, 2025-26			Virtual
Council of Division Chairpersons, 2025-26 & 2026-27			Virtual
Development Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Doris Wilkinson Faculty Leadership Award Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Editorial and Publications Committee 2025-26 & 2026-27	Friday	12:30 PM - 2:10 PM	Minetta
Erwin O. Smigel Award Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Joseph B. Gittler Award Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Justice 21 Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Kathleen S. Lowney Mentoring Award Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Lee Founders Award Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Lee Scholar Support Fund Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Lee Student Support Fund Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Local Arrangements Committee, 2025-26 & 2026-27			Virtual
Membership and Outreach Committee, 2025-26 & 2026-27	Saturday	10:30 AM - 12:10 PM	Booth Boardroom
Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee, 2025-26 & 2026-27			Virtual
Program Chair(s), 2025-26 & 2026-27 (Closed Meeting)	Friday	2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Minetta
Program Co-Chairs, 2026-27 Meeting with the President and Administrative Officer	Saturday	8:30 AM - 10:10 AM	Majestic Ballroom
Program Committee, 2025-26	Friday	8:30 AM - 10:10 AM	Minetta
Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Fellowship Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
SSSP Business Meeting	Friday	10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	Ambassador III
Student Meeting with Student Board Representatives, 2025-26			Virtual
Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
Transnational Initiatives Committee, 2025-26			Virtual
White Anti-Racist Sociologists – Meeting	Sunday	2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Palace

<u>Divisional Meetings</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Community, Research, and Practice			Virtual
Conflict, Social Action, and Change			Virtual
Crime and Justice			Virtual
Critical Race and Ethnic Study			Virtual
Disability, Mental Wellness, and Social Justice			Virtual
Drinking and Drugs			Virtual
Educational Problems	Friday	2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Ambassador III
Environment and Technology			Virtual
Family, Aging, and Youth	Friday	2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Ambassador III
Gender, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities			Virtual
Global	Friday	2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Ambassador III
Health, Health Policy, and Health Services			Virtual
Institutional Ethnography	Saturday	12:30 PM - 2:10 PM	Majestic Ballroom
Labor Studies			Virtual
Law and Society			Virtual
Poverty, Class, and Inequality	Friday	2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Ambassador III
Social Problems Theory	Friday	12:30 PM - 2:10 PM	Ambassador III
Sociology, Social Work, and Social Welfare	Friday	12:30 PM - 2:10 PM	Ambassador III
Sport, Leisure, and the Body	Friday	12:30 PM - 2:10 PM	Ambassador III
Teaching Social Problems			Virtual

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