



SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Community Research and Development Division
Summer 2018 Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

By Meghan Ashlin Rich, University of Scranton

Greetings Community Research and Development Division members! We are gearing up for another fantastic SSSP Annual Meeting in August, this time in one of my favorite cities, Philadelphia. With its rich history, world class dining, and vibrant neighborhoods, Philadelphia is a great place for our division members to experience and engage in urban culture.

In this Summer edition of the CRD newsletter, we highlight Decarcerate PA, a social justice organization from the Philadelphia region dedicated to supporting public health and community investment by stopping the expansion of prisons in Pennsylvania.



We also have an interview with the winner of our outstanding graduate paper award, Joy Kadowaki, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Sociology at Purdue University. Her paper investigates the defense tactics of residents in a racially diverse neighborhood in Chicago through ethnographic methods. We hope you will join us in congratulating Joy on her achievement at the SSSP Awards Ceremony on Saturday, August 11 from 6:45-7:45pm.

There are a number of CRD-sponsored sessions that I would also like to highlight here:

The CRD Business Meeting is being held on Friday, August 10 from 12:30-2:10pm. This meeting is open to all CRD members and is a great way to engage with the division by contributing to our annual meeting planning and division policies. I would like to especially encourage graduate students to attend this meeting, as we can always use input and participation from junior scholars.

Our division is once again co-sponsoring a reception following the SSSP Awards Ceremony, on Saturday, August 11 from 7:45-8:45pm. Please join us for a wonderful opportunity to eat, drink, mingle, and network with fellow division members, as well as our colleagues in other SSSP divisions.

We are also sponsoring 12 excellent research sessions at the meeting, including paper sessions, roundtables, and critical dialogues, many tied to the annual meeting theme of "Abolitionist Approaches to Social Problems." Details are on pg. 3-4.

Lastly, I want to remind you to register as early as possible for the CRD-hosted one-day workshop in Community-Based Participatory Action Research. This all-day interactive workshop on Monday, August 13, will be collaboratively led by longtime CRD division members Charlotte Ryan, Felicia Sullivan, and Jessica Lucero. Registration is limited to 50 people. Please join us in learning and networking with scholars engaged in community-based research. Details are on pg. 9.

I look forward to seeing you in Philly!
Meghan

2018 Annual Meeting Program Theme

Luis A. Fernandez, SSSP President, Northern Arizona University

"Be faithful, be vigilant, be untiring in your efforts to break every yoke, and let the oppressed go free." –William Lloyd Garrison

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress." –Frederick Douglass

"Fight for the right to live, love, and work wherever you please." –The Repeal Coalition of Arizona (an immigrant rights group)



In the 18th and 19th centuries, abolitionist developed strong movements demanding the end of slavery. In the United States, individuals like Gerrit Smith, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, the Grimke sisters, and John Brown called for the immediate end to the enslavement of their fellow humans, and were unrelenting in their actions to reach their goals. These were zealots, individuals who were unapologetic about their demands. For instance, in 1855, abolitionists issued a call for an inaugural convention of Radical Abolitionists. It stated,

"We want [people] at this crisis who cannot be frightened from the advocacy of our 'radical' doctrines, because of their unpopularity . . . Let us not, then, grow weary, but believing that 'whatever is RIGHT, IS PRACTICAL,' go forth with renewed determination to conquer, though we die in the conflict." (In The Black Hearts of Men, John Stauffer, p. 12)

As we face modern social problems, we can find inspiration in the Abolitionist Movement. As we see Latino, Black, and Indigenous youth killed and imprisoned at disproportionate rates, we need strategies to stop racial subjugation. As we witness the call for larger walls at our borders, we need new thoughts of liberation. As we confront patriarchy and economic inequality, we require stronger practices. To that end, the theme for the 2018 SSSP Annual Meeting is Abolitionist Approaches to Social Problems.

The SSSP has a long history of experimentation, inviting critique of ideas and concepts as it pushes towards a continual reimagining of social justice. In the current incarnation, we invite participants to help us develop ways to abolish social problems entirely, to think through what is required to eliminate systems of subjugation, and to document the current struggles that are already leading the way in these efforts. This will require not just a rethinking of how to confront social problems, but also a rediscovering of buried histories, of hidden struggles, and of ideas that are submerged below the surface. It is time, once again, to remember that what is right is practical and to be unafraid of principles that are unpopular.

To this end, the program committee will be inviting speakers, organizing thematic sessions, and assembling panels of scholars-activist who are confronting capitalism, colonialism, patriarchy, and other forms of subjugation. We also invite you to submit proposals that match the theme.

It is our hope that this year's theme provides us with an opportunity to have an earnest discussion on the possibilities of developing and implementing strategies that eradicate subjugation. We invite you to engage in our efforts. We hope to see you in Philadelphia, a city steeped in an abolitionist tradition.

CRD Sessions at 2018 SSSP Annual Conference

Session #	Session Title	Date/Time	Room
1	Examining Social Systems on Child Well-being and Delinquency	Date: Friday, August 10 Time: 8:30 AM - 10:10 AM	Independence B
2	Issues in Migration	Date: Friday, August 10 Time: 10:30 AM - 12:10 PM	Salon 5
3	Case Studies of Gentrification and Neighborhood Change	Date: Friday, August 10 Time: 2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Independence A
4	When the Company Leaves the Company Town: Research from Rustbelt Communities and Beyond	Date: Friday, August 10 Time: 4:30 PM - 6:10 PM	Salon 3 & 4
5	Migration, Citizenship, and Mental Health: Methods for Understanding, Impacts, and Responses	Date: Saturday, August 11 Time: 8:30 AM - 10:10 AM	Independence D
6	Social Action and Liberation: Community Partnerships	Date: Saturday, August 11 Time: 10:30 AM - 12:10 PM	Independence A
7	Migration, Citizenship, and Well-being Across Different Contexts	Date: Saturday, August 11 Time: 12:30 PM - 2:10 PM	Independence D
8	Housing, Mental Health, and Communities	Date: Saturday, August 11 Time: 2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Independence D
9	Green Gentrification: Urban Sustainability and the Struggle for Environmental Justice	Date: Sunday, August 12 Time: 10:30 AM - 12:10 PM	Independence D
10	Law, Justice, and Community Engagement	Date: Sunday, August 12 Time: 12:30 PM - 2:10 PM	Liberty Ballroom A
11	Race, Power, and Neighborhoods	Date: Sunday, August 12 Time: 2:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Independence B
12	Refugees, Communities, and Global Citizenship	Date: Sunday, August 12 Time: 4:30 PM - 6:10 PM	Independence B

Summer 2018 Graduate Student Spotlight

Joy Kadowaki

Can you tell us a bit about yourself and what brought you to your graduate studies?

I studied sociology and political science as an undergraduate at the University of Illinois, and after graduating I continued on to law school. Throughout my time as a law student, I constantly found myself asking sociological questions about the things I was learning and experiencing and I became increasingly interested in researching. After graduating law school, I applied to graduate programs in sociology, and was very excited when I was accepted to Purdue University. While my master's work focused on the legal profession, I also had a longstanding interest in urban sociology and criminology. During my time as a legal intern at a public defender's office, I had often wondered how the places my clients lived affected their life chances and questions like these still nagged at me during my first years in graduate school. Ultimately, I decided to pursue research in this area for my dissertation work, and was very fortunate to be a part of a department that has provided me with excellent mentorship, as well as allowed me the freedom to grow and develop as a scholar.



What is the focus of your doctoral dissertation research?

My doctoral dissertation research ethnographically explores the social processes of neighborhood collective efficacy. Quantitative research has established that collective efficacy plays an important mediating role between neighborhood structural conditions and outcomes such as crime, but we know very little about the determinants and origins of neighborhood collective efficacy and how efficacy actually operates to impact neighborhood outcomes. I conducted an ethnography in Beverly, a neighborhood in Chicago, in order to explore the foundations and sources of efficacy, the factors that facilitate collective efficacy and collective action, and the effects of collective efficacy on residents, their social relations, and neighborhood conditions more generally. I find that in Beverly, collective efficacy is a task-specific process that reflects the interplay between the neighborhood's strong sociocultural milieu, social capital, and residents' willingness to act. Collective efficacy is not a static neighborhood trait, but rather a process that evolves and varies based on the problem at-hand and perhaps most importantly, the context of neighborhood. I also demonstrate how collective efficacy contributes to the stability of neighborhood conditions in Beverly, and provide a conceptual model linking context, culture, social capital, collective efficacy, and action with neighborhood stability.

What made you interested in doing a neighborhood study in the particular neighborhood you chose?

There are three reasons that I chose Beverly as my research site. First, data from the PHDCN shows that Beverly is very high in collective efficacy and therefore it is a ripe setting for studying the social processes and sources of efficacy. Second, Beverly is a racially mixed neighborhood that has demonstrated stable diversity over the past couple of decades. While social disorganization theory predicts that racial heterogeneity may impede social cohesion, Beverly's high levels of collective efficacy and racial diversity serve as a counterexample, making Beverly an interesting site for research into social relations, efficacy, and stable diversity. The third reason that I chose Beverly as my research site is because I grew up in Beverly and many of my family members and closest friends live there now. My relationship with the neighborhood has

Local Organization Spotlight:

Decarcerate PA: The Coalition to Abolish Death By Incarceration



Who We Are:

Decarcerate PA is a coalition of organizations and individuals seeking an end to mass incarceration and the harms it brings our communities.

From Decarcerate PA: CADBI "Pennsylvania prisons hold over 5000 people serving life sentences without the possibility of parole. In PA, a life sentence means your natural life--it is a sentence that condemns you to die in prison--which is why many choose to call it Death By Incarceration (DBI).

We believe that sentencing people to Death By Incarceration is a violation of their human rights and an affront to the humanity of us all. That's why Decarcerate PA, Fight for Lifers, the Human Rights Coalition, and Right to Redemption are launching a campaign to end Death By Incarceration sentencing in PA."

CADBI Demands

CADBI is working to build a mass movement both inside and outside of prison to take a stand against Death By Incarceration and other harsh sentencing practices. To do this, CADBI has established three core demands for legislative change:

- Parole eligibility after no more than 15 years;
- Presumptive parole: people are paroled at their eligibility date, unless the prison administration can prove serious unresolved disciplinary infractions;
- A maximum sentencing law that will stop the commonwealth from incarcerating people for indefinite periods of time.

Get Involved

The Coalition to Abolish Death By Incarceration is an all-volunteer effort, and we are always looking for new people to join us! Whether you are inside or outside of prison, representing an organization or just yourself, you can be a member of CADBI. Find out more by coming to a CADBI General Meeting or get in touch with us by phone, email, or mail.

Email: CADBIphilly@gmail.com

Phone: 267-606-0324

Mail: CADBI c/o Decarcerate PA, PO Box 40764, Phila. PA 19107.

Follow CADBI on facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/CADBIphilly>



SSSP CRD Member Accomplishments:

Caged Women: Incarceration, Representation & Media (Routledge, 2018), Shirley A. Jackson and Laurie L. Gordy, eds.

Halasz, Judith R. (2018) "The super-gentrification of Park Slope, Brooklyn," *Urban Geography*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/02723638.2018.1453454>

Shirley A. Jackson, chair of Black Studies Department at Portland State University has been selected to serve on the Oregon Department of Education's Ethnic Studies Advisory Group (HB 2845).

Shirley A. Jackson, chair of the Black Studies Department at Portland State University appeared on the talk show, *Afternoon Live* on Channel KATU (Portland, OR) on January 15, 2018 for a segment on Martin Luther King, Jr.

Gregory Squires selected by the Urban Affairs Association for the 2018 Contribution to the Field of Urban Affairs Award

Squires, G. D. (2018). *The fight for fair housing: Causes, consequences, and future implications of the 1968 Federal Fair Housing Act*. New York, NY: Routledge.

Gregory D. Squires, George Washington University, and Wade Henderson, former CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, co-authored an op ed, "Five decades after Fair Housing Act, discrimination continues" for the *Baltimore Sun* (June 18, 2018) <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/oped/bs-ed-op-0413-fair-housing-20180411-story.html>

Special Calls, Invitations, & Announcements

Community-Based Participatory Action Research (limit 50):

Monday, August 13, 9:00am–4:00pm, Location: Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel

Registration Fee: \$25 for members or \$75 for nonmembers

The Community Research & Development Division is hosting an interactive workshop for researchers who use or are interested in community-based participatory action research. The workshop will (1) offer a foundational orientation to the purpose and process of CBPAR; and (2) provide a context within which CBPAR scholars, both new and old, can learn from each other and build a stronger network. This one-day workshop will be divided into two sections. In the morning, section I will cover the following topics: (1) What is CBPAR and Why Do It?; (2) Capacity Building and Community Partnerships; and (3) CBPAR Methodology – Balancing Methodological Rigor with Community Need. In the afternoon, section II will cover the following topics: (1) Data dissemination: To Whom, How, and Where; (2) Publishing and Funding: Challenges and Opportunities; and (3) Maintaining Partnerships and Building Steam. The workshop will be collaboratively delivered by Drs. Charlotte Ryan, Felicia Sullivan, and Jessica Lucero. The workshop will be interactive in nature and provide opportunities for attendees to discuss their CBPAR research ideas and receive feedback. Workshop fee includes morning coffee.

If you have a publication, special call, invitation or announcement not listed, we would love to include it in the Fall 2018 issue. Please contact our Chair, Dr. Meghan Ashlin Rich, University of Scranton (meghan.rich@scranton.edu)

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