

# Society for the Study of Social Problems

In Pursuit of Social Justice

## Disability Division

Summer Issue May 2018

#### Greetings from the Disability Division Co-Chairs

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Dearest Disability Division Members,

Thank you for taking a moment away from the glories of summer to catch up on Division happenings and Annual Meeting announcements!

We are pleased to report that Justine Egner will be stepping up as our 2018-2020 Division Co-Chair (see page 3) as Jessica returns to regular membership. Congratulations and Welcome to Justine!

We are also pleased to announce the results of a very competitive Graduate Student Paper Award competition. Congratulations to Lisa Buchter for their winning paper, "Tell me your story: Quota compliance and the pitfalls of new recruitment tools" (see page 6)! We appreciate all of the graduate students who submitted papers for the 2018 competition. The diversity and quality of the submissions was a real testament to the bright future of our Division. Help us congratulate Lisa at the Awards Ceremony on Saturday, August 11, 6:45pm-7:45pm, followed by the Division-Sponsored Reception 7:45-8:45pm.

Finally, we hope to see you all during the amazing slate of Division Sponsored Sessions scheduled this year (see pages 8-12). We would like to particularly draw your attention to three sessions. We successfully applied for additional funding for a Division Sponsored Project, which has helped us bring a panel of cutting-edge disability scholars and activists to discuss their work examining how carceral logic operates across various sites and bodies, To Be Neither Seen Nor Heard: Abolishing Carceral Logic (Sunday, Aug. 12, 8:30am). This panel will be immediately followed by a workshop on community organizing for prison reform, CADBI Workshop: Inside/Outside Community Organizing for Prison Reform (Sunday, Aug. 12, 10:30am), in which participants will discuss practical social change tactics led by a community-based coalition working to end death by incarceration in PA. We are also sponsoring, Abolishing Barriers to Access at SSSP (Saturday, Aug. 11, 8:30am), an important session inviting conversation between members and SSSP leadership about access experiences and practical goals for increasing accessibility. Mark your calendars now; it promises to be an exciting year!

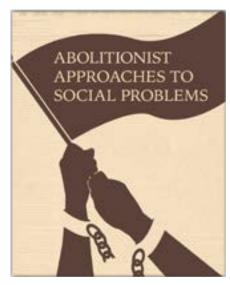
See you in Philly! Jes & Scott

## 68th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)

#### August 10-12, 2018 Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel Philadelphia, PA

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

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 Doug-



lass, 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. 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.

Luis A. Fernandez Northern Arizona University SSSP President (2017-2018)

## Welcoming Justine Egner, New Division Co-Chair for 2018-2020



Justine is starting as an assistant professor of Sociology at University of Wisconsin La Crosse this August. Her research focuses on questions pertaining to disability, health, illness, neurodiversity, gender, sexuality, and embodiment. She is interested in the ways in which identities are shaped and embodied through processes of medicalization, pathologization, and social stigmatization. She seeks to explore how these processes contribute to the marginalization of individuals and groups. Specifically, she studies how processes of medicalization have shaped the histories as well as the collective and individual identities of disabled and LGBTQ+ people. Moreover, she asks how, and in what ways, do people who iden-

tify as both LGBTQ+ and disabled negotiate these often socially contradicting identities in both physical and virtual spaces.

She received her BA in Sociology and Psychology from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, her MA in Sociology from Texas Tech University., and she has recently completed her Ph.D. in Sociology at University of South Florida. She has published on the subversive potential of drag performances in the *Journal of Homosexuality*, on Abortion Law in the *Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies*, and most recently a historical analysis of sociological literature focusing on processes of medicalization and pathologization of both disability and sexuality as they relate to crip theory in *Research in Social Science and Disability Volume 9*. Justine served as the 2016-2017 student representative for the American Sociological Society's section on Disability & Society, and is now the new SSSP Disability Division Co-Chair for 2018-2020. Welcome, Justine!

## Calls for Papers

The Journal of Social Issues (JSI) and special issue editors Kathleen Bogart and Dana S. Dunn seek proposals for papers for an upcoming issue on ableism. Ableism refers to stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination toward people with disabilities—a group that has been called the forgotten minority. Comprising approximately 15% of the world's population, people with disabilities have histor-



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ically been one of the most underrepresented groups in social science research and public policy. Paper topics for the proposed issue include but are not limited to the causes and consequences of ableism (e.g., attitudes research), intrapersonal responses to ableism (e.g., self-concept, disability identity), and interpersonal or collective responses to ableism (e.g., activism and ableism interventions). Paper topics may address social scientific concerns for disability broadly speaking or may concern various types of disability, including but not limited to specific disabilities, invisible disabilities, rare/uncommon disabilities, living with undiagnosable illness, intellectual disabilities, mental health disabilities, chronic illness, the disclosure of disability, or the intersectional experiences of disabled persons. JSI is a publication of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues; however, contributions from all social science disciplines are sought. Quantitative and qualitative empirical research papers as well as theoretical and conceptual reviews are welcome.

Submissions for initial consideration should consist of **detailed abstracts of 2-4 double-spaced pages** followed by a **short biography** (limited to half a page) of each author. The detailed abstracts should describe the theoretical underpinnings of the work, the methodological approach taken, and implications for social policy. For empirical articles, the abstract should include descriptions of the sample, methods, and primary findings, and in the case of quantitative articles, statistical power analysis. Qualitative submissions will be strengthened by authors' consideration of COREQ or SRQR guidelines. For review articles, the abstract should include descriptions of the means by which the work reviewed was chosen (e.g., selective, supportive, exhaustive) and primary conclusions. Note that submissions must be based on nearly-completed work. Proposals based on empirical research for which the outcomes are unknown (e.g., in progress or future studies) would not be appropriate.

Submit detailed abstracts and biographies by July 1, 2018, to Kathleen Bogart at Kathleen.bogart@oregonstate.edu. Questions and inquiries may also be directed to Dr. Bogart. Approximately 10 papers will be selected for the final issue. The special issue editors plan to notify authors of selection decisions by early September 2018. Completed manuscripts will be due December 1 and must adhere to JSI author guidelines.

#### Member Publications

## Mutual Exchange: Caregiving and Life Enhancement in Siblings of Individuals With Developmental Disabilities

*Journal of Family Issues*, Volume 39, Issue 8, 2018 Laura Mauldin, Mamta Saxena

#### **Abstract**

Individuals with disabilities increasingly live at home. This study focuses on experiences of adult siblings (aged 18 years and older) in the United States who have a brother or sister with an intellectual/developmental disability. It is based on qualitative survey data (n = 224). We coded narratives of siblings' experiences and identified themes, correlating themes with demographic characteristics. The major finding was that narratives of the youngest age group (aged 18-25 years) had the highest number of direct care codes. This group of siblings also had the highest number of codes indicating that their lives were enhanced by their brother or sister. To account for this, we utilize the mutual exchange theory of care from sociology and a social model of disability. As a result, we suggest a richer theoretical understanding of care and disability that can capture these nuances, and comment on some of the historical tensions between disability studies and caregiving.

#### Member-Recommended Resources

The My Disability Matters Community operates 2 disability sites:

https://mydisabilitymatters club is an online social community based on safety, tolerance and respect unlike FB and Twitter. We have members worldwide and would be pleased to let you join and share your research and seek input from our community.

#### https://mydisabilitymatters.

**news** is a disability news and opinion site that publishes articles on disability issues worldwide. We would be pleased to help with dissemination of your research



if you are able to write a blog post, media release, commentary etc that we could publish provided it is in non-academic speak! Our readers and audience would love to know more about disability research that is being undertaken but in language they can understand – how is it relevant and how will it impact the community at large? Academic engagement is important these days and we would love to help spread your work into the community at large.

### Graduate Student Paper Competition Winner

#### Lisa Buchter

Ph.D. candidate in a joint-Ph.D. program

Northwestern University (Evanston), Sociology Department

Center for the Sociology of Organizations, Sciences Po-CNRS, in Paris (France)

## "Tell me your Story – Quota Compliance and the Pitfalls of new Recruitment Tools"

Abstract: Many scholars have pointed out that anti-discrimination laws do not fully undermine workplace discrimination and observed that diversity policies mostly benefit over-qualified or advantaged individuals within minorities. To elucidate this paradox, this case study analyzes how companies transform the selection and assessment processes of minority job-seekers after the implementation of a quota. My empirical case explores the consequences of the reinforcing of a quota of disabled workers in France: creation of alternative recruitment channels, hiring of disability experts for recruitment, refusal of resume sorting as a pre-screening tool, and emphasis on face-to-face interviews. I find that these changes did help more people get hired, but also compelled more personal disclosure that both led to more emotional assessment of job candidates and enabled "refined statistical discrimination" within pools of disabled job-seekers. I argue that this impacted the expectation of career advancement for new employees with disabilities and condemned people with more severe disabilities to remain unemployed. While the hope behind this quota was to hire people regardless of their disabilities, its outcome was to select some people according to their specific disability.

## Disability in the News

#### Inclusion Rates Lagging For Students With Intellectual Disabilities

by Shaun Heasley, May 15, 2018

"Under federal law, students with disabilities are supposed to attend class with their typically-developing peers as much as possible, but new research suggests that may not be happening. In what researchers say is the first study to look at national trends in school placement for students with intellec-



tual disabilities over the last four decades, they found that the majority of these children spent most or all of their time in self-contained settings. What's more, while inclusion rates rose during some periods in the nearly-40-year span, progress seems to have halted in recent years, according to findings that are set to be published in the American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities."

#### With Adaptive Controller, Microsoft Courts Gamers With Disabilities

by Rachel Lerman, May 18, 2018

"Players with disabilities, who use gaming as a form of entertainment but also as a way to interact and connect with others, have been cobbling together options for nontraditional controls for years. Xbox wanted to make it easier for players and caretakers to play, without intense mechanical building...[The] Xbox Adaptive Controller...[is] a plain, flat white rectangle



with two big black buttons, and a few controls on the front. The most important parts of the controller are along the back and sides where a total of 21 ports are available for gamers to plug in pretty much any accessory they want."

#### Government Urged To Improve Disability Services

by Michelle Diament, May 11, 2018

"Services for children with disabilities and their families should be far more coordinated and easier to access, according to a new report produced for the federal government evaluating everything from health care and special education to employment. The 285-page analysis from the nonprofit National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine



found that even the most capable families struggle to navigate the complex web of programs available to assist those with disabilities. For those with less means or families who live in rural areas, the report found those challenges are further exaggerated."

## Division-Sponsored Sessions at 2018 SSSP Annual Meeting - August 10-12

Session 018: Abolishing Exploitative Labor Practices (Thematic)

Time: Friday, August 10th - 10:30

Location: Freedom H

Sponsors: Disability; Youth, Aging, and the Life Course

Presider: Katherine Caldwell, University of Illinois at Chicago

#### Papers:

- "Differences in Earnings among Persons with and without Disabilities" Alexandra Krause,
   Florida State University
- "Family Experiences in Engaging in Employment: How Do We Improve Outcomes?" John Kramer, UMass Boston
- "Prison Uprisings: Prisoners' Rhetorics of Resisting Prison Slavery" Colleen Hackett, Colorado State University-Pueblo and Ben Turk, The Fire Inside, Support Prisoner Resistance, IWOC
- "Shifting the Paradigm through Entrepreneurship" Katherine Caldwell, University of Illinois at Chicago

Session 028: Institutional Social Controls of Health and Disability

Time: Friday, August 10th - 12:30

Location: Freedom H

Sponsors: Disability, and Youth, Aging, and the Life Course

**Presider:** Scott Landes, Syracuse University

**Description:** This session will address the ways in which larger social institutions influence

health and/or disability outcomes across the life course.

#### Papers:

- "Engendering a Conducive Environment for University Students with Physical Disabilities: Assessing Availability of Assistive Facilities, Nigeria" - Macellina Yinyinade Ijadunola, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria and Mary O. Obiyan, Centre for Global Child Health, The Hospital for Sick Children (Sickkids), Canada
- "Exploring Normative Social Capital and Employment of Minorities with Disabilities" -Marisa Lucca, University of Central Florida and Sabrina Marks, Stetson University
- "Reframing the Story of Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan: Resisting (Dis)ability Stereotypes through an Analysis of Children's Literature"- Cheryl Najarian Souza, UMass Lowell
- "The Neuro Hype or Neuro Hope? Brain Science and the Biomedicalization of Treatment for Schizophrenia in Canada and the USA" - Michael A. Halpin, University of Wisconsin-Madison

#### Session 061: Abolishing Barriers to Access at SSSP

Time: Saturday, August 11th - 8:30 am

**Location:** Salon 10 **Sponsors:** Disability

**Organizers:** Scott Landes, Syracuse University; Jessica Penwell Barnett, Wright State University **Presider:** Scott Landes, Syracuse University

#### **Description:**

In line with the theme of Abolitionist Approaches to Social Problems, this panel session will be a time to reflect on the work SSSP has done and continues to do to ensure all persons can participate fully at the SSSP, and discuss actions SSSP can/will take in the future to address any barriers that do or may exist that prevent persons with disability from fully participating in the conference. The planned format is for invited panelists, including individuals with disability and SSSP leaders, to detail their work for and experiences of accessibility at SSSP. This will be followed by a time for questions and discussion with those attending the session. This session will immediately be followed by the joint business meeting of the Disability Division and the Accessibility Committee. Our hope is that the panel session will allow us to discuss the larger structural issues involved in accessibility at a conference, and that we can guide this discussion towardpractical goals for increasing accessibility that can be addressed in the follow-up business meeting.

#### **Panelists:**

Jennifer D. Brooks, Syracuse University
Katherine Caldwell, University of Illinois at Chicago
Dana Greene, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Michele Koontz, The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)
Valerie Leiter, Simmons College
Nancy J. Mezey, Monmouth University
Ashley Volion, University of Illinois at Chicago

## Disability Divisional Meeting

Time: Saturday, August 11th - 10:30 am - 12:10 pm

Location: Salon 10

Session 084: Global Migrations of Sexuality and Disability

Time: Saturday, August 11th - 12:30 pm

Location: Salon 10

**Sponsors:** Disability; Global; Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities

Organizers: Melissa Jane Welch, University of South Florida;

Ying-Chao Kao, Rutgers University

Presider: Melissa Jane Welch, University of South Florida

#### Papers:

 "'Virtually No One Else Was Willing to Adopt Disabled Children': Challenging U.S.
 National(istic) Defense of Transnational Adoption from Russia" - Lisa M. Gulya, University of Minnesota Twin Cities

- "Enforcement of Heternomativity through Able-bodied Saviorism: Sex Workers Saving Their Disabled Clients from Crip Time" - Justine Egner, University of Wisconsin La Crosse and Carley Geiss, University of South Florida
- "The Intersections of Activism, Advocacy and Human Rights in Advancing Sexual Health for People with Disabilities" - Alex Otieno, Arcadia University
- "Demedicalization Revisited: Transnational Migration of Medical Norm and the Diagnostic Status of Homosexuality in CCMD-3" Suisui Wang, Indiana University Bloomington
- "Impure and Partial Religion: The Hybridized Motivations of Anti-LGBTQ and Pro-Family Christian Movements in Taiwan" Ying-Chao Kao, Rutgers University

Session 105: To Be Neither Seen Nor Heard: Abolishing Carceral Logic (Thematic)

Time: Sunday, August 12th - 8:30 am

**Location:** Independence C

**Sponsor:** Disability

Organizer & Presider: Jessica Penwell Barnett, Wright State University

#### **Panelists:**

Allison Carey, Shippensburg University
Nirmala Erevelles, University of Alabama
Liat Ben-Moshe, The University of Toledo
CADBI Activist, Coalition to Abolish Death by Incarceration (CADBI)

**Description:** This panel will explore how carceral logic operates across various sites, including prisons, institutions of care for those with disabilities, schools, and city spaces, pointing to diverse forms of incarceration. In doing so, it takes an intersectional approach to understanding the relationship between disability and incarceration, pointing to connections with race, class, national origin, gender, etc. It will also suggest strategies for theoretical and rhetorical disruption of the application of carceral logic to the social problem of disability, as well as practical alternatives to incarceration as a mode of 'problem-solving'.

Session 116: CADBI Workshop: Inside/Outside Community Organizing for

Prison Reform (Thematic)

Time: Sunday, August 12th - 8:30 am

Location: Independence C

Sponsors: Conflict, Social Action, and Change; Disability; Law and Society; Poverty, Class, and

Inequality; Sociology and Social Welfare

Organizer: Deborah Lynn Little, Adelphi University

Facilitators: Deborah Lynn Little, Adelphi University; Kelsey R. Weymouth- Little, Coalition to

Abolish Death by Incarceration (CADBI)

**Description:** This session offers a workshop by members of CADBI (Coalition to Abolish Death by Incarceration). CADBI, located in Philadelphia, is a community-based coalition of individuals and groups working to end life without parole sentencing in PA. It is led by those most impacted by DBI and uses an inside/outside model of organizing. Members also organize actions related to DBI, ranging from electoral politics to advocacy in sentencing and parole to ride-share programs for outside family members to visit those inside. CADBI members will offer a workshop on community organizing, focusing on DBI and on health (disability) issues confronting those on the inside.

Session 127: Disability and Schooling

Time: Sunday, August 12th - 12:30 pm

**Location:** Independence C

**Sponsors:** Disability; Educational Problems

Organizer & Presider: Sara Green, University of South Florida

**Description:** Papers in this session explore ways in which disability is constructed and enacted in schools, calling attention to the impact of teachers, counselors, school policy, and public discourse on the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families.

#### Papers:

- "The Racial Context of Teachers' Racialized and Gendered Perceptions of Disability" Rachel Elizabeth Fish, New York University
- "Seeking an Advocate in Education: Parental Perspectives on Counseling Services for Children with Low-incidence Disabilities" - Amanda E. Fehlbaum, Richard W. VanVoorhis and Kenneth L. Miller, Youngstown State University, Susan Miller, Miami University and Jaime Kirchhofer, Youngstown State University
- "Post-secondary Education and Employment: Case-study of Virginia Commonwealth University's ACE-IT in College" - Aliza H. Weiss and Stephanie J. Lau, Virginia Commonwealth University
- "'There's Nothing Wrong with You!': Experiences of Conflict between Educators and Students with Invisible Disabilities" - Melinda Leigh Maconi, University of South Florida
- "A Discourse Analysis of Media Coverage of A Campus Shooting: How Are Stories Framed, and Why Does it Matter for Disability Studies?" Douglas Engelman, University of South Florida

Session 149: Limits of Existing Socio-Legal Approaches to Regulating Disability (Critical Dialogue)

Time: Sunday, August 12th - 4:30 pm

Location: Independence D

**Sponsors:** Disability

Organizer: Robert Gould, University of Illinois at Chicago

Presider: Kate Jenkins, Winona State University

#### Papers:

- "Developmental Detours: Exploring the Socioeconomic Circumstances of Children Living in Disability in Rhode Island" Tanni Chaudhuri, Rhode Island College
- "Medicare Home Care Blocks Evidence-based Interdisciplinary Care" William D. Cabin, Temple University
- "Narratives on Assisted Suicide and Mental Health Counseling: A Layered Discussion about the Ethical and Legal Quandaries" - Richard Chapman and Rebecca Blackwell, University of South Florida
- "Tell me Your Story –Quota Compliance and the Pitfalls of New Recruitment Tools" Lisa Danielle Buchter, Northwestern University, Winner of the Disability Division's Student Paper Competition
- "The Emotional Support Loophole: Pit Bulls and Breed Specific Legislation" Genevieve D. Minter, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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