



SSSP

# Pro Bono



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## Content

Notes from the Chair	1
2014 Conference Panels	4
Announcements	5
Incoming Division Chair	6
Lindesmith Award Winner	7
Member Publications	8



## Notes From the Chair

Greetings from San Francisco! In this, my last newsletter as Chair of the Law and Society Division, I'd like to offer my deepest gratitude to all of those who have contributed to the division and to its members for making it one of the most robust in the Society. In particular, I'm very grateful to Vice-Chair Lori Sexton, Newsletter Editor Kristen Maziarka, former Newsletter Editor Kristen Desjarlais deKlerk, and former Division Chairs Lloyd Klein and Steve Morewitz for their dedication to the division. I would also like to offer a hearty congratulations to incoming Division Chair Jay Borchert- welcome, Jay!

My final task in this newsletter's commentary is, unfortunately, a sad one. On February 22, 2014 we lost a giant among giants in the field of Law and Society: Dr. William J. Chambliss, namesake of our division's lifetime achievement award. In addition to his iconic and path-breaking influence on both the sociology of law and criminology, Bill was an extraordinary human being- kind, funny, fearless, dedicated to justice, and full of life. I had the great fortune to spend time with him a few times over the years at

Continued on page 2

various professional meetings and was always struck by how utterly unpretentious and gracious he was for someone who was essentially a living legend in the field. I will always be grateful for those evenings and for his profound scholarly influence and personal kindness. Therefore, in lieu of the traditional notes from the chair, I wish to pay tribute to Dr. Chambliss by reprinting the obituary for Bill penned by his student and one of my own mentors, Dr. Kitty Calavita:

*William J. (Bill) Chambliss died on February 22, 2014. He was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer eight years ago. True to character, Bill continued to live life to the fullest and extended beyond all odds his time with us.*

*Bill was a leading force in the fields of criminology and the sociology of law, forging a powerful dialectical framework for the understanding of crime and law, and reinvigorating conflict theory in the process. He authored many of the most cited books and articles in criminology; taught, mentored, and was loved by generations of undergraduate and graduate students (myself among them); and, as an engaged scholar, was repeatedly called on by the media to comment on drug policies and other criminal justice issues. He was a scholar of immense stature, who continually gave to others his time, his intellect, and his incomparable spirit.*

*Bill never lost sight of the people behind his theories. If he wanted to understand burglars, he hung out with Harry King. If he wanted to demystify organized crime, he learned to hustle pool and play cards, frequented back alleys and boardrooms, and secured a chat with Meyer Lansky. Long before postmodernists preached the art of storytelling, Chambliss's subjects came alive and were given voice on his pages. Gathering data from the archives of medieval England, the streets of Seattle, the villages of Nigeria, the poppy fields of Thailand, the sleek cityscapes of Scandinavia, and the ghettos in the heart of our nation's capital, Bill routinely performed that most difficult task in sociology—engaging his “sociological imagination”—linking biography and history, the private lives of those he studied to the public issues they embodied.*

*Bill started his academic career as an undergraduate studying with Donald Cressey at UCLA. He later went to Indiana University for his PhD in sociology where he studied with Alfred Lindesmith and published “The Deterrent Influence of Punishment.” Bill's first academic job was at the University of Washington where he wrote the pathbreaking “A Sociological Analysis of the Law of Vagrancy.” That piece quickly became a classic and established Bill as a founding father of both conflict criminology and the contemporary sociology of law.*

*At the same time, Bill was hanging out in Seattle's pool halls, card rooms, and back alleys, determined to make sense of organized crime. He soon realized that this would require him to leave the back alleys, and go across town to corporate boardrooms and City Hall. Only Bill could have survived this fieldwork (and then, just barely, as I heard Bill's stories about being threatened with beatings more than once). He not only survived—he published *On the Take: From Petty Crooks to Presidents*, a book that revolutionized our understanding not just of organized crime but of law enforcement and the state.*

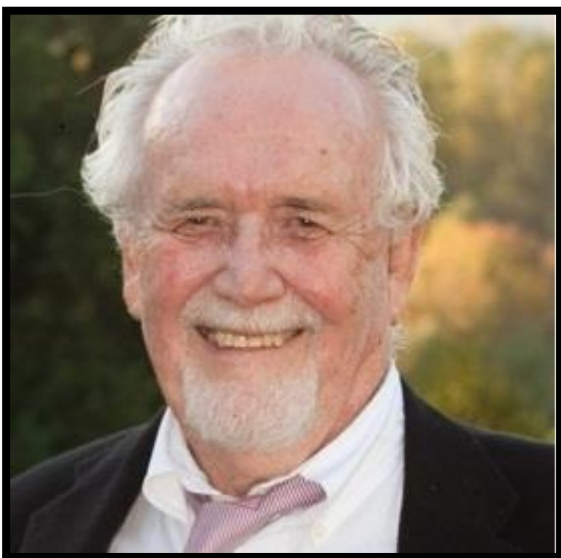
*From Seattle, Bill went to UC Santa Barbara where he wrote seven books in as many years—including *Law, Order, and Power* and *Crime and the Legal Process*, which elaborated on his conflict theory of law and crime, and incorporated a critical race dimension long before it was fashionable. In those years too, he published *Boxman: A Professional Thief's Journey*, giving us a first-hand account of the day-to-day life and methods of a professional thief. He also introduced us to “The Saints and the Roughnecks,” as they wreaked havoc on their neighborhoods and our conventional wisdoms. The “Saints and the Roughnecks” are among the 20th century's best-known criminological characters, their names now code for unreliable stereotypes of conformity and delinquency.*

*At the University of Delaware in the late 1970s, Bill wrote yet another seminal piece entitled “On Lawmaking,” published in the British Journal of Law and Society. The dialectical theory of law he developed there, and later his theory of state-organized crime, put contradictions in the political economy at the center of analysis, and showed how law—and sometimes crimes by the state itself—are a response to those contradictions. The theory was paradigm-shifting and spawned dozens of dissertations, books and articles over the years.*

*Bill joined the Department of Sociology at George Washington University in 1986, where he co-directed the Institute on Crime, Justice, and Corrections. In DC, he researched law-enforcement practices in the racialized urban ghettos, and the political dimensions of the war on crime, publishing his incisive *Power, Politics, and Crime*—a book Noam Chomsky called a “wake-up call” and Chesney-Lind praised as a “sweeping indictment” of our criminal justice policies.*

*Bill’s books and articles have been cited and reprinted widely, making their way not just onto our bookshelves but into student course packets and readers, year after year. Attesting to the profound influence Bill had on our thinking about crime and law, Bill received the Sutherland Award for Outstanding Contributions to Criminology from the American Society of Criminology; the Lifetime Achievement Award for Contributions in Criminal Justice from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences; the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Criminology section of the American Sociological Association; the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Sociology of Law section of the American Sociological Association; the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems section on Law & Society, and the American Society of Criminology’s Major Achievement Award. He was elected president of the American Society of Criminology in 1987-88, and president of the Society for the Study of Social Problems in 1992-93. In 2012, the Society for the Study of Social Problems recognized Bill’s profound influence by creating the William J. Chambliss Lifetime Achievement Award.*

*Bill was an international scholar, with visiting professorships in Nigeria, Sweden, London, Oslo, Stockholm, Vienna, Cardiff, and Zambia. In 2009, he received an honorary Doctorate of Law from the University of Guelph, Canada. And, Bill’s reputation spread well beyond the academy. When still an associate professor, Bill was appointed to the President’s Commission on Violence (1968-69), and in 1993 he was consultant to the National Criminal Justice Commission.*



*His passion, integrity, engaged scholarship, theoretical insight, and clearly crafted prose inspired generations of students and scholars. Donald Cressey once called the young Bill Chambliss, “one of my ‘sociological children’—people who drifted into my UCLA undergraduate classes in the 1950s and got turned on to sociology.” Hundreds of us are now Bill’s “criminological children (and grandchildren),” turned on to criminology by his righteous anger, his engagement, and his theoretical vision.*

*Bill was not only a giant of criminology and the sociology of law. He was an outsized human being with a generous heart and a contagious love of life. We will miss Bill more than words can say.*

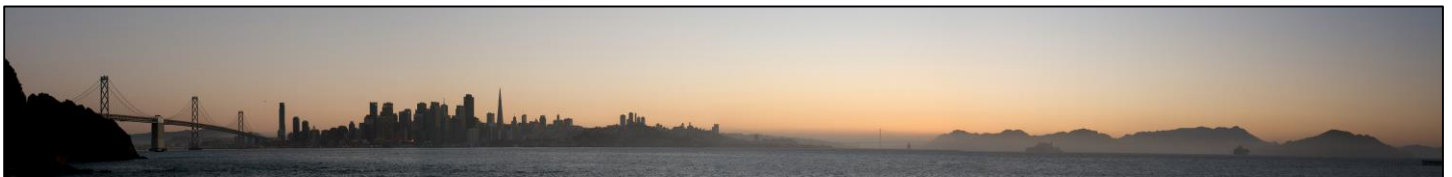
*Bill is survived by his wife Pernille, his children Jeffrey, Lauren, and James, his grandchildren, and the many friends, colleagues, and students whose lives he touched.*

SSSP 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
 August 15-17, 2014  
 The San Francisco Marriott  
 Marquis  
 San Francisco, CA

Reminder: Program Participants must register by July 1st, 2014

## Law and Society Panels for 2014

SESSION TITLE
Critical Dialogue on Law and Poverty (Thematic)
New Directions in Law and Society
Punishment and Culture
Violence and the Law (Co-sponsored with Crime and Juvenile Delinquency)
Poverty, Crime and Punishment (Thematic; Co-sponsored with Crime and Juvenile Delinquency and Poverty, Class, and Inequality)
Reform and Progress: Law, Crime and Delinquency (Co-sponsored with Crime and Juvenile Delinquency)
Deviance and Crime in Sports (Co-sponsored with Sport, Leisure, and the Body and Crime and Juvenile Delinquency)
Race, Civic Participation and Law (Co-sponsored with Racial and Ethnic Minorities)
Law and Sexuality (Co-sponsored with Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities)



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# Announcements

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## **Stephen J. Morewitz Finds First Ever Forensic Social Sciences Association**

Dr. Stephen J. Morewitz, Past Chair of the SSSP Law & Society Division and Past Chair of the SSSP Crime & Delinquency Division and Lecturer, Department of Nursing and Health Sciences, California State University, East Bay, founded the first ever Forensic Social Sciences Association (FSSA) in San Francisco, CA, on January 24, 2014. The FSSA seeks to apply social sciences such as sociology, psychology, and anthropology to civil, criminal, immigration, military, government, admiralty, and trademark law.

As an international and interdisciplinary organization, the Association is dedicated to advancing training at the undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral levels, practice such as the development of certification in forensic social sciences, policy initiatives, and research in the forensic social sciences. The FSSA is currently planning to launch the first ever journal, *Forensic Social Sciences*.

A major focus of the FSSA will be to enhance existing forensic social sciences training programs around the world and assist colleges and universities in establishing new ones to meet the technological developments in the field and the expanding employment opportunities. The FSSA is committed to collaborating with practicing forensic social scientists in different countries. Important work is being done in Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and other countries. For example, the European Network for the Social Studies of Forensics was established to advance forensic DNA practice throughout Europe. The FSSA plans to collaborate with forensic social scientists to improve the use of emerging technological innovations in the justice system.

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## **CSUEB lecturer wins author award for forensic sociology and psychology handbook**

Stephen J. Morewitz, lecturer in the CSUEB Department of Nursing and Health Sciences, won the San Jose State University Annual Author Awards 2013 for co-editing the Handbook of Forensic Sociology and Psychology (New York: Springer, 2013) with Mark L. Goldstein, Ph.D.

The Handbook of Forensic Sociology and Psychology is a landmark publication that offers a detailed and comprehensive road map for sociologists and psychologists to apply theory and research methods as expert witnesses and consultants in the fields of civil, criminal, immigration, and military law. The *Handbook* also demonstrates to attorneys, law firms, and the general public the different ways in which sociological and psychological concepts, theories, and methods can be best utilized in litigation.

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### Honoring the life of Bill Chambliss

Bill truly “spoke truth to power” before that phrase became a cliché and his influence will long live on. To celebrate Bill’s life and legacy, make a gift to support graduate students in sociology at the George Washington University. There are three easy ways to give:

- Online at [go.gwu.edu/billchambliss](http://go.gwu.edu/billchambliss)
- Mail a check, payable to George Washington University and “Sociology in memory of Bill Chambliss” in the memo line, to 2100 M Street NW, Suite 310, Washington, DC 20052
- Call 1-800-789-2611

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## Incoming Division Chair

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**Jay Borchert** is currently a Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Study of Law & Society at UC Berkeley, as well as a PhD Candidate in the Department of Sociology and a Population Studies Center Pre-Doctoral Trainee at the University of Michigan. He received his BA in Sociology from DePaul University in 2010 and his MA in Sociology from the University of Michigan in 2012. Jay is broadly interested in law and social change, citizenship, human rights



and macro-level inequality with a sharp focus on prisons and prisoners as objects of legal and social negotiation and conflict. His dissertation work examines how and why the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 is reshaping the field of American corrections. Forthcoming is a book chapter with Duke University Press titled “Denying Rights: The Failure to Extend (the spirit) of *Lawrence v. Texas* to Prisons and Prisoners.” in *Sex & Justice*, D. Halperin and T. Hoppe (Eds). At the August meetings, Jay will be finishing 3 years of service with the SSSP Membership and Outreach Committee, including this final year as Chair. He is pleased to have worked as part of an excellent team to significantly increase membership over the last few years. Jay is committed to engaged and intentional community, scholarship, and dialog in research, teaching and in society more broadly. As Chair of the Law & Society Division, he hopes to energize membership to form new and powerful research and collegial partnerships that position socio-legal scholars to do groundbreaking work. As a junior scholar, he is particularly interested in learning and growing from those who have led the way as well as paying it forward to new law and society scholars. A dissertator has very little free time, but when he does have it Jay enjoys cooking, exploring California, the beach, swimming, prisoner advocacy, and early electronica.

Feel free to contact Jay at [jborchert@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:jborchert@law.berkeley.edu) or [borjay@umich.edu](mailto:borjay@umich.edu)

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# Lindesmith Award Winner

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**Winner:** Liam Martin, Sociology doctoral student at Boston College and Graduate Fellow of the Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy, for his paper *How Prisons Create Crime: Prisonization and Bourdieu's Theory of Practice*.

*How Prisons Create Crime: Prisonization and Bourdieu's Theory of Practice* is an examination of the criminogenic effects of prisonization using Bourdieu's theory of practice. The author's data sources are participant observation from two three-month stays in a halfway house for formerly incarcerated individuals, life history interviews, and follow-up interviews conducted a year later. The paper is incredibly interesting, well-written and theoretically engaged. Data describing the internalization of prison experiences and how those internalizations are embodied by individuals and reflected in their cycling in and out of prisons and criminal enterprises are rich and convincing. The author uses the experiences of the few respondents who have become somewhat successful in the legitimate work world to suggest how social services can be mobilized to help former offenders apply their skills to lawful enterprises and, further, and perhaps more importantly, how engaging former offenders in service work or civic action projects might generate a better return on our investments than spending money on warehousing offenders.

**Honorable Mention:** Ke Li, a joint Sociology and Criminal Justice Ph.D. student at Indiana University, Bloomington, for the paper *What He Did Was Lawful. Divorce Litigation and Gender Inequality in Contemporary China*

**We congratulate these students on their excellent work. Please join us at our division business meeting in San Francisco as we honor our Lindesmith Award and Sutherland Award winners. Special thanks to Sarah Smith for chairing this committee!**



## Member Publications

If you have something you would like in the next SSSP Law and Society Newsletter, please contact the Newsletter Editor.

- Richman, K.D. License to Wed: What Legal Marriage Means to Same-Sex Couples. New York: NYU Press, 2013.
- Schaffner, Laurie. 2014. "Out of Sight, Out of Compliance: US Detained Girls' Health Justice," *Contemporary Justice Review: Issues in Criminal, Social, and Restorative Justice*, 17(2)1-24.
- Maziarka, K.D. (2013). Managing misconduct: Prison management meets inmate behavior. *The Journal of the Institute of Justice and International Studies*, 13(1), 141-148.

### ABSTRACT

This article examines the effects of strain in the context of prison management. From one perspective, inmate behavior influences prison management by eliciting an official response. Policies are developed with a particular problem in mind and that problem is resolved by adapting policy and practice. From another perspective, management dictates inmate behavior. Strain theory and social disorganization theory can both be used to support the idea that prison management, including both policy and practice, acts as a structure under which inmates suffer and subsequently rebel. According to the new penology (Feeley and Simon, 1992), a shift toward managerial goals as the main driver of correctional policy and practice is inevitable. If this shift truly is happening, then the impact on inmate behavior must be examined. This article examines how both inmates and management influence each other, what types of prison policies evoke negative inmate behavior, and how theory may help predict what kind of prison environment leads to the most nonviolent institution.