

Call for Chapter Proposals

Rapid-Response Volume on “Social Problems in the Age of COVID-19”

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

Chapter Proposals Due May 4, 2020

Chapter Drafts Due June 1, 2020

Justice 21 Committee (J-21) of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) intends to produce a rapid-response digital first volume to focus on the effects of the worldwide corona-virus pandemic on social problems—**Social Problems in the Age of COVID-19**. The volume will convey scholarly insight regarding the effect of the pandemic on significant social problems to the following audiences: the public-at-large, scholars, students, and policy-makers. This project affirms the resiliency and commitment of the SSSP to social justice scholarship, and will enable members of the SSSP to communicate publicly on significant social issues emerging in the United States and worldwide. This volume will be an “agenda for social justice in the age of COVID-19,” in that it will clarify the effect of the pandemic on significant social problems, including specific recommendations for action by citizens, elected officials, policy makers, and the public.

This work is tentatively to be published in electronic format by Policy Press, an academic publisher at the University of Bristol, UK (<https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/home>). As a project in public sociology, the volume will cover important national-level and international-level social problems and how they are affected by the current global pandemic.

The aim is to convey the best-available knowledge about the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on social problems, and the J-21 Committee welcomes the collaboration of individual SSSP members and SSSP Divisions. Please consider preparing a brief chapter (max. 3,000 words) for this rapid-response project. We ask you, individually or with colleagues, to consider submitting a brief proposal (1-2 pages max.) identifying a significant social problem affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, to include the following items:

- *Identify and define a concrete social problem, of national scope or international scope, which has been notably affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- *Clarify answers to these three questions:*
 - o *What do we know about the problem and how, and how does the COVID-19 pandemic affect it (i.e., what is the definition and extent of the problem, and how is this affected by the pandemic)?*
 - o *How do we know this information (i.e., what are the sources of data about this problem, and particularly how it is affected by the pandemic)?*
 - o *What kinds of policy and social actions can alleviate the problem (i.e., what are viable solutions for reducing, mitigating, solving, or abolishing the problem)? Please also consider any possible opportunities presented in the current pandemic.*

As the Justice 21 Committee of the SSSP, we invite members to prepare draft statements for proposed contributions to this rapid-response volume. Please submit a copy of your 1 to 2-page proposal via email to each of the members of the committee by May 4, 2020. Final contributions will be limited to 3000 words maximum (or roughly ten double-spaced manuscript pages). Chapter drafts will be due June 1, 2020, and final manuscripts will be due June 22, 2020. The e-volume is expected to launch in late-August 2020.

Justice 21 Committee Members:

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For more info on the **J-21 Project**, see Robert Perrucci's presidential address in the May 2001 issue of *Social Problems* ("Inventing Social Justice"). To see electronic copies of the 2004, 2008, 2012, and 2016 publications, see [http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/323/locationSectionId/0/Agenda For Social Justice](http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/323/locationSectionId/0/Agenda%20For%20Social%20Justice)

Topics of Interest Include (but are not limited to):

- Agricultural and Food Policy
- Authoritarianism
- #BLM Black Lives Matter
- Children's Rights / Issues
- Climate Change
- Commodity Chains
- Corporate Regulation
- Crime and Justice
- Declining Middle Class
- Disability Rights
- Drug Policy / Addictions
- Economic Policy & Inequality
- Education
- Employment/Unemployment
- Energy Policy
- Environmental Policy
- Family Policy
- Financial Systems
- Foreign Policy
- Gender Equity
- Global / Regional Governance
- Globalization
- Green Economy
- Gun Violence / Control
- Hate Crimes & Groups
- Health Care Policy
- Human Rights & Violations
- Human Trafficking / Slavery
- Immigration / Border Issues
- Income Security / Social Security
- Indigenous Rights
- Internet / Digital Policy
- Journalism & Journalistic Issues
- Labor Issues and Rights
- LGBTQ+ Rights
- Mass Incarceration
- Mass Media
- #MeToo Movement / #MeTooSociology
- Migration
- Militarization
- Minority Rights
- Nationalism
- National Security/ Terrorism
- Nuclear Policy
- Police Violence & Militarization
- Political Processes/Campaign Finance
- Population/Demography
- Poverty / Class Inequality
- Privacy / Surveillance
- Protest Movements
- Racism / Ethnic Bias
- Refugees / Asylum / Detention
- Religious Issues
- Reproductive Rights
- Resource Extraction
- Rule of Law
- Sex Work & Sex Workers
- Sexual Assault and Harassment
- Social Welfare Systems
- Student Loans
- Trade Agreements
- Violence against Women
- Voting Rights / Barriers
- War / Peace