Message From The Chair

Dear Colleagues:

I hope that either your quarters or semesters have been and are proving to be rewarding and that you are preparing for our annual meeting, **August 16-18, 2012 at the Grand Hyatt Denver Hotel, Denver Colorado**. Remember reservations must be confirmed by **Monday, July 23, 2012 at 12:00am (MST)** to guarantee a room rate of **$189/night**. Reservations made after July 23rd or after the room block is filled are subject to non-availability and rate increase.

This year’s theme, “The Art of Activism”, is a most appropriate theme given this year’s events. Wendy Simonds, our President has planned a wonderful programs and invites you all to participate. Our division has planned sessions addressing activism in the 21st century, with an eye toward assessing social tensions and change in the areas, of **Race, Gender, Education, LGBT, and Families**. We are join with the American Sociological Association, Race, Class, and Gender section for an invited session entitled **Black Activism and Same Sex Marriage**.

It is time to elect a **new Division Chair**. If you would like to nominate someone or self-nominate, see page 6 where a discussion on Nominations. As always, I encourage you to submit brief discussion on your current research, along with recent publications (e.g., articles, books, monographs, etc.), awards, honors and notices for the meetings to include in the newsletter. Please submit all materials for the newsletter Marlese.Durr@Wright.Edu.

Looking forward to seeing you in Denver!

Best,

Marlese
DIVISION SESSIONS

African American Activism on Violence As a Public Health Issue in the African American Community
Organizer: William Oliver, Indiana University - wioliver@indiana.edu

Black Activism and Same Sex Marriage (Invited Session)
Organizers: Marlese Durr and Mignon R. Moore  Marlese.Durr@Wright.edu and moore@soc.ucla.edu

Movie Portrayals and Women of Color Activism
Organizer & Presider: Evrick Brown, Brooklyn College: ebrown@brooklyn.cuny.edu

CO-SPONSORED SESSIONS

Social Disparities and Drugs
Co-sponsored with Drinking and Drugs Divisions
Organizer: Ellen Benoit, National Development and Research Institute, Inc. - benoit@ndri.org

Segregated Communities: Questions, Trends, and Policies
Co-sponsored with Community Research and Development and Educational Problems
Organizer: Gesemia Nelson, Metropolitan State College of Denver gnelso16@mscd.edu

Gentrification and Urban Redevelopment: Conflict, Opportunity, and Inequality
Co-Sponsored with Community Research & Development; Environment & Technology & Educational Problems Organizer: Jennifer Darrah, Harvard University - darrah@post.harvard.edu

Black Men’s Queer Visibility and Acceptance
Co-sponsored with Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division
Organizer: Shandu Foster, Indiana University - shjfoste@indiana.edu

Global Families: The Art of Research and Activism
Co-Sponsored with Sociology and Social Welfare, and Family Division
Organizers Email: Nancy Mezey, Monmouth College- nmezey@monmouth.edu

Assessing Stereotypes of Immigrants as Offenders
Co-Sponsored with Crime and Juvenile Delinquency, and Global Division
Organizer: Peter Ibarra, University of Illinois, Chicago-pibarra@uic.edu

Immigrant Workers and the State
Co-Sponsored with Labor Studies, and Global Division
Organizer Dan Trope, Florida State University - dtope@fsu.edu
Expressions of Relatedness: Ethnography of Everyday Talk and Interactions in the Barbershop

The Headmasters is vibrant tonight, with dyadic and group conversations occurring among the fourteen people present. Suddenly, a customer who I’ll call Albert, announces “Okay, top ten hip hop movies of all time…” The film House Party is the only contribution to the list. Albert, with his hefty voice, says “Okay top five historical black movies…” The contribution to this list is more extensive than the prior list. The responses are Rosewood, Malcolm X, Glory, and A Soldier’s Story. A barber named Lite admits that he cried when he watched Rosewood. Lite’s confession creates an uproar of laughter in the barbershop. The lists hereafter notes the top five black comedies, top five “shucking and jiving” movies, and the top black film of all time. Albert grills me with a series of questions as he leaves the barbershop. He asks me “Where do you live? Are both your parents black? Why do you go to that white school? Why not a black school?” Albert asks the questions quickly one after the other, similar to the speed that questions are asked in the lighting round of a quiz show. In response to Albert’s last question I ask “Are you going to pay my tuition?” Finally, I have a moment of respite from the onslaught of questions. Albert proceeds to tell me that he better not see me with a white man. He closes his interrogation of me by asking “Are you black and proud?”

Albert sees a discussion of black films as grounds for conversation in the barbershop. In doing so, he presumes a degree of commonality among the men at The Headmasters. He takes for granted that all of the men in the shop have a shared experience of consuming black popular films. He goes straight into making the top five lists without ever providing a description of the movie in order to make the men in the shop familiar with the film. The ability of each man to relate to a particular movie through their individual experience and realize that other men have had the same experience creates a sense of relatedness among all of the individuals involved in the conversation.
MEMBERS PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

RACE IN AN ERA OF CHANGE, A Reader Oxford University Press, Heather Dalmadge and Barbara Katz Rothman


Feudal America: Elements of the Middle Ages in Contemporary Society. University Park, PA: Penn State University Press. Vladimir Shlapentokh, and Joshua Woods

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SPECIAL ISSUE

The Diversity Ideology in the Business World: A New Oppression for a New Age Critical Sociology Vol.37, No.5 Sharon M. Collins and David G. Embrick

REPRINTS

Amon Emeka and Jody Agius Vallejo Non-Hispanics with Latin American ancestry: Assimilation, Race, and Identity among Latin American Descendants in the U.S Social Science Research 40(2011) 1547-1563


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nominations are open for the 2012 General Election. We will be electing a President-Elect, a Vice-President Elect, Regular and Student Members of the Board of Directors, Members of the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee, Committee on Committee, Editorial and Publications Committee, and the Membership and Outreach Committee.

Please consider nominating a colleague or yourself for one of these offices by completing the on-line nomination page on SSSP website. Nominations should include a brief description of the nominee’s SSSP involvement and other relevant experiences.

The Nominations Committee will meet at the Annual Meeting in Denver, CO. All nominations should be submitted prior to June 15, 2012. The Board of Directors will approve the slate of candidates for the 2013 General Election on August 18, 2012. If you have any questions, please contact: Stephani Williams, (Stephani.Williams@gmail.com) Chairperson, Council of the Special Problems Divisions.

2012 Graduate Student Paper Competition

Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division invites graduate student papers that cover any aspect within the field of race and ethnic relations to be submitted for consideration for our Graduate Student paper award. Papers may be empirical or theoretical. To be eligible, a paper must have been written in 2010, may not have been accepted for publication, or currently under review. Papers which have been presented at previous meetings or conferences are eligible. Papers must be single authored by the student. Papers must not exceed 25 pages, including notes, tables, and references.

Papers should be accompanied by a cover letter specifying their submission as consideration for the graduate student paper competition to Marlese.Durr@Wright.Edu. The winner will be announced in early summer 2011 and will receive a $100 stipend and a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet.

Newsletter Editor

Anyone interested in Being Newsletter Editor? Our Division Newsletter is away to announce the business in the chapter. If interested, please contact the Division Chair. The responsibilities of this position is to make sure that all news for the Division is printed and sent out to the members of our section and that News, Announcements, Publications are sent to the division as well.
**Purpose Statement:** This Society shall be a non-profit corporation to promote and protect sociological research and teaching on significant problems of social life and, particularly, to encourage the work of young sociologists; to stimulate the application of scientific method and theory to the study of vital social problems; to encourage problem-centered social research; to foster cooperative relations among persons and organizations engaged in the application of scientific sociological findings to the formulation of social policies; to foster higher quality of life, social welfare, and positive social relations in society and the global community and to undertake any activity related thereto or necessary or desirable for the accomplishment of the foregoing purposes.

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**Consider Sending Your Conference Paper to Social Problems**

Manuscripts for *Social Problems* should be prepared according to the style guide on the inside back cover of Social Problems. Authors should submit five copies of their manuscript plus a PC-compatible electronic file. These copies will not be returned. Please note that there is a non-refundable manuscript submission fee of $25. Online payment instructions will be found at the online submission website listed below. If you prefer to pay by check or money order, please make it payable to SSSP and mail to:

**Becky Pettit, Editor**

*Social Problems*

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All papers accepted for publication pay a $100 fee to help pay for copy editing and other editorial expenses. Papers written by graduate students or the unemployed are exempt from this fee.

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