

# Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter

Editor: Ken Kyle

Editorial Assistant: Virginia Ellen



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## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

It is with mixed emotions that I introduce this issue of *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*. On the one hand I am excited in that the Summer issue is full of informative and insightful content that is sure to challenge readers. For example, it includes two inaugural features: Amory Starr and Luis Fernandez's Preliminary Findings feature on their "2006 Surveillance Study" and Luis Fernandez and Betty Lee's Photo Essay feature on "Police Militarization and Protest." Also included are provocative essays: one a commentary reflecting on Epstein's 2006 ASA Presidential Address by Michael DeCesare and Afshan Jafar, and the other a critical reflection essay on unsettling events in Poland by Lisiunia Romanieko. In addition book reviews are offered by Stephanie R. Medley-Rath and Lloyd Klein.

On the other hand, I am saddened since this marks the last issue of *SPF* produced under the auspices of Penn State Harrisburg. Future issues produced under my editorship will be coming to you from California State University, East Bay (formerly Hayward). And while I look forward to the move and have every assurance that the transition will be a smooth one, unfortunately, this means that Virginia Ellen will no longer be able to serve as editorial assistant, a position that she has carried out in exemplary fashion. Much of the new and evolving look of *SPF* is a direct result of her skills and aesthetic sensibility. I could not have produced the newsletter as I have over the last two years without her expertise and support, and so I offer Virginia a heartfelt thank you. Looking over this issue, it is one of our best efforts to date, and this seems fitting since it is only right that Virginia should leave on a high note. Thanks again.

Enjoy this issue! Ciao . . .

## 2007 GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS

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Barbara Katz Rothman

### BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

Approved

# FUTURE SSSP ANNUAL MEETINGS

**August 10-12, 2007**

**Roosevelt Hotel  
New York, NY, USA**

**July 31-August 2, 2008**

**Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers  
Boston, MA, USA**

**August 7-9, 2009**

**Stanford Court Hotel  
San Francisco, CA, USA**

**\*\*\* VISIT THE SSSP WEBSITE – <http://www.sssp1.org> \*\*\***

## Submission Information:

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We welcome essays, commentary, letters to the editor, and announcements of interest to SSSP members. Submissions by email or diskette using Microsoft Word or Word Perfect files are preferred. For a list of books available for review, see <http://www.ssp1.org/index/cfm/m/274>. **The deadline for submitting material for the next issue is October 5, 2007.**

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## From the Executive Office - Tom Hood

Each year I am impressed and delighted by the people who have agreed to run for office and are elected to serve. Then I grow more appreciative as I see them contribute to the growth and progress of SSSP as an organization. A huge thank you to all the candidates who ran for office. See who won elsewhere in this issue. Don't forget to tell each one of them what you would like to see SSSP do.

Now SSSP faces a new challenge. Scholarly exchange and research projects cross national boundaries constantly. Refugees, the meaning of citizenship, the freedom of scholars to criticize governments all fall within the interests of SSSP members. Can SSSP help American sociologists to overcome our tendency to conceptualize social problems as they occur within the context of American culture? Social problems and injustice appear in the different cultural contexts of the many societies found around the world. A problem-centered approach to the study of human societies has great appeal AND theoretical merit. During this past year I had a letter from a social scientist in India, his request got me to thinking about the approach taken by some societies of establishing local chapters. This approach taken by organizations as diverse as engineering societies, the Sierra Club, and labor unions might be a way that SSSP could foster the development of sister societies in countries such as Japan, India, Australia, South Africa, and Sweden. What might happen if we used some of our resources (money and organizational knowledge) to assist social problems researchers wishing to form groups in other countries? What might happen if we made it easier for people in foreign countries to become SSSP members just as we use reduced dues to encourage student membership? What might happen if we established an award for the highest quality published research on a social problem in a society outside of the U.S.A.? What if we changed SOCIAL PROBLEMS to include abstracts in languages other than English---such as Spanish, Chinese or Russian? I hope that the retreat will discuss the international appeal of social problems research.

The Editorial and Publications Committee is moving rapidly toward the selection of a new editor for SOCIAL PROBLEMS. In addition The Society will bid the contract for publishing the journal. Several publishers have indicated an interest in bidding on the contract. Our long relationship with the University of California Press has been friendly and rewarding. Nevertheless, the marketing and distribution of scholarly research is constantly changing with electronic means of distribution becoming more and more important. Many professors place reading material on electronic reserve reducing the use of anthologies. You have probably noticed the increasing prominence of com-

puters, web and catalogue searches in your libraries. The nature of research on published material is changing when I can sit at my computer at home and accomplish in an hour what might have taken four hours or more at the library. In fact I can track down useful responses to the study I found helpful as well---perhaps saving me from an uncritical acceptance of controversial findings. Negotiations of the new contract must take a hard look at the way we market our journal to determine whether an electronic market will be preferred to paper copies bound in issue form. Do we understand the nature of this market and are we aggressively responding to such an emerging market? Perhaps in the future we shall be charging for viewing and for downloading article length scholarship rather than selling journal subscriptions to libraries.

What excites me most is the growth of the Society. Currently almost 200 more scholars have joined or renewed their membership in SSSP than by this time last year. We have the most presentations in some years scheduled for the program in New York. We are meeting at the historic Roosevelt Hotel with an excellent room rate. We know that you'll enjoy this hotel named after the Progressive Era President, Theodore Roosevelt. If you haven't made your reservations and registered for the meetings do it today.

This is the last issue of the newsletter before Mary Walker, our outstanding graduate assistant, departs. Michele has found Mary's work accurate and invaluable. Mary will be with us through the meetings in New York. When you stop by to pick up registration materials be sure to thank her for her unfailingly reliable and intelligent handling of web site supervision and maintenance of membership records. She does many other things as well. At the meetings you'll have a chance to meet our new graduate assistant, Sarah Hendricks. We are excited to have hired Sarah and believe that she will prove a worthy successor to Mary.

The President, Val Jenness, the President-Elect, Nancy Naples, the Past President Claire Renzetti and various committees have been working extremely hard to make this years meeting and the organization better. Michele Smith Koontz, our Administrative Officer, keeps all of us straight and the organization moving down the right track. I cannot close this column without saying thanks to these persons of note. Don't forget to thank the Editor of SOCIAL PROBLEMS, Amy Wharton and Ken Kyle, Editor of *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*.

Work for peace, share your wealth and eliminate injustices from your own life.

Tom Hood, Executive Officer

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

The Society for the Study of Social Problems would like to welcome the 340 members who have joined since January, 2007 (prepared 5/23/07):

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JONNIANN BUTTERFIELD  
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 JENNIFER ZOLTANSKI  
 SANDRA ZUPAN  
 CHERYL ZURAWSKI

## CALL FOR SSSP NOMINATIONS

This year, 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, Editorial and Publications Committee, and the Committee on Committees.

Please consider nominating a colleague or yourself for one of these offices. 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 New York City so all nominations should be submitted prior to July 31, 2007 to Nancy Mezey, Chair, Council of Special Problems Divisions at the following address:

**Nancy Mezey**  
**527 Riverwood Avenue**  
**Point Pleasant, NJ 08742**  
**W: (732) 263-5631;**  
**F: (732) 263-5162**  
[Email: nmezey@monmouth.edu](mailto:nmezey@monmouth.edu)

## News of Note

### Call for Articles, Book Chapters, and Teaching

#### Materials (by submission deadline)

#### **Special Issue of *Peace Review* on “Academic Repression & Human Rights”**

*Peace Review*, a quarterly, multidisciplinary, transnational journal of research and analysis, welcomes original contributions, policy analyses, and research for a special issue addressing the intersection of international academic repression and human rights. Essays exploring the widest range of topics relating to the theme are invited, in particular those exploring the application of human rights practices and strategies to situations involving the most severe threats to academic freedom—such as threats to life or liberty experienced in repressive, conflict and post-conflict societies.

Please send essays on this theme by **July 15, 2007**. Essays should run between 2,500 and 3,500 words, and should be jargon- and footnote-free. See Submission Guidelines at: <http://www.usfca.edu/peacereview/PRHome.html>. Send essays to Rob Elias (Editor) via email [eliasr@usfca.edu](mailto:eliasr@usfca.edu) OR

Kerry Donoghue (Managing Editor) [kdonoghue@usfca.edu](mailto:kdonoghue@usfca.edu)  
*Peace Review*  
 University of San Francisco  
 2130 Fulton Street  
 San Francisco, CA 94117-1080  
 USA

#### **The *Irish Ecopolitics Online Journal* seeks submissions concerning “Utopias, ecotopias and green communities”**

The inaugural issue's theme will address: “Utopias, ecotopias and green communities: Exploring the patterns of resettlement and living of green idealists.” In later issues, contributors should explore case studies from a broad and international range of community idealism and cooperative building. Rural resettlement, communes, syndicates, workers' co ops, environmental communities and educational institutions are included within this broad thematic area of focus. Papers should be approximately 5,000 words with Harvard style referencing. The submission date for abstracts of papers to appear in the inaugural issue is **September 1, 2007**. Send contributions to Dr. Liam Leonard using the contact information below.

Editor, *Irish Ecopolitics Online*  
 SSRC, St Declan's Distillery Rd &  
 Dept. Sociology & Politics, Moyola House  
 National University of Ireland, Galway  
 Republic of Ireland

+353(0)91 492295 [liam.leonard@yahoo.com](mailto:liam.leonard@yahoo.com)

#### **Research in Political Sociology is accepting manuscripts for Volume 17**

This volume will broadly focus on “Politics and Public Policy.” The primary objective of *Research in Political Sociology* is to publish high quality, theoretical informed empirical research in areas that advance the understanding of politics in society.

Manuscripts submitted for Volume 17 might focus on topics such as social policy, business policy, trade policy, organizations and policy formation and related topics of interest to political sociology. The deadline for submission of manuscripts is **September 15, 2007**. Four copies of the manuscripts should be submitted to Harland Prechel at the address below.

Department of Sociology  
 4351 Academic Building, Texas A&M University  
 College Station, TX 77843-4351.

#### **The *Journal of Public Management and Social Policy* seeks submissions for a “1 in 32 Correctional Symposium” DEADLINE EXTENDED**

The *Journal of Public Management and Social Policy* (JPMSP) is seeking submissions for a symposium addressing the following: 1 in 32 adults is currently imprisoned, on probation or on parole in the United States. The “1 in 32 Correctional Symposium” will review theoretical, applied, and/or discussion papers on public administration, political science, and public policy issues associated with the process of economic, educational, environmental, political and social well-being of diverse populations. Style guidelines can be found at [newark.rutgers.edu/~ncpp/jpmisp/guidelines.pdf](http://newark.rutgers.edu/~ncpp/jpmisp/guidelines.pdf). Manuscripts should be forwarded electronically by **September 30, 2007** to:

Symposium Editor, Toni DuPont-Morales ([MXL25@psu.edu](mailto:MXL25@psu.edu))

#### **Special Issue of the *Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare* devoted to the “Recent or Contemporary History of Social Welfare”**

We are interested in manuscripts dealing with changes in social welfare policy that have occurred in the past quarter century, beginning with the 1980 election of Ronald Reagan through the G. W. Bush administration. A previous issue of *The Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare* covered the history of the early Reagan years. Our aim is to complement and update that issue.

We seek topics relating to changes in the processes, products, or performances of social welfare policies and programs. In addition to the more obvious topics as the morphing of AFDC to TANF, the addition of prescription drug benefits to Medicare, the expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit, other suggested subjects might include: Tax Policy, Child Welfare, Mental Health, Housing, Criminal Justice, Budgetary Politics, Immigration, the Social Security “Crisis”, Disabilities and SSI, Republican Control of Congress, Supreme Court Cases: Federalism, Abortion, and Gun Control.

The deadline for submissions is **September 30, 2007**. Please send Microsoft Word copies of completed manuscripts limited to 25-30 pages of text to the Special Editor, Richard Caputo, at [caputo@yu.edu](mailto:caputo@yu.edu)

All manuscripts will be peer reviewed. Please include a title page with author name, affiliation, address, email address, phone and FAX numbers. A second page without the author's name should include the title and an abstract of 150 words or less.



### Special Issue of *Gender and Society* devoted to “Gendered Borderlands”

*Gender & Society* invites submission of research articles and conceptual essays that explore the social construction of culturally gendered identities and the lived realities of Chicanas/os and Latinas/os in the borderlands. Literally, the borderlands include the geopolitical space around the U.S.-Mexico border characterized by the ongoing movement of people, products and ideas. Gloria Anzaldúa’s theoretical formulation of “borderlands,” however, postulates the existence of spaces that transcend the geopolitical border area where women, men, and children, adapt, resist and innovate to cope with social inequalities based on racial, gender, class and/or sexual differences.

This special issue seeks articles that analyze structural forces and borderlands subjects’ individual and collective agency or “subjective transnationalism.” Subjective transnationalism refers to individual and collective negotiations for economic and political space in the geographic and psychic borderlands in which they live, work and play. Key areas of consideration include: gender and border culture; gendered resistance and empowerment; Latina/o identities and sexualities; gender, migration, and adaptation; violence in Latina/o communities; transnational families and networks; theoretical approaches to gendered borderlands; Latinas/os and work; and Latinas/os and health. All methodologies are welcome but paramount in each case is the articulation of borderland voices. Completed manuscripts should be submitted online to <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/gendsoc> and should specify in the cover letter that it is to be considered for the special issue.

Manuscripts are due **October 1, 2007**. For additional information, please contact co-editor Denise Segura ([segura@soc.ucsb.edu](mailto:segura@soc.ucsb.edu)) or Patricia Zavella ([zavella@ucsc.edu](mailto:zavella@ucsc.edu)).

### Special Issue of the *Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare* on “Beyond the Numbers: How the Lived Experiences of Women Challenge the ‘Success’ of Welfare Reform”

Editors Louisa S. Deprez and Mary Gatta invite contributions exploring and critically evaluating the lived experiences of women on and post-welfare using historical knowledge and current qualitative and quantitative research data. Specifically, we intend to focus this edition on how the actual experiences of low-income women challenge conventional ideas about the “success” of current welfare “reform” and how we can and must use this information to inform and impact public policy and address the systems of inequality that structure the lives of low-income women. This special edition takes as its framework the work by Alice O’Connor in *Poverty Knowledge* wherein she brings attention to the ways in which poverty research has become an industry of sorts, more interested, it sometimes seems, in entrepreneurial gains and less interested in ameliorating poverty.

We encourage submissions that demonstrate and challenge the proclaimed “success” of welfare reform and reflect the diversity of women’s lived experiences on and beyond welfare. We urge authors to suggest recommendations for crafting welfare and workforce policy that can raise women and their families out of poverty and allow them dignity and respect.

Submission length: 10 – 14 pages

Submission deadline: **October 1, 2007**

Send submissions in Word doc format to:

[jsswldmg@smlr.rutgers.edu](mailto:jsswldmg@smlr.rutgers.edu).

### Edited Volume on “Hybrid Identities: Theoretical and Empirical Examinations”

Editors Patricia Leavy and Keri Iyall-Smith of Stonehill College are editing a volume to be published by Brill in collaboration with the journal *Critical Sociology*. The book will be part of a special book series in Critical Sociology. The editors are looking for theoretical and empirical pieces on the following subjects: (a) Hybridity on the Borders, (b) Double Consciousness, (c) Gender and the Hybrid Identity, (d) The Diasporized Hybrid Identity, (e) The Creole Hybrid Identity, (f) The Third Space, and (g) Internal Colony Hybrid.

Interested authors should e-mail Patricia Leavy at [Pleavy7@aol.com](mailto:Pleavy7@aol.com) for more information about chapter topics and submitting an abstract. Papers should be 20-25 pages including references. We are asking authors for drafts by **December 1, 2007** and final papers by January 15, 2008.

### Call for Presentations—Other Conferences

(by submission deadline)

**The Association of Humanist Sociology is holding its annual conference October 25-28, 2007 in Henderson, NV.** This year’s theme is “Expanding our Branches: Nourishing our Roots.” Organizers invite proposals for papers or sessions that feature: scholarly work, music, theatre, video, or other forms of creative expression, teaching, film screenings, book discussions, social activism or sociological tours of area. The Deadline for submitting proposals is **June 30, 2007**. Send proposals via E-mail to Emma Bailey, Program Chair at [baileye@wnmu.edu](mailto:baileye@wnmu.edu).

**The 2007 Annual Conference of the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology will be held in Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti, Michigan, October 4-6, 2007.** The theme for the conference is “Sociology: From Imagination to Action.” The purpose of AACS is to support the application of sociological knowledge and methodology and to promote applied sociology as a profession. Deadline for submissions is **July 15, 2007**. For more detailed information, see <http://www.aacsnet.org/wp/>.

**A conference considering “1968: Impact and Implications” will be held July 3-4, 2008, in London, England.** The BSA Theory Study Group Conference in collaboration with Birkbeck Institute for Social Research will host a conference at Birkbeck, University of London. This conference is timed to coincide with the fortieth anniversary of May 1968. It seeks to provide a forum for reflecting back on the events of that time as well as thinking about their implications for current and future endeavours – theoretical and political. Alongside plenary events with keynote speakers and roundtables, there will also be a number of parallel paper sessions. We would welcome ideas for roundtables and papers on the following streams:

## *News of Note, continued:*

- The Legacy of 1968: Sociological and Theoretical Considerations
- Social Movements: Theory and Practice
- Global Considerations
- Feminism and Women's Movements
- Questioning Science and Expertise
- Civil Rights Movements in the US
- Empire, Decolonization, Postcolonial Others
- Transforming Sexualities: Gay Liberation and Beyond
- Poetry, Art, and Performance
- Critical Theory and Protest
- The Situationists and Subversion
- The Rise and Fall (and Rise) of Marxism
- Structuralism, Post structuralism, Politics
- Black Power and Pan Africanism
- Student Politics and the Politics of Education

Those interested in presenting papers or organizing sessions on the topics listed above are invited to submit proposals to the conference organizing team by **September 14, 2007**. For paper presentations please submit an abstract of up to 300 words, specifying the stream you would like to be considered for, to [Debbie.Brown@britsoc.org.uk](mailto:Debbie.Brown@britsoc.org.uk); if you would like to organize a panel session please email us a brief synopsis of the session together with contributors and titles of papers; for posters please email us a short outline of your ideas. Conference Organizing Team: Gurminder K. Bhambra (Warwick), Ipek Demir (Leicester), Helen Gregory (Exeter), Timo Juetten (Sussex), Steve Kemp (Edinburgh), Maki Kimura (Open University), Sasha Roseneil (Birkbeck).

### **Congratulations!**

#### **SSSP Member receives university accolades and her work gets cited widely in public media**

Jean Elson's cautionary comments on the new continuous birth control medication, Lybrel, were quoted in over 300 media outlets, including the AP wire service, *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and *USA Today*. In addition, she was interviewed on the most widely watched Canadian morning television show, *Canada AM*, and on *Weekend Edition*, the National Public Radio (NPR) news program in the USA. Also, Jean was awarded the 2007 University of New Hampshire "Pink Triangle Award" for outstanding contributions toward achieving equity and visibility for the UNH GLBT community. *Congratulations on this recognition and on getting the results of your work out there where it can effect positive change!*

#### **SSSP Member to become Dean**

Congratulations to Leonard Gordon, Professor and Associate Dean Emeritus at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences – Sociology at Arizona State University (ASU). He will become Dean of the ASU Emeritus College on July 1, 2007. *Congratulations once again!*

#### **SSSP Member receives ESS Award**

Judith Lorber is the 2007 recipient of the Eastern Sociological Society Merit Award. The award is given to a "distinguished

scholar" who has "made outstanding contributions to the discipline, the profession, and the ESS." *Congratulations on this receiving this award!*

#### **SSSP Member receives U.S. Speaker and Specialist Grant Award**

Charles V. Willie of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, received a U.S. Speaker and Specialist Grant Award from the U.S. State Department to lecture at the College of The Bahamas and elsewhere in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas during the celebration of Education Awareness Week and Black History Month 2007.

### **Internship Opportunities**

#### **AEA/DU Graduate Education Diversity Internship Program**

The internship, guided by a partnership between The American Evaluation Association and Duquesne University School of Education, invites graduate students of color interested in evaluation to submit applications for the third cohort, beginning September, 2007, and continuing through June, 2008.

The Internship program is a non-residential opportunity for pre-doctoral students of color to learn about evaluation through working with professional colleagues in their own region while coming together in person three to four times over the course of the year with a small cohort of students in the program to learn from each other and leaders in the field.

The program builds upon a student's existing graduate study program and provides a stipend of \$8,000 plus travel support.

The purposes of the Internship Program are to: (a) expand the pipeline of graduate evaluation students of color and recruit students who already have the basic research capacities and substantive knowledge about their area of concentration to extend their capacities to evaluation; (b) stimulate evaluation thinking concerning communities and persons of color by providing professional development training opportunities for social and natural science graduate students; and (c) deepen the evaluation profession's capacity to work in racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse settings.

We seek graduate students of color who are not already enrolled in an evaluation program, and who: (a) will be enrolled this fall in either year 2 of a Master's or year 2 or 3 of a combined masters/doctoral program; (b) have already been exposed to research methods and substantive issues in their field of expertise; (c) can demonstrate the relevance of evaluation training in their current work through a short essay; and (d) have support from his/her academic advisor.

Applications are due **August 1, 2007**. Refer to the program's website: <http://www.education.duq.edu/gedip> for more information and application materials. Question may be directed to Rodney K. Hopson at the address below.

Department of Foundations and Leadership  
School of Education  
Duquesne University



600 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15282-0540  
USA  
+1 (412) 396 4034: voice  
+1 (412) 396 1681: fax  
mailto: [hopson@duq.edu](mailto:hopson@duq.edu)

### **New Journals of Interest**

The editors of *Cultural Sociology*, an official journal of the British Sociological Association seek contributions for early issues of the journal. The journal will publish innovative, sociologically-informed work concerned with cultural processes and artefacts, broadly defined. Papers dealing with more 'empirical' or more 'methodological' or more 'theoretical' issues are welcome. The journal will promote and consolidate the field of sociological understandings of culture, and will be pivotal in defining both what this field is like currently and what it could become in the future. Although focused on sociological contributions to cultural analysis, it will encourage dialogue between sociologists and others working in cognate fields such as cultural studies, gender studies, postcolonial studies, art history, history, literary and film studies, human geography and so on. The journal is keen to encourage submissions from both established and emerging scholars.

Articles should be between 5,000 and 8,000 words. Book reviews should be between 800 and 1,500 words. Authors will be asked to provide a CD or diskette of the final version. Submissions will be refereed anonymously by at least two referees. All submissions should be sent electronically (preferably as Microsoft Word documents) to the address below.

[culturalsociology@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:culturalsociology@abdn.ac.uk)

Cultural Sociology  
Dept. of Sociology  
School of Social Sciences  
University of Aberdeen  
Aberdeen AB24 3QY  
United Kingdom

The *Journal of Long Term Home Health Care* is interested in articles of about 20 pages that are focused on any aspect of health care and social issues as they pertain to the elderly. Manuscripts may include position papers, reports of research studies, case reports, analyses of government policy, descriptions and/or evaluations of agencies, programs, and not-for-profit organizations serving any component of the aged population. Papers that offer detailed discussions of a topic, forecast developments, or provide readers with enhanced perspective are particularly welcome. The Journal also considers for publication commentaries on previously published articles, book and media reviews, etc.

The readership of the Journal consists of physicians, nurses, social workers, social scientists, and others who work directly with older persons, as well as managers and staff of not-for-profit and government agencies serving the elderly.

Author queries should be directed to [DRPWB@aol.com](mailto:DRPWB@aol.com) or

forwarded by mail to F. Russell Kellogg, MD, Editor

or

Philip W. Brickner, MD, Managing Editor  
Saint Vincent's Hospital-Manhattan  
Department of Community Medicine  
41-51 East 11th Street, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10003

*Spaces for Difference: An Interdisciplinary Journal* is a peer-reviewed, open access, journal that seeks to publish research that expands our understanding of issues relating to race and racism, gender and sexuality, social activism and intersectionalities. Consequently, the journal represents a conduit for scholars to bridge the traditional disciplines including, but not limited to: Anthropology, Art, Education, English, Ethnic Studies, Film Studies, History, Linguistics, Literature, Music, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, and Sociology. As such, the editors welcome alternative forms of presenting research including, but not limited to, photography and digital media.

*Spaces for Difference* is a graduate student edited publication that maintains a Faculty Advisory Board of scholars across various disciplines. It seeks to: (1) highlight work that challenges the traditional canons and established perspectives, and (2) bridge disciplinary work around issues of race and racism, gender and sexuality, social activism, and intersectionalities. For more information, visit [http://repositories.cdlib.org/ucsb\\_ed/spaces/about.html](http://repositories.cdlib.org/ucsb_ed/spaces/about.html).

### **Other Conferences/Workshops of Interest**

(by conference date)

**The Law and Society Association and Research Committee on Sociology of Law (ISA) will hold their joint meeting at Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, July 25-28, 2007.** The theme of this year's meeting is "Law and Society in the 21st Century: Transformations, Resistances, Futures." For more information, visit <http://www.lawandsociety.org/>.

**The 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Sociologist Society Meeting will be held in Santa Clara, CA, August 2-5, 2007.** This year's conference theme is "Social Change and Restructuring in Rural Societies: Opportunities and Vulnerabilities." For more information, visit <http://www.ruralsociology.org/annual-meeting/2007/>.

**The John Jay College of Criminal Justice and CUNY Graduate Center is holding an interdisciplinary conference celebrating intellectual and artistic transgression August 9-10, 2007.** The conference theme is "On the Edge: Transgression and the Dangerous Other." The conference will involve presentations, art and photographic exhibits, music, spoken word performances and film screenings centered around the concept of a new criminology for the 21st century. For more information, visit <http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/ontheedge/>.

**The American Political Science Association's annual conference will be held in Chicago, IL, August 30-**

## *News of Note, continued:*

**September 2, 2007.** Its theme this year will be "Political Science and Beyond." For more information, visit [http://www.apsanet.org/section\\_380.cfm](http://www.apsanet.org/section_380.cfm).

**The 8th Annual international, interdisciplinary Advances in Qualitative Methods conference will be held at the Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta, Canada from September 21-24, 2007.** Previous AQM conferences have attracted visitors from all continents, representing more than 30 countries overall, in academic disciplines including business, dentistry, education, geography, nursing, medicine, anthropology, information science, sociology and history. We welcome you to participate in this conference, whether you come to present a paper or poster, attend a workshop, or come to hear the presenters and meet with like-minded researchers. AQM2007 will prove to be a valuable learning and networking experience for all involved. For more information, see <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/iqmqm/aqm2007.cfm>.

**The 32nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Utopian Studies will be held in Toronto, Canada, October 4-7, 2007.** For information about registration, travel and accommodations, please contact the Conference Coordinator, Peter Fitting at the following address.

Peter Fitting  
73 Delaware Avenue  
Toronto M6H 2S9  
[p.fitting@utoronto.ca](mailto:p.fitting@utoronto.ca)  
416-531-8593 (telephone)

**The National Council on Family Relations is holding its Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, from November 7 – November 11, 2007.** The theme will be "Family Vulnerabilities: Challenges to Safety, Security and Well-Being." For more information go to the NCFR Website: [ncfr.org/new\\_site/conf/current/call.asp](http://ncfr.org/new_site/conf/current/call.asp).

### **Recent Books Published by Members**

**Bonnie Berry.** 2007. *Beauty Bias: Discrimination and Social Power*. Praeger/Greenwood Press. ISBN: 0275990125

**Mathieu Deflem** (Ed). 2007. *Sociologists in a Global Age: Biographical Perspectives*. Ashgate Publishing. ISBN: 0754670376

Christopher. R. Williams & **Bruce A. Arrigo** 2007. *Ethics, Crime, and Criminal Justice*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. ISBN: 0131710761

**Frank Stricker.** 2007. *Why America Lost the War on Poverty—And How to Win It*. University of North Carolina Press. ISBN: 0807858048

### **Research & Teaching Resources**

#### **Capital Punishment in Context Curriculum**

The Death Penalty Information Center (DPIC) has made its Capital Punishment in Context curriculum available for general use. The curriculum is "an innovative college-level curriculum that provides professors and students with engaging material that supports the development of research and analytical skills of students by building upon their existing interest in the death penalty. Designed in conjunction with experts from the Education Development Center, the new Web-based curriculum uses real-life capital cases and a broad spectrum of supportive resources to bring this important issue to life in college classrooms throughout the country."

Capital Punishment in Context contains two teaching cases of individuals who were sentenced to death in the United States, Gary Graham and Juan Raul Garza. The curriculum provides a detailed narrative account of each individual's legal case, including resources such as the original reports from the homicide investigation, affidavits, and transcripts of testimony from witnesses. Students are also given the opportunity to view additional resources, such as online statistical data sets, video segments, news stories, and published academic research.

For professors, the curriculum provides guidelines for analysis, discussion and further research on issues raised by the cases. It also incorporates detailed teaching notes, sample syllabi from courses that incorporate the curriculum's teaching cases, and a variety of supplementary materials to support professors from different disciplines.

Capital Punishment in Context is accessible through the Internet at no charge and only a simple registration process. This digital format offers additional flexibility for professors who want to use the curriculum to enrich standard course materials or as a stand-alone project within a class. Professors can register and start using the curriculum today by visiting <http://www.capitalpunishmentincontext.org>

The Death Penalty Information Center is a non-profit organization that provides the media and the public with analysis and information on issues concerning capital punishment. The Education Development Center is an international non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing learning and fostering a deeper understanding of the world.

#### **Kids Count in the Classroom**

Under a grant from the Annie Casey Foundation the Social Science Data Analysis Network (SSDAN) is now providing KIDS COUNT data in a user-friendly format great for undergraduate social sciences courses. KIDS COUNT is a national and state-by-state effort of the Casey Foundation to track the status of children in the United States on an annual basis. Sociologist William H. Frey, University of Michigan, is the director of this project. For more information, free course modules and data tools, log on to <http://www.ssdan.net/kidscount/index.shtml>

## PRELIMINARY FINDINGS:

## 2006 SURVEILLANCE STUDY

Amory Starr and Luis Fernandez

The Institute for the Study of Dissent &amp; Social Control

In 2006, we interviewed representatives of 71 diverse activist groups in four regions of the US regarding their experiences of all forms of government surveillance. You can read our complete reports at [www.dissensio.org](http://www.dissensio.org). We explored the impacts of surveillance on their group, their community, and the movements of which they are part.

We were surprised to find that both the quantity and the quality of current surveillance is comparable to what was done during the COINTELPRO era. We were most struck by the intensity and extent of surveillance on pacifist groups, and by its disruptive effects on their work.

We were also surprised by the extent of “surveillance denial” among organizations likely to be targets of surveillance. Some groups reported that they would avoid surveillance by only doing legal activities (apparently unaware that many

groups with such limited tactics are heavily surveilled anyway), by being “open”, or even by avoiding participating in the research project. Other interviewees, acutely aware that formerly non-criminal activities were currently being criminalized, were busy “turning over a new leaf” and thought that talking about having been under surveillance would be tantamount to admission of guilt.

Others viewed every conversation as a risk, but agreed to talk with us anyway. We took care to not record (whenever possible) and destroy (when necessary) all identifying information of interviewees.

To make the data useful for activists and lawyers, the research team identified legal concepts relevant to issues of surveillance. We began with an analysis of how surveillance affected First Amendment rights. Most political **speech** is not an isolated, individualistic act. Effective political speech is performed in the context of an **assembly**, which is also protected by the first amendment. What, then, is an assembly? It is what sociologists call a “**mobilization**.” What do we know about the process of mobilizing a mobilization? It requires many meetings, delicate coalition-building, strategic planning, the development of supportive cultures and identities, and multifaceted, encouraging outreach to members and participants — the whole apparatus of a social movement. The evidence suggests that surveillance is more likely to interrupt mobilization activities prior to interrupting speech.

To detail the manner in which surveillance disrupts the right of assembly, we drew on social movements scholarship. We used its basic components of mobilization to analyze the effects of surveillance, or what an interviewee described as “... the difficulty of assessing what doesn’t happen...”

Surveillance affects movements’ **resources**. We know that when people are nervous about participating or donating money, organizations are very immediately impacted. Even

without overt surveillance, the listing of organizations as “criminal extremist” can lead to serious resource problems. Overt surveillance discourages people from stepping up to more visible tasks and also disrupts organizations’ willingness to work in networks with organizations they perceive to be under surveillance. “*People who might be sympathetic, are now either just completely neutral or don’t want to know.*”

Surveillance also affects **political opportunities**, the landscape or context in which campaigns and actions are organized. Surveillance changes that landscape. When protest marches are changed from festive assertions of dissent to spaces of immanent police violence, opportunities to express political viewpoints and bring people together are severely restricted. The recent crackdowns and increased sentences for ordinary pre-negotiated civil disobedience reduce the political opportunity

Surveillance changes activists’ consciousness in very disturbing ways. Under surveillance, activists come to see their own activities as marginal. They see themselves as suspicious, they understand that they themselves might be perceived as an infiltrator because they’re “new” or they don’t look right.

for this traditional tactic. The impact of surveillance caused some interviewees to feel that what is being communicated is that there is just no openness of the system at all for peaceful change. This is what we call the “creeping criminalization” not only of protest, but of *dissent* itself. The impact of surveillance caused some interviewees to feel that what is being communicated is that there is just no openness of

the system at all for peaceful change. “*Five people’s homes being raided leads to intimidation of millions of people.*”

By implying that groups are dangerous, criminal, or need to be controlled, surveillance actually interrupts movements’ process of **frame development** by interrupting groups’ ability to define themselves and communicate their perspective to the general public. Many groups have felt forced to re-frame themselves simply in order to be “non-confrontational” or in order to communicate to neighbors and onlookers that they are not dangerous. Groups noted how much time they spend on issues of wording. “*We have a department devoted to that*”.

Tragically, the longstanding American **cultures of protest** of community organizing, outreach, and participatory democracy has been almost totally replaced with various forms of what activists call “security culture.” The hallmarks of organizing culture are inclusivity, participation, and solidarity. The hallmarks of security culture are exclusion, wariness, withholding information, and avoiding diversity. Even the completely pacifist and open groups in our study have found themselves treating newcomers with suspicion and avoid having open meetings. Interviewees report less political discourse, less debriefing after projects, less cross-pollination, and less archiving. “*New people can’t get involved. It’s hard to build a movement on community when secrecy is an important thing.*”

Richard Flacks describes activist **political consciousness** as “making history” rather than just making their own personal

life. Surveillance changes activists' consciousness in very disturbing ways. Under surveillance, activists come to see their own activities as marginal. They see themselves as suspicious, they understand that they themselves might be perceived as an infiltrator because they're "new" or they don't look right. Direct experiences of surveillance also cause people to perceive their government as lawless, leading to despair and cynicism about positive social change. Finally, instead of opening to new ideas and multicultural communities, activists are concerned to dissociate from people different from them out of fear for their own safety. *"I didn't want to meet anybody new, I didn't want to be in a relationship, I didn't want people to know me, or be close to me in that way."*

The First Amendment conceptualizes Social Movement Organizations (SMOs) as protected "associations". Surveillance pressures organizations to shift their agenda from projects to self-defense and their energy from figuring out how to be effective to figuring out how to stay "legal" in a context where that line between legal and illegal is moving. Of course everyday work is harder when groups feel uncomfortable with internal communications. By impacting the reputation of organizations and threatening to expose membership, they have a detrimental impact on the very existence of the organization. *"If we were being watched and beat up, then there must be something not right about what we're doing. . . As if we're not really [religious people] . . . Our reputation was tainted. If the police don't trust you, something must be wrong with you."*

While many organizations are being surveilled despite no reasonable suspicion of criminal activities, other organizations believe that they can avoid surveillance and other forms of repression by "being very careful". There are three noteworthy results of this false belief. First, "being very careful" may lead to the breaking of solidarity with other organizations, particularly those falsely accused. Second "being very careful" may foster the self-censorship which reduces efficacy, internalizing the intent of repression. Third, "being very careful" may result in organizations remaining silent on this issue, as they repress what they know about surveillance in order to avoid the association with criminality. This leads to collective silence about repression, when solidarity and action is needed to defend our political rights and space.

And the question for lawyers is this: if we recognize that meaningful protected speech relies on political associations, the emergence and sustenance of which in turn relies on the ideas, organizations, networks, and cultures of social movements — what then, exactly, must we protect?

### Resources & References:

The Institute for the Study of Dissent & Social Control  
[www.dissensio.org](http://www.dissensio.org)

Cunningham, David. 2004. *Something's Happening Here*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. (Suggested resource for analysis of COINTELPRO action memos)

Polletta, Francesca. 2002. *Democracy is an Endless Meeting*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (Suggested resource for tradition of American social movements' participatory democracy tradition)

Flacks, Richard. 1988. *Making History*. New York: Columbia University Press. (Suggested resource for activist political consciousness)

\* Direct correspondence to Amory Starr via email,  
[starr@trabal.org](mailto:starr@trabal.org)

## DONATIONS SOUGHT FOR AIDS FUNDRAISER AUCTION

Join us for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual AIDS Fundraiser and the Graduate Student and New Member Reception on Friday, August 10 from 9:00pm – 11:00pm.

A karaoke machine will be available for members to entertain us. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served and a limited cash bar will be available. During the evening, there will be a silent and a live auction.

### **You'll be able to place bids on lots of great stuff.**

SSSP is fortunate to have many talented individuals among its membership, including a number of artists. If you are one of those talented individuals, please consider donating a piece of your work to the auction. You can mail it to me ahead of time, or you can bring it to the meeting. Provide us with a full description of the item (and its estimated value, if you can do that) by July 15th.

Susan Will, Local Arrangements Chair at [swill@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:swill@jjay.cuny.edu)

or Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer and Meeting Manager at [mkoontz3@utk.edu](mailto:mkoontz3@utk.edu)

Those of you who are not artists may wish to donate an item. Perhaps you've written a book and would be willing to donate a signed copy, or maybe you have something special that you think would be a hit at the auction.

Please get in touch with us about your donations. *All proceeds* from this event benefit local AIDS organizations, so please help us make the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual AIDS Fundraiser and Graduate Student and New Member Reception a big success by donating an item.





## 2007 CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

SSSP resolutions constitute an important opportunity for our scholar-activist membership to publicly declare their sentiments, thereby creating a channel for greater visibility and more direct influence upon a variety of "publics," i.e., fellow activists, scholars, students, decision-makers, social action groups, voters, and others. Thus, as Vice-President this year, I am calling on the membership to submit resolutions for discussion, debate, and in some cases, passage. To do so, simply forward your resolution or your idea for a resolution to the appropriate SSSP Division Chair. When doing so, remember that proposed resolutions can serve as useful discussion points for SSSP members, helping to increase and enhance communication and activities during the long period between annual meetings.

Resolutions that are submitted to Division Chairs should contain a concise position statement concerning a social problem of urgent concern to the Division. In most cases, the resolution should include some sort of call for viable action on the part of the SSSP. This typically has involved a letter from the Board directed to some public entity, expressing concern, support, or protest. Feel free, however, to propose other forms of appropriate action.

It is the SSSP Vice-President's responsibility to serve as the facilitator for resolutions being sponsored by the Divisions as well as from individual Society members, making them available to the membership at the annual business meeting. This year in New York City, the resolutions process will be organized in a manner that promotes wider discussion prior to formal consideration at the 2007 Business Meeting. The process is as follows:

- On the first day of the meetings an open forum of discussion will be held, which is designed to encourage a political discussion of concerned members. At this meeting, each proposed resolution should be presented for membership discussion by the sponsoring Division's Chairperson (or designated representative) and adequate time for discussion will be properly allotted to each. To

facilitate this process, all proposed resolutions should be made available to the SSSP Vice-President well in advance of the meetings such that the membership can be provided a print copy with their registration packet.

- Modifications and revisions will be considered during the open discussion forum that will meet in place of the annual meeting of the Resolutions Committee. All Division Chairs should plan to participate in this session or designate a proxy from their division if unable to attend. It is *essential* that someone be present who can speak to the substance of the proposed resolution.
- During the 2007 Annual Business meeting, the resolutions will be presented (including any modifications or revisions) by the Vice-President as a package for approval for action by the attending membership. The membership will vote on proposed resolutions that were discussed and revised on the first day of the meeting. Experience shows that the Annual Business meeting fails to provide sufficient time for a detailed discussion of resolutions. If objections from the floor are raised to any specific resolution at this year's Business meeting, that resolution can, by majority vote of those present, be singled out from the package, and voted on separately. Those present can either support the resolution for approval as proposed or decide to table the resolution for further discussion at the subsequent year's annual meeting.
- We will attempt to make approved resolutions immediately available to the press. In addition, all approved resolutions will be submitted for publication in the Fall issue of the *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*.

Members who wish to propose resolutions for consideration of the SSSP should submit them to a Division Chairperson (see <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/21> for current contact information) or directly to the SSSP Vice-President at [kilty.1@osu.edu](mailto:kilty.1@osu.edu). I look forward to hearing your ideas.

**Keith M. Kilty, SSSP Vice-President 2006-2007**

## BOSTON AREA SSSP MEMBERS —AIDS FUNDRAISER

For the past six years, SSSP has donated the proceeds from its Annual AIDS Fundraiser to an AIDS organization in the Annual Meeting's host city. For the upcoming meeting in New York, I thought that SSSP may be able to increase the money raised from this event by having a number of items that members could use when they attend the 2008 Annual Meeting in Boston. Therefore, I am asking Society members who reside in the Boston area if they are willing to solicit donations from Boston area restaurants, hotels and/or merchants for the 2007 AIDS Fundraiser auction. Ideally, the Boston specific items should allowed Society members to redeem or use the item at the Annual Meeting from July 31-August 2, 2008 in Boston.

If you are willing to solicit donations for the auction, please contact Susan Will so we can ensure businesses are not contacted by more than one member.

Thank You,  
Susan Will

Susan Will, Local Arrangements Chair  
2007 SSSP Annual Meeting  
Sociology Department  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
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## DEAR ANNUAL MEETING PRESENTERS AND ORGANIZERS:

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) has arranged with The Scholar's Choice to manage the combined book exhibit for our 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting taking place August 10-12, 2007, at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. It will be possible for your recently published books to be included in the display. The procedure to do that has been sent to us by The Scholar's Choice.

**Any members interested in having their book displayed at the upcoming SSSP meeting should contact their publisher.** Please keep in mind that the publishers pay a fee to display with The Scholar's Choice and may not have the marketing budget necessary to honor all requests, particularly for older titles. We ask that books be appropriate to the meeting and published recently. Reservations from the publishers will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis so reserving early is recommended. Please note that The Scholar's Choice displays on behalf of the publishers and *ALL requests must be made by the publisher, not the author.* Therefore, you are encouraged to contact your publisher as soon as possible to check on whether or not your publisher will reserve your title. Please contact your publisher directly-*do not call The Scholar's Choice.* The person who handles publisher reservations at The Scholar's Choice is Debby Pitts. She may be reached at [dipitts@scholarschoice.com](mailto:dipitts@scholarschoice.com) or at 585-262-2048 x108. *Please ask your publisher to contact her.*

The Scholar's Choice has a long and successful history of managing academic book exhibits. We welcome them to our New York meeting.

Most sincerely,

Valerie Jenness  
SSSP President

## TOUR OF SEVERAL BROOKLYN NEIGHBORHOODS

**Saturday, August , 2007, 11 12:30 p.m. - 3:30  
p.m. cost: \$25 per person (maximum 6 people)**

New York City is the center of the AIDS epidemic in the United States; a significant risk factor for HIV-related death is "residence in Brooklyn." This 3-hour tour (\$25), beginning and ending in the hotel lobby at the Roosevelt Hotel, SSSP conference hotel, brings you to several Brooklyn neighborhoods with the highest rates of infection and death: Bushwick, Brownsville, Bedford Stuyvesant, East New York and Williamsburg. Led by Fernando Soto, Executive Director of the After Hours Project, Inc., a harm reduction organization that serves drug users, sex workers, and other high-risk populations, the 5-6 people who take this tour will ride in the After Hours Project's van through these neighborhoods to observe local conditions, including evidence of intensive policing and gentrification, that impact the delivery of HIV prevention and treatment services. The tour will include a visit to one of the storefront locations in Bedford Stuyvesant where the After Hours Project provides direct services to clients. All revenue generated from this tour will be donated to the After Hours Project.

Please contact the Executive Office at [sssp@utk.edu](mailto:sssp@utk.edu) or 865-974-3620 to reserve your spot and make payment arrangements.

**Got something on your mind?**

**Have a hankering to get on your soap  
box?**

**Got an itch to express your opinion?**

**Have some important idea to share?**

Then scratch that itch  
and write a commentary or  
Letter to the Editor!

Send submissions to:  
[sssp\\_editor@yahoo.com](mailto:sssp_editor@yahoo.com)

# International Coalition Against Sexual Harassment 2007 Conference

*Fifteen Years Since Anita Hill and Tailhook:*

*Progress, Pitfalls and Promises*

**August 13, 2007**

**Sutton Suite, Roosevelt Hotel, New York, New York**

**Program in Brief**

8:30	Registration	Patients Behaving Badly: Sexual Harassment in a Chiropractic Setting
9:00	Welcome, Recognition Awards	Patricia Campbell
	Michele Paludi and Carmen Paludi, Jr.	Table 2: Sexual Harassment of Students
		Moderator: Jennifer Martin
9:30-10:30	<i>Keynote Address</i>	Teens and Trouble: A comparison of Health and School-Related Effects of Bullying and Sexual Harassment among Middle and High School Students
	Legal Standards Governing Sexual Harassment: Where We've Been, Where We are Going	James Gruber and Susan Fineran
	Edward Cerasia	
10:45-11:45	<i>Invited Address</i>	Foley's Folly: The Sexual Harassment of Working Teens in Washington, DC
	Same-Sex Sexual Harassment: Research Findings and Implications for Policymakers	Jennifer Drobac
	Eros DeSouza	
12:00-12:30	Perpetrator's Motivation to Commit Sexual Harassment	Table 3: New Directions in Sexual Harassment in Higher Education: Discussion Panel
	Jennifer L. Rasmussen and Mindy E. Bergman	Moderator: William Schweinle
		Participants:
	Lunch	Darlene DeFour
		Billie Dziech
		Ann Lane
1:45-2:45	New Tools for Accessing Power when Sexual Harassment Happens	4:15-5:30 Organizational Behavior and Sexual Harassment
	Linda Gordon Howard	Facilitator: Rudy Nydegger
3:00-4:00	Roundtable Discussions	Panel Participants:
	Table 1: Workplace Sexual Harassment	Eros DeSouza
	Moderator: Phoebe Morgan	Susan Fineran
	Gender Harassment by Physicians to Registered Nurses in the Operating Room	James Gruber
	Susan Strauss	William Schweinle
		5:30-6:00 Closing Plenary Session

**PHOTO ESSAY:****Police Militarization and Protest: Images from the Anti-globalization Movement**

Luis Fernandez, Northern Arizona University

Bette Lee, Independent Media Reporter

Protest Policing scholars have documented the militarization of domestic policing for over a decade (Kraska 2001, 1997). Yet, the militarization of policing continues to surprise people when they first encounter it. The latest example occurred in Los Angeles during the recent Pro-Immigration Rights demonstrations on May 1, 2007. Once again the media seemed stunned when police, dressed in full riot-gear, attacked seemingly peaceful protesters with rubber bullets, beanbags, and teargas. (See the following web page for raw footage of the demonstration and police actions, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFdNkXJMH9A>) Unfortunately, this type of police intervention during large demonstrations is not as rare as one might think. In fact, they were relatively common during the cycle of anti-corporate globalization protests that took place from 1999 through 2003. This photo essay documents this militarization as witnessed by the authors during anti-globalization protests in the United States and Mexico. (For a more detailed, and less visual, analysis of how police control protest spaces, see Luis Fernandez's forthcoming book titled *Policing Dissent*, published by Rutgers University Press.)

**References**

- Kraska, Peter B. ed, 2001. *Militarizing the American Criminal Justice System: The Changing Roles of the Armed Forces and the Police*. Boston: Northeastern University Press.
- Kraska, Peter B. 1997. "Militarizing American Police: the Rise of Paramilitary Units," in *Social Problems* 44(1): 1-18.



Police dressed in full riot gear, holding the line. Behind them is the Citibank Tower and the International Hotel, which housed the Free Trade of the Americas Agreement. FTAA meeting in Miami, 2003.





Miami Police and anti-corporate globalization activists stand face-to-face. FTAA protest, Miami, 2003.



Police use “non-lethal weapons” on protesters. The weapons include teargas, rubber bullets, and beanbags. FTAA Protest, Miami, 2003.





Street Medics take care of a young activists with a rubber bullet wound to the head. FTAA Protest, Miami, 2003



Undercover police carry out a “target arrest” on two protesters during a demonstration.  
FTAA Protest, Miami, 2003





Banner hanging on police fence. Miami, 2003



Mexican Police stand behind a double fence erected to keep protesters from approaching the World Trade Organization meetings in Cancun, Mexico, 2003.



Young women forming a “human chain” in front of a police fence in Cancun, Mexico, 2003.



Warships patrol the coast of Mexico as finance ministers meet in Cancun for the 2003 World Trade Organization ministerial meeting.



## 2007 Film Exhibit Program

Sunday, August 12, 2007  
The Roosevelt Hotel  
Room: Park Suite

**10:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

### ***SELLING SICKNESS***

*Selling Sickness* exposes the unhealthy relationship between society, medical science and the pharmaceutical industry.

Drug manufacturers today fund aggressive marketing campaigns designed to create public awareness of previously unknown diseases, or known by less dramatic names. Shyness thus becomes branded as 'Social Anxiety Disorder,' constant worry becomes 'Generalized Anxiety Disorder,' and premenstrual tension is now 'Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder.' The sale of SSRI anti-depressant medications used to treat these and other diseases, such as Paxil, Zoloft and Prozac, has become an annual \$20 billion market.

The film features commentary from paid medical consultants to the drug companies, patients, researchers, patient advocates, advertisers, attorneys, and psychiatrist Dr. David Healy, a critic of the pharmaceutical industry. *Selling Sickness* also visits trade shows and professional conferences to show how the pharmaceutical industry promotes the use of its drugs within the medical community. In a society where the techniques for selling diseases has become even more sophisticated than the medical science which develops cures for them, where everyday emotional problems are touted as epidemic diseases, *Selling Sickness* sounds a vitally important cautionary note.

Directed by Catherine Scott Produced by Pat Fiske  
Co-written by Ray Moynihan

<http://www.frif.com/new2005/sell.html>

**11:10 AM – 1:10 PM**

### ***GREEN, GREEN WATER***

(screening co-sponsored by the Environment and Technology Section of the American Sociological Association)

*Green, Green Water* follows the journey of one U. S. consumer who wants to know where her electricity comes from. Her trip leads to northern Manitoba, where she meets the Cree peoples who are coping with the environmental and cultural impact of so-called "clean energy". Surviving mass poverty, environmental devastation, and hopelessness after three decades of governmental dam development, northern Manitoba Cree communities are now faced with the likelihood of an expanded series of dams for energy exports to the U.S.

A new generation of Cree leaders rise to power proclaiming their desire to "enter the 21st Century" seeking to partner with Manitoba Hydro and build more dams, doubling the size of the current system. Families and communities are deeply divided. Opposition leaders rise to protect what is left of their land and traditional way of life, but is it too late? How does an impoverished majority compete with the multi-million dollar Public Relations campaign being waged against their interests?

Directed by Dawn Mikkelsen

Co-Directed and Edited by Jamie A. Lee  
Produced by Jamie A. Lee, Dawn Mikkelsen, and James Fortier <http://www.greengreenwater.com/>

**Filmmaker, Jamie A. Lee, will introduce the film and participate in a panel discussion including David Pellow, Council Member of the Environment and Technology Section of ASA, following the screening .**

**1:20 PM – 2:50 PM**

### ***HOTHOUSE***

Almost ten thousand Palestinians, designated by the Israeli government as "Security Prisoners," are incarcerated in Israel today. Most Israelis consider them murderers and criminals, but most Palestinians regard them as freedom fighters.

Granted rare permission to film inside the country's highest security facilities, Israeli filmmaker Shimon Dotan shows everyday prison life, including biweekly family visits, internal elections, periodic security searches of cells, and relations between inmates and prison staff. *HotHouse* also features interviews with many Palestinian prisoners, including those involved in suicide bombings. Although their political demands for an end to the occupation and full rights of citizenship are understandable, the bloodcurdling confessions of these proud, unrepentant and often smiling terrorists expose the moral disconnect required for such inhuman actions.

*HotHouse* also makes it clear that the Israeli criminal justice system uses imprisonment to stifle or control Palestinian democratic political life, revealing that 13 prisoners, who were not involved in terrorist or military actions, were political candidates in the 2006 Palestinian elections, which saw the rise to power of the militant Islamic party, Hamas. In this regard, the film shows how Israeli prisons have become incubators for political education and debate, which often influences Palestinian society at large.

The Palestinian experience in Israeli prisons has become a national symbol in Palestine, and the prisons themselves have become virtual universities for Palestinian nationalism, shaping the prisoners' ideology, strengthening their political convictions, and, as was the case on South Africa's Robben Island or in the H-Blocks in Northern Ireland, enabling the development of future political leaders .

Film by Shimon Dotan

2007 Special Jury Prize, World Cinema Documentary, Sundance Film Festival

<http://www.frif.com/new2006/hot.html>

**3:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

***TREADING WATER: a documentary***

In a region that revels in its Scandinavian culture, complete with polkas, fishing, hot dish and stoicism, the stories of the queer northland could easily get lost. Quirky and often poignant, rural Minnesota has a story to tell that creates a new vision of what it is to be GLBT in America today. Award-winning documentary filmmaker, Jamie A. Lee, introduces us to people and communities throughout rural Minnesota that have truly embraced the word activism, from the first openly gay bar that started with funds won in a lawsuit against the Catholic Church, to lesbian women challenging the Iron Range. *Treading Water: a documentary* confronts fear, homophobia,

coming out of the closet, race and, most importantly, survival that GLBT people experience in small towns every day.

Directed and edited by Jamie A. Lee

Produced by Dawn Mikkelsen

<http://visionariesfilmworks.com/films.html>

**Film maker, Jamie A. Lee, will introduce the film and, following the screening, will participate in a panel discussion including Nancy A. Naples, Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies at the University of Connecticut.**

## Questions that you may have about the SSSP Annual Meeting.... but are too embarrassed to ask.

By Deborah Thorne, 2007 Program Committee

### Who chooses the “theme” of the SSSP annual meeting?

The president of SSSP gets to select the theme of the annual meeting—that’s one of the benefits of being president!

### What are all of the “divisions” within SSSP?

Within the SSSP, there are many subgroups organized around specific topics and interests—these are called special problems divisions. For example, for folks interested in issues of race and ethnicity, there is the Racial and Ethnic Minorities division. If you are interested in environmental issues, you might want to join the Environment and Technology division. Are you a budding theorist (or any kind of theorist for that matter)? If so, you might want to check out the Social Problems Theory division. These divisions provide a great opportunity to meet others who share your academic interests.

### The program lists many different types of sessions: plenary, thematic, and special. What do all of these mean?

**Plenary Sessions:** Essentially, “plenary” just means everyone. Thus, the plenary sessions are sessions to which everyone attending the meeting is invited. At SSSP, there are two plenary sessions: the business meeting and the Presidential Address. Typically, the business meeting is first thing Friday morning and the Presidential Address immediately follows. The plenary sessions are so important that there are never any other sessions planned at the same time.

**Thematic Sessions:** Topics covered in the thematic sessions reflect the theme of the annual meeting.

**Special Sessions:** Topics for the special sessions are typically generated by members of the Program Committee (this is the committee that helps the president organize the program for the annual meeting). Sometimes the Program Committee

members organize the sessions but arrange for others to be the discussants; other times, the Program Committee members lead the sessions themselves. Special sessions typically include things like talks with high-profile sociologists, meet-the-author events, teaching workshops, speed mentoring sessions, presentations of student award-winning papers, and panels on particularly timely topics.

### The program lists an entire page of “committee” and “divisional” meetings. Which ones can I attend? All of them? Or are some just for the committee members?

Committee Meetings are only open to members of that particular committee. However, divisional Meetings are open to anyone who is interested. These are the business meetings associated with all the different divisions within SSSP – for example, Law and Society, Teaching Social Problems, and Poverty, Class and Inequality (to name just a very few). If you want to get involved in one of these divisions, these are great meetings to attend!

### What if I want to serve on an “appointed committee”? How do I get appointed?

When you pay your annual dues, the form asks if you want to serve on any of the appointed committees—if you do, just check the respective box! The Executive Office will give your name to the Committee on Committees. In addition, it never hurts to make your desires known to a few folks on the committee!

(I’ve been attending the SSSP annual meetings for five years now, and realized that I still had questions about terminology, structure, participation, and so on—and my guess is that I’m not the only one. If you have other questions, please drop me an email and I’ll try to include them on this sheet next year: [thorned@ohio.edu](mailto:thorned@ohio.edu).)

***YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO***  
***the RECEPTION HONORING OUR PAST PRESIDENTS***

*and the*

***AWARDS BANQUET***

*at*

***The Roosevelt Hotel***  
***Madison Avenue at 45<sup>th</sup> Street***  
***New York, NY***

***Saturday, August 11***

***Reception: 6:45pm - 7:45pm***

***Banquet: 8:00pm - 10:00pm***

***AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED***

***SSSP Division Awards:*** Winners of various student paper competitions and other division awards will be announced.

***Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship:*** This \$3,500 scholarship will be awarded to a new or continuing graduate student who began her or his study in a community college or technical school.

***C. Wright Mills Award:*** For a distinguished book that exemplifies outstanding social science research and an understanding of the individual and society in the tradition of C. Wright Mills.

***Lee Founders Award:*** For recognition of significant achievements that have demonstrated continuing devotion to the ideals of the founders of the Society and especially to the humanistic tradition of the Lee's.

***Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship:*** This \$12,000 scholarship is given annually for support of graduate study and commitment to a career of scholar-activism.

***Social Action Award:*** This \$1,000 award is given to a not-for-profit organization in the New York City area in recognition of challenging social inequalities, promoting social change, and/or working toward the empowerment of marginalized peoples.

Join us for a catered reception with a cash bar honoring our past presidents. The reception is *complimentary* to all SSSP members and will be hosted in The Roosevelt Grill (hotel restaurant).

The awards banquet will be held in the Terrace Ballroom. A special thanks to the University of California, Irvine for their generous financial contribution to the banquet.

The Italian Dinner Buffet will feature: pasta e fagioli, caesar salad; tri-color salad with oil and vinegar; chicken parmigiana; meat lasagna; fettuccini alfredo; vegetable risotto; assorted breads and rolls; spumoni; tiramisu; Italian pastries and cookies; freshly brewed coffee and tea. A vegan dish will be available for those who request one. A cash bar will be available. Come celebrate with your friends and colleagues and enjoy the evening!

The reception honoring our past presidents is *complimentary* to all members.  
 The cost of a banquet ticket is \$80 per person.

A limited number of banquet tickets will be sold in the registration area.  
 Those with advance reservations will receive their ticket/s with their registration materials.



## On Perpetuating Stereotypes and Ghettoizing Gender: A Comment on Epstein's 2006 ASA Presidential Address

Michael DeCesare, California State University, Northridge  
Afshan Jafar<sup>1</sup>, Northeastern University

We wish to begin by thanking Cynthia Fuchs Epstein for using her 2006 ASA Presidential Address to challenge sociologists to think more deeply about the global subordination of women. She is undoubtedly correct that gender is a basic and invidious social divide, and we admire her for using her Address to identify the historical and global aspects of women's subordination. In addition, we believe a Presidential Address of this sort was long overdue. Surprisingly, no ASA President has focused primarily on gender in an Address since Joan Huber did so in 1989. And the only other President to do so was Alice Rossi in 1983.<sup>2</sup>

We join other sociologists, then, in enthusiastically welcoming Epstein's emphasis on women and gender. Nevertheless, we believe it is important—indeed, necessary—to point out several shortcomings and weaknesses in Epstein's Address. We wish to be clear that we do not mean to challenge or negate her overall thesis; rather, we intend our comments as elaborations and alternative interpretations of some aspects of her argument.

### RETHINKING "FEMALE SUBORDINATION IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT"

Due to space limitations, we focus here on evaluating the claims and arguments that Epstein puts forth in the longest section of her Address on "Female Subordination in Global Context." We find three aspects of this section to be problematic. First, we contend that the arguments and examples that Epstein offers serve to perpetuate stereotypes about third world and Middle Eastern cultures. Second, we assert that they reinforce stereotypes about women from these cultures. Finally, we find that they neglect to consider the effects of inter-nation imperialism, aggression, and dominance on the perpetuation and exacerbation of gender inequality. We elaborate on each of these three positions below.

#### *Stereotyping Third-World Cultures*

From our perspective, Epstein's section on "Female Subordination in Global Context" falls into the trap of perpetuating stereotypes about third-world cultures. Just a cursory look at the section reveals an important pattern that is not found in the previous section of the Address on "The Position of Women in the United States and in the Profession of Sociology": an undue reliance by the author on newspaper articles and unnamed web sites to support her claims. We do not wish to deny the possibility that articles in popular media may be reporting honest statistics and stories. What we do wish to emphasize is that the nature of journalism, as we often take great pains to point out to the public and to our students, is often sensationalistic, relies heavily on empty generalizations, and is often devoid of a sociological perspective. As sociologists, we must demand a greater level of specificity—both in language and analysis—of ourselves.

Consider Epstein's language in the following statement:

[Females] are computed as a means of barter in tribal families that give their girls (often before puberty) to men outside their tribe or clan who want wives to produce children and goods. Men also trade their daughters to men of other

tribes as a form of compensation for the killing of a member of another tribe or other reasons." (p. 12)

Then, in a footnote to these sentences, she provides her reference point: "There are numerous references on the Web to the use of women given in marriage to another tribe or group in the reports of Amnesty International, for example in Papua New Guinea, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Fiji" (p. 12).

We find it unfortunate that Epstein's discussion of third-world nations slips so easily into journalistic rhetoric about "tribes" and "clans." These two terms, in particular, conjure up images of "backwardness," barbarity, lawlessness, savagery, and primitiveness—in short, everything that the "West" is supposedly not. We also believe that this language reinforces the stereotypes that have become connected with third-world nations, and especially with Muslim countries, since September 11, 2001. It is important to point out that anthropologists have long debated both the validity and accuracy of the word "tribe" (Gutkind 1970); indeed, Aidan Southall (1970) famously described the term as merely an "illusion."

Epstein also takes on the extremely volatile issue of honor. In a subsection on "Honor" she states: "It [pre-marital sex] is also used as justification for the murder of many young women by male family members claiming to cleanse the girl's supposed dishonor from the family. In particular we see this at play in parts of the Middle East and among some Muslim communities in the diaspora." She then goes on to say, "When a woman strays from her prescribed roles, seeks autonomy, or is believed to have had sex with a man outside of marriage, killing her is regarded as a *reasonable* response by her very own relatives, often a father or brother" (pp. 14-15, italics added).

Even though Epstein qualifies her statement by writing "*parts of the Middle East*" and "*some Muslim communities in the diaspora*," we find these to be less than meaningful distinctions simply because of their lack of specificity. To which Muslim communities in the diaspora is she referring? Those in Tanzania? Canada? Australia? Some or all of them? None of them? Do these communities not differ from each other in myriad important ways? Is there not wide variation within a community as well? Even if we could narrow Epstein's example down to a specific country, we must ask: Are a handful of sensationalized episodes enough to warrant such a generalized account? Certainly, no *entire* Muslim community considers the practice of honor killings *reasonable*. If that were the case, there would not be such active resistance against it, and attention brought to it by *local* activists and scholars (cf., Sev'er and Yurdakul 2001).

Furthermore, Epstein's statement that "killing her is regarded as a reasonable response by her very own relatives, often a father or brother" neglects the role played by local community elders and leaders (*jirgas* in Pakistan, for example), and by land-owners, who wish to uphold the existing hierarchy and preserve the status-quo by imposing these punishments. Regarding the situation in Pakistan, the Asian Human Rights Commission indicts *jirgas* specifically: "The *jirga* system has

been the main obstacle to ending the atrocious practice of honour killings. The recent decision banning *jirga* trials and calling them unconstitutional and illegal is a good step towards the elimination of honour killings” (Asian Human Rights Commission 2004). We recognize that there have, unfortunately, been incidents where fathers, brothers, and on rare occasions even mothers were complicit in honor killings. But we also believe it is important to point out that these punishments are often meted out by local leaders, who hold political and economic sway in their communities and impose their decisions—by physical force, if necessary—on families. To neglect the part played by oppressive and hierarchical social systems, and to instead put the responsibility solely on the family, only serves to demonize the character of the individuals and to make the people appear savage and barbaric. Let us be clear: We believe absolutely that *nothing* justifies the practice of honor killings, and that it is a practice that needs to be ended immediately and completely. But we take issue with the *manner* in which honor killings are brought to the public’s attention, especially in the U.S., and that is where we differ from Epstein.

Our criticism here goes beyond just a lack of specificity in Epstein’s Address, and we believe it is certainly more significant than a semantic quibble. The language and terms we use is one of the most important ways we define “Others”; it is the way we distinguish between “Us” and “Them,” between “civilized” and “uncivilized,” and between “good” and “evil.” Edward Said (1979:332) pointed this out very clearly in *Orientalism*:

Each age and society re-creates its ‘Others’ . . . It should be obvious . . . that these processes are not mental exercises but urgent social contests involving such concrete political issues as immigration laws, the legislation of personal conduct, the constitution of orthodoxy, the legitimization of violence and/or insurrection, the character and content of education, and the direction of foreign policy, which very often has to do with the designation of official enemies.

Given the current political climate, can social scientists afford to be semantically sloppy? We do not think so. We believe it is our job—indeed, our responsibility—as sociologists and social scientists to move beyond common understandings of terms, concepts, and categories (as Epstein herself points out) in order to uncover the complexities of the social world.

#### DENYING THIRD-WORLD WOMEN’S AGENCY

A second weakness of Epstein’s Address is that while she recognizes American women’s potential to be active subjects, she denies third-world women’s agency. In discussing education, for instance, she asserts: “Some fundamentalist societies *permit* women to get a higher education, but this is to prepare them for work in segregated conditions where they serve other women” (p. 12, italics added). Yet, when she discusses American women joining the labor force to fill a gap during wartime, her language is very different: “. . . men have prevented the incursions of women into their spheres except when they needed women’s labor power, such as in wartime . . . when windows of opportunity presented themselves, women

*fought* to join the paid labor force at every level . . .” (p. 9 italics added).

In the first quotation, Epstein presents women as passive instruments in the hands of fundamentalists, whereas in the second case, she points to the active role played by American women in joining the labor force even though it was initially to fill the gap left by men during times of war. Naciri (1998:99) has documented a similar situation for Moroccan women, who have been granted certain limited rights (such as access to education) in order to fulfill specific roles. But, she argues further, women are not “instruments”; rather, they were able to use education to pursue other agendas such as “entering other spheres and for overcoming male resistance . . . and . . . challeng[ing] the inferiorization of their status in the family and in the public sphere.”

Veiling, like honor killings, is another practice that has

We join other sociologists . . . in enthusiastically welcoming Epstein’s emphasis on women and gender. Nevertheless, we believe it is important—indeed, necessary—to point out several shortcomings and weaknesses . . .

captured the attention of “Western” audiences. But the two practices differ from each other in important ways. While no explanation, based on culture, tradition, or religion, can justify the killing of a woman for the sake of honor (or for any other reason), the issue of veiling is more complicated than Epstein makes it out to be. She writes: “the chador and veil are *tools men use* to symbolize and maintain women’s

honor . . . Presumably worn to assure modesty and to protect women’s honor, the clothing prescribed, even cultural relativists must admit, serves to restrict women’s mobility” (p. 14, italics added).

While we do not disagree that the chador and veil can be physically restrictive, Epstein’s summation is limited in the scope of its explanation. First, it treats women as passive victims and does not grant them agency regarding the act of veiling. As Naciri (1998: 101) has pointed out in examining the case of Morocco:

[The veil can be] seen to represent a strategy of resistance for educated women from modest social backgrounds who have, none the less, higher aspirations; in a situation of very strict social and familial control, these women use the veil as a means of escape. The veil provides the safety and liberty of movement required to enter a male-dominated public sphere.

Ideally, of course, the public sphere would not be male-dominated, but given the fact that it is (as it is in Morocco), the veil takes on an entirely new meaning—one that allows women to be agents of resistance, capable of making strategic choices in order to expand the opportunities available to them under the existing systems.

The examples we have cited above are not isolated cases of Epstein denying agency to non-Western women. We believe the instances we have discussed highlight a glaring omission from her Address: the lack of a discussion of women’s activism in the global south. While she discusses the women’s movement in the U.S. and points to the contributions of its major figures (pp. 5-6), there is no parallel discussion in the section on “Female Subordination in Global Context.” From our perspective, it is a noticeable and telling exclusion.

IGNORING THE EFFECTS OF INTER-NATION IMPERIALISM

A third shortcoming of Epstein’s analysis of women’s subordination in its global context is her lack of any discussion of the relationship of dominance and subordination among nations—and especially between the so-called first-world and

There are several other possible explanations for the results of the Gallup poll, none of which Epstein mentions. Let us look at the example of Pakistan, which was one of the eight Muslim nations included in the study. Table 1 presents statistics comparing the U.S. and Pakistan. Obviously, it is an unfair comparison—and that is precisely our point. In a context

	U.S.	Pakistan
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 100,000 live births)	17	500
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	7	74
Births Attended by Skilled Health Staff (% of total)	99%	23%
Public Expenditure on Health (% of GDP)	7%	1%
Population with Access to Sanitation (% of total	100%	54%

third-world. We argue that the effects of colonialism and of modern-day imperialism, especially when they take the form of military intervention, permeate the every day social relations in third-world countries to such a large extent that any analysis of a “global context” that ignores them is quite incomplete.

Let us again consider the practice of veiling. El Guindi (1999:172) correctly points out that “the veil is a complex symbol of many meanings. Emancipation can be expressed by wearing the veil or by removing it. It can be secular or religious. It can represent tradition or resistance.” In an interview in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (Sharlet 2000:A26) she elaborates:

For example, during the reign of the Shah in Iran, one of his moves was to abolish the veiling by women. When he did, there was a protest at the grassroots level by the women, who saw the forced unveiling as an imposition on their bodies, and their space. Then when Khomeini came, and they imposed strict veiling on the women in public, there was some resistance by the women—to have the choice to unveil. It is possible that they were the same women. The point is that the veil is two-sided, a political symbol of resisting imposition from top or from the outside. In Algeria, the veil became a symbol of resistance to French rule. The veil in Palestine is a symbol of resistance to Israeli occupation.

It is only when we analyze Western imperialism, for instance, and its impact on the third-world (and especially on, but not limited to, Muslim countries), that we can see the veil not merely as a “tool” of subordination *used by men*, but as a symbol of resistance against Western imperialism actively *used by women*.

It is this same neglect of a larger context that leads Epstein to suggest that a recent poll which indicated that Muslim women do not see themselves as unequal<sup>3</sup> is a reflection of “so many women and girls accept[ing] the Orwellian notion that restriction is freedom, that suffering is pleasure, that silence is power” (p. 17). We suggest that there are several possible reasons that women in Muslim countries do not cite gender equality as their most important concern, not the least important of which may be their common desire not to betray one’s community or “wash one’s dirty linens in public.”<sup>4</sup>

of poverty and impoverishment that does not exist in the U.S or many other Western nations to the extent that it does in a country like Pakistan, ideals of equality with men seem empty and meaningless to women who are faced with the everyday reality of living without access to proper sanitation and adequate healthcare. Although the statistics below reveal the dual disadvantage that women face as mothers, they are more a reflection of the poor state of the economy, uneven economic development, the lack of infrastructure, and a misuse of current resources than of gender inequality *per se*. Given these structural realities, it does not surprise us that “while relatively few women and men chose ‘equal legal rights’ as a description they would associate with the Muslim world, gender inequality did not commonly appear as an unprompted response in open-ended questions critiquing the region” (Gallup 2006:2).

It is only when we also consider that many Muslim nations are currently dealing with the effects of religious extremism and political instability that we can begin to understand why women do not cite gender inequality as their most important priority. For why should women privilege that one particular issue over so many other, perhaps more pressing troubles? To explain away the results of the Gallup poll as an indication of “pluralistic ignorance” or “mindscapes [which] also persuade females in their midst to accept the legitimacy and inevitability of their subjection, and even to defend it” (p. 17), is not entirely incorrect, but it is certainly incomplete and, we believe, somewhat paternalistic.

CONCLUSION

We applaud the attention Past-President Epstein has paid to women’s subordination. As we stated at the outset, it is long overdue. At the same time, we have outlined three concerns we have about her Address. The first two are connected, and involve the stereotyping of third-world cultures and women. We believe that sociologists should not and cannot rely so heavily on popular media accounts in analyzing any social phenomenon, and especially one as basic as the gender divide. Our theories and research methods allow us to move well beyond such an approach as we continue to play our role as the questioners of accepted truths. It is our job and our responsibility to do so.

The third objection we have raised is that Epstein argues against a “ghettoization” of gender analyses at the same time that her own analysis of gender relations in global perspective seems to be ghettoized. We have suggested that her Address focuses too narrowly on gender relations and ignores the larger contexts in which these relations are formed and maintained. Sociologists simply cannot examine gender as a category of domination without also examining intervening variables, such as unimaginable poverty, Western military aggression, the legacy of colonialism, and the onslaught of modern-day imperialism. The “ghettoization” of gender studies must be fought in both directions. In other words, not only should “gender segregation be recognized as a primary issue for sociological analysis” (p.3), but gender studies itself should be approached in a manner that examines the intersections of gender with other forms of intra- and inter-nation domination. Only by so doing can we hope to tell stories about women’s subordination *and* resistance that are more nuanced and multi-dimensional than the kind we read about in the popular media.

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## END NOTES

<sup>1</sup>The authors are listed alphabetically, which reflects their equal contribution to this Comment.

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.asanet.org/page.www?section=ASA+History&name=Presidential+Addresses+Chronological> for a list of and links to ASA Presidential Addresses between 1906 and 2005.

<sup>3</sup>We believe that Epstein’s reliance on the *New York Times* coverage of this Gallup survey, instead of on the actual report published by Gallup, has resulted in a misrepresentation of the study’s findings. The results do *not* indicate that a “majority of women in Muslim countries do not regard themselves as unequal” (p. 17, footnote 47) as Epstein claims they do. In fact, the second page of the report clearly states that “high percentages [of Muslim women] associate the statement ‘both sexes enjoy equal legal rights’ with Western nations; far fewer associate the same statement with Arab/Muslim nations” (p. 2). The report goes on to explain that, “relatively few women and men chose ‘equal legal rights’ as a description they would associate with the Muslim world” (Mogahed 2006:3). Epstein’s misunderstanding most likely arises from the statement that follows: “gender inequality did not commonly appear as an unprompted response in open-ended questions critiquing the region.” That is, when asked to name those aspects of Arab/Muslim nations that they “admired least,” women did not put gender inequality at the top. This does not mean, however, that they do not view themselves as unequal, as Epstein and the *New York Times* article report.

<sup>4</sup>See Helie-Lucas (1993), Jafar (forthcoming), and Khan (2005) for a discussion of the desire for self-censorship felt by third-world women, activists, and scholars who do not wish to compound stereotypes about their cultures.



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## Whose Right to Life? The Global Imperative for International Interdisciplinary Sexual Social Problems Scholarship

Lisiunia (Lisa) A. Romanieko, Wroclaw University

In October of last year, a 14 year old girl known only as 'Anna' from Gdansk, Poland rejected the sexual advances of a young suitor. In retribution for her act of self-determination, Anna was tormented by the boy and four of his friends, who over-powered, disrobed, and humiliated her in a degradation ritual consisting of a simulated mock rape. The entire act of degradation took place over the course of twenty minutes in front of a class of witnesses, and was recorded on the boys' cell phones for internet blog dissemination. Anna's girl friends attempted to stop the mortifying spectacle, but they were beaten back. Though an actual rape did not have to take place, the intention of debilitating sexual terrorism was nonetheless brutally effective. Rather than return to school, Anna

the fact that Poland had already criminalized abortion nearly ten years ago, proposed constitutional changes would universally criminalize abortion in the case of rape, incest, or a clinical threat to the woman's life or the fetus's development. This was broadcast on the evening news the very day that Anna took her own life.

By failing to fulfill her societal function as an apparatus of sexual subservience and docility thrust upon her at such an early age, and after enduring a vicious normative degradation ritual that was intended to publicly dismantle her and her female peers' efforts at defiant self-determination; the gesture to end her own life tragically fulfills the Durkheimian criteria for a twisted, postmodern, Kafkaesque, altruistic suicide.

Problems surrounding male privilege, female subservience, violent sexual terrorism, and coercive institutions are of course not limited to Poland. These events are indicative of the regressive socioeconomic, cultural, and political conditions that are having devastating effects on family, sexual, and other human rights around the world.

In her inaugural Notes from the Chair comments appearing in the Fall, 2006, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division newsletter, Chairperson Sandra Schroer challenged division members to contemplate the ultimate sex research project for the future, and it is in the spirit of resistance and in memory of Anna that I would



Roman Giertych, Minister of Education and leader of league of Polish Families.

committed suicide in her parents' home that evening.

In a pathological gesture of her own obedience to patriarchal domination, her mother publicly absolved the boys of all culpability in an interview published the following day. Anna's inability to discuss the incident with police, parents, teachers, or school psychologists, as well as her mother's flagrant, submissive disregard for her own daughter's life; are together indicative of the levels of emerging male privilege under the new market economy, the total elimination of women's reproductive and other human rights in both public and private spheres, and profound sexual repression brought on by coercive institutions represented by church and state.

Though no analysts interviewed by the media linked the two simultaneous events, it is important to note that on the very same day of Anna's suicide, legislation was introduced on the floor of the Polish parliament by the Minister of Education's ultra-conservative party, the League of Polish Families. Funded by affluent religious fundamentalists in the west, and despite



Giertych opposition protest.

like to offer a response. My vision entails an international, interdisciplinary, cross-cultural comparison of the role of coercive institutions in the perpetuation of sexual repression and other forms of violence against the human body. To that end, I respectfully invite both new and old Society for the Study of Social Problem members to join us in New York for my eerily prophetic panel entitled, "Sexual Politics and the State".

**BOOK REVIEW:**

Sherman, Rachel. *Class Acts: Service and Inequality in Luxury Hotels*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2007, Pp. 366. \$21.95 (paperback).

Reviewed by Stephanie R. Medley-Rath, Georgia State University & University of West Georgia\*

In *Class Acts*, Rachel Sherman uses participant observation as an employee in two luxury hotels and ethnographic interviews of both hotel workers and hotel guests to elucidate the class dynamics of luxury hotels. She finds, contrary to popular belief, those who provide service in luxury hotels seem to find satisfaction in their work and respect the guests rather than resent and seek revenge on the guests (though mild forms of revenge such as refusing a tip, do occur). Even Sherman was surprised to find employees who were happy with their ability to serve others and to serve them well.

Sherman observes class as a performance in luxury hotels—meaning the guests perform the role of the upper class while the workers perform the role of the lower and middle class (depending on specific job) who serve the upper class. Among the hotel workers, the inequality between themselves and the guests seemed to have been normalized. In other words, when the employees began their jobs, some were critical of the wealth of the guests but as the length of their employment progressed, this critique lessened, becoming virtually nonexistent. Perhaps this was due to the wages of the workers. Many of the workers (e.g., doorman, bellman, and concierge) were earning wages and tips at or near the median income of all Americans. This was not true, however, of all the workers (e.g., room cleaners and telephone operators) who earned significantly less. Interestingly, the highest paid jobs were those held mainly by men (e.g., doorman, bellman, and valet). Sherman, however, failed to interrogate the gender segregation of hotel workers and the corresponding gender wage gap present in luxury hotels.

Just as hotel employees perform class, so do the hotel guests. Sherman's interviews with hotel guests found some of the interviewees had grown up in middle- or working-class households and were now experiencing life as a member of the upper-middle or upper class with the financial means to purchase a night in a luxury hotel. One of the most interesting findings from these interviews was the guests' discussion of how their wants became needs and how the hotel came to fulfill their expectations (that they at this point felt they deserved). The interviewees were cognizant of how their wants became needs and how this had changed in their lifetimes.

The ability of hotel workers anticipating and creating guests' needs is an important characteristic of the luxury hotel. Sherman demonstrates how this is another example of the commodification of care work. The guests felt that the service was provided with an emphasis on care rather than money and the workers also discussed how they had to make their work appear as if motivated by care rather than motivated by money. For hotel workers, maintaining this illusion (and reality) made the work doable and for the guests it lessened their guilt of having wealth. This leads to another critique of *Class Acts*, Sherman should have asked the hotel workers about how they came to work in a luxury hotel: was it out of true desire to work in a luxury hotel or was it financially motivated—

meaning, they needed a job—or a combination of the two?

Another way the service work remained doable was through the game playing of workers. Building on Michael Burawoy's analysis of game playing in manufacturing, Sherman applies it to service work. The games service workers played involved being able to “finish tasks quickly, control the pace of work, and maximize tips” (p. 110). Though the workers emphasized how they enjoyed their jobs, they also took steps to make them enjoyable.

Regardless of employee satisfaction with their work, the luxury hotel in many ways epitomizes the inequality present in America. There is an increasing gap between rich and poor in American society. This gap is obvious between employees and hotel guests but also, depending on their particular job in the luxury hotel inequality exists among the employees. Drawing on Goffman, Sherman distinguishes between the “front stage” workers (e.g., a concierge) who have greater prestige, more power, higher wages and tips, and often more education compared to the “back stage” workers (e.g., a turndown attendant). Sherman, however, spent more pages focused on the “front stage” workers than the “back stage” workers. It is unclear if her findings apply equally to all workers or to mainly the “front stage” workers.

Overall, Sherman (2007) wrote an informative book exposing a world unknown to many people and showed how social inequality exists, is maintained, and is performed within luxury hotels. This book, however, could be improved by providing a greater connection of the inequality in the hotels with inequality outside the hotel. *Class Acts* is a useful book for courses such as sociology of work or social inequality. This book is easily accessible to graduate students and perhaps advanced undergraduates.

\*The author would like to thank Lesley Williams Reid for comments on earlier drafts.



**ANNOUNCING THE**  
**FINALISTS for the**  
**2006 C. WRIGHT MILLS AWARD**

**Lawrence D. Bobo and Mia Tuan, *Prejudice in Politics: Group Position, Public Opinion, and the Wisconsin Treaty Rights Dispute*, Harvard University Press**

**Kieran Healy, *Last Best Gifts: Altruism and the Market for Human Blood and Organs*, University of Chicago Press**

**Rosanna Hertz, *Single by Chance, Mothers by Choice: How Women are Choosing Parenthood without Marriage and Creating the New American Family*, Oxford University Press**

**Jeff Manza and Christopher Uggen, *Locked Out: Felon Disenfranchisement and American Democracy*, Oxford University Press**

**Ruth Milkman, *L.A. Story: Immigrant Workers and the Future of the U.S. Labor Movement*, Russell Sage Foundation**

**Kathleen M. Shaw, Sara Goldrick-Rab, Christopher Mazzeo, and Jerry Jacobs, *Putting Poor People to Work: How the Work-First Idea Eroded College Access for the Poor*, Russell Sage Foundation**

**Sudhir Alladi Venkatesh, *Off the Books: The Underground Economy of the Urban Poor*, Harvard University Press**

**Elisabeth Young-Bruehl, *Why Arendt Matters*, Yale University Press**

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## STUDENT COLUMN:

### Decisions and Consequences As Regards “Your” Teaching Job

Robert J. Brem, College of Alameda\*

So! You want a job teaching in higher education. Be careful what you ask for . . . there are questions you need to answer or beware the consequences of not having thought it out. Really, it is a great thing to be a professor most of the time. It is probably one of the most “dignified” career choices left in this uncertain dog-eat-dog world economy. And when you compare it to the corporate world it is over the top. But it is so only if you find “your” place. The wrong choice can be sheer hell.

I know people who have given up what looked like a great university job to others because it was not what they wanted and that was because they did not ask soon enough what that was. The best way to know where you belong is to answer some questions before you even look for a job.

First off, you find yourself a graduate student looking at the job market. So! Should you look before you finish your doctorate? If you are funded to be a TA/GA then stay and do the doctorate. Hello? That is what you are there for. Sure, get some teaching experience but know that if you focus upon working you may never finish. And an ABD is hell if you really want what a PhD gets you. If you are OK with what an incomplete doctorate gets you then go for it; because that’s the risk of getting a job too soon. Oh sure, universities say they’ll support you in finishing but really – only you can be your own support to the finish and full time work and doing a doctorate just so rarely works out. And it is a gut wrenching experience to have to make that choice – to finish or not – when you have put in all that effort (not to mention having all those student loans to justify)!

However, I do recommend that everyone try and teach a few sections at a community college as an adjunct to get teaching experience. And you may discover you like the teaching more than the research. If you really do not like to write or do not like to do so in academic language, a research university may not be for you. I mean, how are you doing with those papers now? Does your little cup of joy overflow doing that vector ARIMA time series analysis? Or, if you hate to deal with undergraduates and their spotty motivation and skills, then higher level teaching may be for you. If you like helping people who really need you to be there for them and to shape minds at a most impressionable level, then community college may be for you. Or, if you like really grateful and great students then maybe an adult oriented alternative university may be for you.

The point is: know yourself and then stay true to yourself when looking for a job! After all, you will have to live with that decision a long time.

In any case though, if you are not willing to try and be a good teacher, please, find some other work. Don’t be the teacher you hated! Get some real mentoring on being an interesting and accessible and fun teacher. Yes fun! BTW, if your students do not like your teaching style, you probably don’t like the experience either. So this is just as much for you as for the students!

Community Colleges will get you in the trenches of “real” teaching. It is not easier than a university. It is actually harder in some ways because of open enrollments and therefore more, shall we say “diverse” skill levels. But once you have successfully negotiated working with a wide array of students with differing abilities – you are better prepared for what the world of higher education will throw at you as a teacher. And community colleges are definitely a place where you can have your hand involved in making the lives of people better and being a part of your community. Lower division students may be more appreciative of your efforts to help them than those in upper division. That can be cool. . . to see the concrete results of your efforts.

But there are positive and negatives at all levels. Just consider where and with whom you will be happiest.

Chances are, no matter what, you will be an adjunct for while. I remember thinking some times about how adjuncts are really exploited doing the “same job” as a full time faculty and being woefully underpaid. Well, perhaps there is some truth in this wonderment, but not entirely. Being full time is really different. And no, adjuncts do not have the same job only with fewer classes. . . there is so much more to being full time that it really is worth more. The down side of being an adjunct is you will teach everywhere. The upside is that all you will do is teach. And there is great freedom in this.

You will get hired far more easily as an adjunct than as a full time faculty member. Do not let this fool you into believing that you will have an easy time getting a full time position though. The adjunct position is only to get you the experience that will pay off when you do apply for real. But that “real” is a different fight than the one to get an adjunct position.

So while you are an adjunct, get serious experience in a number of areas including service learning, online education, curriculum development, etc. If you look like a full time professional on paper and you actually acted like one in fact, then you may get considered more seriously. Remember, keep good records of all you do and volunteer for a committee or two and be a great teacher – all of this will pay off when you are in the market for a full time job.

If you want research and writing gets you excited, then you are looking for a Research I university. If you like the life of a teacher and want a small place but do not want a community college then you are looking at a Liberal Arts college. But be aware most of those have gaggles of part timers rather than full timers and they may not pay as well. Also, beware of the fake schools – the dandified and legitimated diploma mills that are under the rubric of “adult friendly education” that churn students in and out. They may be accredited – but let’s be real; most accreditation standards are really a measure of the quality of the paperwork. There is often a difference between what an institution says it is doing and what they really are doing.



If you want to be able to look yourself in the mirror then avoid any school – most often the “for profit” schools (but not always) -- that take severe shortcuts with education to make money at student expense. In fact, I would avoid any school that sees students as “customers!” You’re not selling hot dogs here. You are preparing people for life as citizens in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Knowledge economy. Give them what they need as students and citizens, not what they “want” as customers. Be careful that who you teach for cares about education more than making a buck by delivering a “product” that is a scripted and standardized curriculum a trained monkey could teach. It has been my experience that the schools that refer to their students as “customers” are really selling “monkey droppings” rather than education. IMHO.

You do the inquiry and decide for yourself. What is it you are about when you say I want to be a teacher? Go find a place that will let you do that.

On that note, let me offer just a thought about distance education. If you love grading papers in your underwear late at night and not meeting with students and having very little interaction about substance; then online education may be for you. It is a much harder thing to do to make distance education a quality phenomenon than it is to do so with “brick & mortar” education. However, bad teaching in brick & mortar is a big problem too for sure! As I said earlier: be a good teacher period! However, if the institution you are applying to is primarily an online institution, ask yourself the following questions. Are you really teaching or are you just monitoring a bunch of self study students on line. And will that make you happy? I actually did teach at an institution that became almost exclusively online. And in the newspapers, faculty members and administrators talked of how innovative their school was. But one full time faculty member colleague later admitted in private that s/he made such comments publicly to keep her/his job secure. And at a number of subsequent parties, some of these same faculty members referred to such innovations as the “schlock work” they believed it to be. A lot of morale problems there.

To be sure, there is quality to be found in the online education world! You are the one who has to do the inquiry to find out if the school you are applying to is one of those places or not. Think about it. Is grading papers all you want to do and call yourself a teacher?

So let us talk about the search. You need to know what you want first. You need to write your application to what you want and what you have to offer and you have to tailor what you offer to the institution. So, you must learn what they are and want to be and how you can fit in that picture. Oh, and if you do not know how to fill out a proper application – find out or you will be the first rejected from the stack of applications. I was recently on a search committee and half of the eighty some applicants were rejected for poor applications alone! Hello?

By the way, “where” is almost more important than “what.” You can have the greatest job in a place you hate and you’ll quit. I suggest you divide the country in four parts. First tier: where you really want to be; second tier: where you would be OK if you got hired; third tier: where you would work if hired; and fourth tier: where you will never apply.

You like oceans? Then do not apply in deserts. You like cities? Then do not apply in rural areas. Know who you are relative to geographical type, culture, setting . . . Know thyself! Be happy.

When you interview . . . Perform! Your interview and job talk is performance art! The role you are playing is you as colleague, teacher, adviser, committee member, etc. Play YOU from your passion. Of course this means you have to have some to begin with. But be yourself! If they do not hire you, then that is a good thing. I mean imagine you played it different than being you and they hired you for that. How long before everyone is unhappy? Think about that.

Oh, and for gods’ sake, leave power point behind! It bores everyone and tells the hiring committee nothing about you. You can’t show your passion with power point. Better to have a good handout and not worry about the damned power point presentation not working just as you thought it would. As an aside; have you ever really noticed that very few people actually like power point! It fails far too often and the people subjected to it tend to zone out, stop taking notes, tilt their heads, and their mouths open. Power point is an invitation to rigor-morte!

For gods’ sake. You’re a teacher. Teach!

Be the best person, colleague, and teacher you can be and you will have an edge in your job search.

Anyway, I always tell my students and clients: if I say anything you find useful here then feel free to use it. And if I ever say anything useless to you then feel free to ignore it. You will do so anyway. And I will say both types of things. So there. Hmpff!

But what I am really saying is: think about the things you say you think about. Live your life on purpose and only go after jobs that will allow you to do that.

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**BOOK REVIEW:**

**Cantor, Donald J., Elizabeth Cantor, James C. Black, & Campbell D. Barrett.**  
***Same Sex Marriage: The Legal and Psychological Evolution in America.* Boston, MA: Wesleyan**  
**University Press, 2006, Pp. 212. \$24.95 (hardback).**  
 Reviewed by Lloyd Klein, Kingsborough Community College

We have heard much about gay (or same sex) marriage within the last few years. The legal and social union between members of the same sex has been publicly debated within both communities and the legal community. Individual communities, state legislatures and judicial systems, and the Federal courts system chimed in on the moral and social aspects of prospective permission for unions between homosexuals or lesbians. Such comments have been offered by members of the religious community, moral entrepreneurs within influential community groups or families, public officials from the President of the United States on down to local political leaders within local communities, and statements have been tendered by newspapers and other national or local media resources.

The recent history surrounding debates either condoning or condemning the practice of same sex marriage is quite fascinating. The right to sexual privacy became a central theme as courts on local, state, and federal levels were confronted with requests by members of the homosexual community for adoption and marital rights. Overlaying this moral and legal setting, the sight of two men exchanging marital vows on several Donahue programs during the 1970s and 1980s brought the issue into living rooms around the United States. Donahue's studio audience, composed of a cross-section of individuals from conservative and liberal backgrounds, seemed to reflect the debate throughout the country during this time period.

The issue is more pronounced today with the moral majority, spearheaded by notable clergy including Pat Robertson and the late Jerry Falwell, calling for a unilateral ban on gay marriage. Vermont and Hawaii offered safe haven for those gays or lesbians seeking a legal union with recognized civil privileges. California approved legislation which permitted marriages and recognition of same sex couples while New York City allowed registration and civic recognition.

These developments produced a debate which reached its crescendo with a Presidential decree invoking existing federal law banning such social unions.

Current policies vary among individual states in regard to the legal status of same-sex marriage. Effective in January 2008, New Hampshire and Oregon will recognize civil unions among same-sex partners. In addition, Connecticut, Vermont, New Jersey, and California recognize either civil unions or domestic partnerships. Hawaii provides some spousal rights to same-sex couples and cohabitating heterosexual persons. Massachusetts stands alone in supporting gay marriage.

Cantor, et al. offer an interesting legal analysis undercutting the political posturing and moral discussions of this vital issue. This collection of individual chapters, offered from the perspective of lawyers and clinicians, provides a technical understanding of same sex marriage.

The legal and psychological information is offered in well-written prose understandable for readers without advanced training in these professions.

Each expert focuses upon a different aspect of this issue. Donald Cantor begins this analysis with a comprehensive forty year analysis of landmark cases decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. Discussion centers around the evolution of political and social mores culminating in evolutionary changes in the legal code governing American society. We learn that the Griswold case (1961) opened the door for succeeding U.S. Supreme Court decisions serving to ratify broaden sexual privacy rights enjoyed by Americans embracing heterosexual and homosexual lifestyles. The landmark cases stemming from this original 1961 case set the stage for the Warren Court's rulings on abortion rights and subsequent Court decisions regarding sexual behavior. This chapter is indispensable for anyone curious about the relationships between the legal system and the privacy rights of individual citizens.

Donald Cantor follows this discussion with a chapter devoted to consideration of state law toward sexual privacy. He expertly explains the technical basis of laws against such sexual activities as fornication, abortion, sodomy, and divorce. The state basically dictated the moral nature of one's personal behavior and choices regarding their everyday activities. The offered explanation of divorce laws is particularly impressive in regard to the basic complexity of the statutes and the legal changes occurring during since the 1960s.

Elizabeth Cantor follows with a well-presented discussion of homosexuality within psychology and psychiatry. She traces the evolution of homosexuality from the standpoint of pioneers such as Freud, Hooker and Kinsey. These researchers laid the foundation for the 1973 decision wherein homosexuality was removed from DSM-II as a disease or disorder. The remainder of the chapter deals with hormones and genetics as potential explanations accounting for the formation of sexual identity.

The next chapter is also written by Elizabeth Cantor. She presents a psychological evaluation of gays and lesbians as parents and partners. The moral question of society favoring heterosexual individuals rather than gays or lesbians as preferred parents and domestic partners has pervaded much of the political and social discussion. Cantor offers relevant scientific data substantiating that children raised by gay and lesbian gendered individuals tend to develop normally. Children raised by same-sex couples also engage in normal peer relationships. In addition, lesbian mothers tended to support a bond between their children and the extended family. Lesbian mothers, gay fathers, and gay and lesbian couples all seemed to stress the needs of their children. Thus, the oft-stated political and social assertion that gays and lesbians would promulgate the same gender role identification within their children is not substantiated according to the well-researched

discussion in this section.

The next chapter turns to the discussion of same-sex parents and their children's development. James Black focuses on important developmental states in the life of children: pre-school years, late childhood, and adolescence. Evidence cited from the research of psychologists exploring the role of socialization and gender orientation of children does not support critics of same-sex marriage and domestic partners. There is no significant difference between children raised in heterosexual households versus homosexual (or gay and lesbian) surroundings. Further, Black concludes that children raised in both types of households have the same likelihood of healthy development.

The often-controversial topic of homosexuality and adoption is the next considered topic. Campbell Barrett discusses Anita Bryant's campaign against allowing homosexuals to adopt children. The discussion continues with an analysis of various legal cases from 1980-2005. Court decisions during the 1980s substantiated a homosexual's right to adopt children. The social and political climate began to change with a 1990 Ohio court ruling supporting homosexual adoption. There was mixed acceptance of homosexual adoption in Florida court decisions opposing the right of a homosexual person to adopt and other states (e.g., Connecticut) where the right of a homosexual to adopt was supported.

The last two chapters focus on same-sex marriage. Barrett informs us that the courts, legislatures, and state constitutions had a significant impact on the status of same-sex marriage.

He proceeds to present a social-historical discussion of how same-sex marriage was viewed from a legalistic and legislative perspective. The subject of same-sex marriage was minimally addressed prior to the 1990s. Disparate court cases failed to support the provision of domestic benefits to homosexual partners. Hawaii's 1993 decision allowing gay marriage was a turning point in the battle for the recognition of same-sex partnerships. We learn about Vermont's support of same-sex unions and the subsequent legislative and judicial backlash during 2003-2005. Interestingly, Barrett points out that Canada and Europe have taken a more enlightened approach toward same-sex marriage.

The last chapter takes on the question of why gay marriage is important. Donald Black discusses practical advantages of marriage as applied to same-sex couples. Black specifically refers to spousal visits to a hospital and property. Entitlement to social security and other benefits available to heterosexual couples is also analyzed. Black explains that individuals denied access to shared benefits are turned into an underclass.

Taken as a whole, this book is not light entertainment reading. But an effort to understand the complexity of this volume will yield much information and insight. Cantor, et al. offer an excellent appreciation of the complex issues associated with same sex marriage. The reader comes away with an understanding of how our lives have changed with the evolution of moral codes as reflected in the promulgation of legal statutes. This book is well recommended for graduate classes on such issues as sexuality or law and society. This is an important contribution to the existent literature on the legal status of personal relations. We can learn much from the recitation of information in this well written and researched volume.

## An Invitation to Join

Sociologists without Borders/Sociólogos sin Fronteras (SSF) is an international nongovernmental, academic organization devoted to the study, research, and teaching of human rights from a sociological perspective. SSF promotes scholar-activism and the advocacy of socioeconomic rights, non-discrimination, labor rights, and migrants' rights, while providing critical analyses of imperialism and neoliberalism.

Sociologists without Borders also has chapters in Brazil, Canada, Iran, Italy, and Spain. The US chapter has members from countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America. Because the US chapter has so many non-residents as members, it is especially cosmopolitan and global in its orientation. SSF has an affiliated journal, *Societies without Borders*, which is a biannual and published by Brill.

<http://www.sociologistswithoutborders.org/>  
<http://ssfupdates.blogspot.com/>



## Why should I stay at the SSSP convention hotel during the Annual Meeting?

This is a frequently asked question by our members. Another hotel may be cheaper or closer to the ASA hotel. A friend may offer to share a room at another hotel. Staying at the SSSP convention hotel saves the Society money. Please consider these reasons.

- In order to secure a favorable sleeping room rate and to avoid paying high meeting room rental costs, SSSP must guarantee with the hotel that our members will occupy a certain number of room nights. To honor our contract, we must utilize 660 sleeping room nights over our meeting dates (SSSP reservation deadline: July 17, 2007).
- In the event that we do not meet our sleeping room guarantee, the hotel will charge the Society an additional fee for using the meeting space in which we hold our sessions.
- The 'room pick-up' actual rooms occupied, during the days of our contract, by SSSP members has implications for the final hotel bill. Terms of the contract grant the Society a number of complimentary rooms used to house officers and other volunteers who give their time to the organization. In the event that our 'room pickup' is low, we must pay for these rooms.

- Hotels review our 'room pick-up' history when we request a bid for holding a future annual meeting. A favorable record (meeting or exceeding our room block) helps the hotel feel assured of a certain level of income. Hotels make their money by having as full occupancy as possible. Saving rooms for convention goers who do not occupy them means that they may have an empty room that could have been sold to someone not attending the convention.
- Members attending the convention should reserve a room for the nights they will attend and honor their reservation. This action helps save the Society money and improves the experience.
- Staying at the convention hotel provides many advantages. The banquet takes place at the convention hotel, as do the receptions, most parties, and special events. You have the opportunity to renew acquaintances with other members and meet newcomers. Informal gatherings are easy to arrange because the largest proportion of our members will stay at the convention hotel.

So . . . please stay . . .

by Thomas C. Hood, Executive Officer

### THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS - 57<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

• New York, NY - August 10-12, 2007

**Book on-line at [www.atcmeetings.com](http://www.atcmeetings.com)**

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## ***SPEED MENTORING***

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 10**

**2:30pm – 4:10pm**

### ***SPECIAL***

#### ***Session:***

**Speed Mentoring**

Roosevelt Hotel, Room: Vanderbilt Suite

#### ***Sponsor:***

Program Committee

#### ***Organizer & Presider:***

JoAnn L. Miller, Purdue University

#### ***Description:***

This speed mentoring session will afford graduate students, untenured faculty members, and applied sociologists (“mentees”) the opportunity to sit one-on-one with a stellar group of senior faculty (“mentors”) to get feedback on dissertations and/or research projects that are underway or still in the planning stages. These meetings will each last 20 minutes, and there will be time for four such meetings within the session time block. Because many individuals may benefit from being able to talk about their projects with people outside their home institutions or workplaces, the Program Committee welcomes their participation in this session and hopes they will find it very useful. The mentors and their areas of specialization are listed below.

Individuals interested in participating as mentees should contact the session organizer, JoAnn L. Miller, [jlmiller@purdue.edu](mailto:jlmiller@purdue.edu) by JULY 1. Professor Miller will email them a short form on which they will be asked to briefly describe their projects and to indicate their preferences for mentors. These forms should be returned by JULY 25. The speed mentoring schedule will then be compiled and emailed to both mentors and mentees by August 6; it will also be available at the conference registration desk in New York City. Although this session is primarily intended for graduate students, untenured faculty, and applied sociologists, tenured faculty are also welcome to indicate mentor preferences and will be accommodated as space permits.

#### ***Mentors (name, affiliation, areas):***

**Steven Barkan**, University of Maine, Criminology; Social Movements; Law and Society

**Joel Best**, University of Delaware, Social Construction; Theory

**Henry Brownstein**, NORC at the University of Chicago, Drugs and Crime and Violence; Qualitative Research; Research Business

**Richard Caputo**, Yeshiva University, Social Welfare Theory; Social Policy; Social Justice

**Juanita Diaz-Cotto**, Binghamton University, SUNY, Latinas/os in US/Latin America; Criminal Justice/Prisons; Sexuality/Gender

**Elizabeth Ettorre**, University of Liverpool, Women’s Drug Use, Reproduction, New Genetics and Autoethnography

**Leonard Gordon**, Arizona State University, Urban; Race and Ethnicity; Peace and War

**Jane C. Hood**, University of New Mexico, Family; Gender; Qualitative Methods

**Gregory Hooks**, Washington State University, Political Sociology; Environmental Justice; Peace and War

**Kathleen Lowney**, Valdosta State University, Teaching; Qualitative Research; Religion

**Ray Michalowski**, Northern Arizona University, Corporate Crime; Globalization; Political Economy

**Mary Romero**, Arizona State University, Gender and Racial Justice; Gender, Race and Work; Narrative/Qualitative Methods

**Barbara Katz Rothman**, City University of New York, Medical; Bioethics; Sociology of Knowledge

**David A. Smith**, University of California, Irvine, World Systems; Comparative Sociology; Publishing

**James D. Wright**, University of Central Florida, Crime; Quantitative Research



**The Society for the Study of Social Problems**  
**57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Registration**  
**August 10-12, 2007**  
**The Roosevelt Hotel, Madison Avenue at 45<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY**  
**(Program Participant Deadline: Program participants must preregister by May 31.)**

**Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **First/Middle Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Affiliation(s) for badge:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you would like to be identified as working outside academia so that you may meet other engaged non-academics.

**Preferred Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>+REGISTRATION FEES (US DOLLARS): Check one</b>	<b><u>Preregistration (until July 16)</u></b>	<b><u>On-Site</u></b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Member Registration <b>Including</b> Banquet*	\$185	\$200
<input type="checkbox"/> Member Registration <b>Only</b>	\$105	\$120
<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Unemployed/Emeritus Member Registration <b>Including</b> Banquet*	\$105	\$125
<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Unemployed/Emeritus Member Registration <b>Only</b>	\$25	\$45
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member Registration (for non-exempt presenters who do not wish to become members)	\$155	\$170
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member Student Registration (for non-exempt student presenters who do not wish to become members)	\$75	\$95

**GUEST REGISTRATION:** One guest registration is permitted with each full registration category above. Guest registration provides a name badge only (name only, no affiliation). Any guest who wants full access to SSSP sessions or special events and a program packet must register individually and pay the full registration fee and membership dues. Program participants are not eligible for the guest registration fee.

<input type="checkbox"/> Guest (name badge only)	\$10	\$20
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**Guest Badge:** \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name	First Name
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**ADDITIONAL BANQUET TICKET/S:** Saturday, August 11, 8:00pm - 10:00pm, tickets \$80 each\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* The cost of a banquet ticket is \$100. Thanks to the generosity of the University of California, Irvine, a ticket will cost each attendee \$80.

Number of vegan entrees needed. \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATE A BANQUET TICKET PROGRAM:**

Donate a banquet ticket to a deserving graduate student, foreign scholar or scholar-activist, tickets \$80 each \_\_\_\_\_

**7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL AIDS FUNDRAISER:** (students and new members will receive a complimentary ticket)

Friday, August 10, 9:00pm - 11:00pm, tickets \$15 each \_\_\_\_\_

**AIDS FUNDRAISER RAFFLE TICKET/S:** tickets \$5 each \_\_\_\_\_

There will be a raffle for a **two-night hotel stay at The Roosevelt Hotel**, the 2007 SSSP conference hotel. The voucher can not be applied to your 2007 conference stay. You do not have to be present to win. The winner will be announced at the AIDS Fundraiser.

**TOUR OF SEVERAL BROOKLYN NEIGHBORHOODS (maximum 6 people):**

Saturday, August 11, 12:30pm - 3:30pm, tickets: \$25 each

New York City is the center of the AIDS epidemic in the United States; a significant risk factor for HIV-related death is "residence in Brooklyn." This 3-hour tour (\$25), beginning and ending in the hotel lobby at the Roosevelt Hotel, SSSP conference hotel, brings you to several Brooklyn neighborhoods with the highest rates of infection and death: Bushwick, Brownsville, Bedford Stuyvesant, East New York and Williamsburg. Led by Fernando Soto, Executive Director of the After Hours Project, Inc., a harm reduction organization that serves drug users, sex workers, and other high-risk populations, the 5-6 people who take this tour will ride in the After Hours Project's van through these neighborhoods to observe local conditions, including evidence of intensive policing and gentrification, that impact the delivery of HIV prevention and treatment services. The tour will include a visit to one of the storefront locations in Bedford Stuyvesant where the After Hours Project provides direct services to clients. All revenue generated from this tour will be donated to the After Hours Project.

**OVER**

**+MEMBERSHIP DUES:** You must be a current member to attend the Annual Meeting unless you pay non-member registration. **If you are already a 2007 member, skip this section.**

___ Life Members, Emeriti, before 1989	\$0	___ \$25,000-\$34,999	\$65
___ "New" Emeriti/Retired Sociologist, beginning in 1989	\$35	___ \$35,000-\$44,999	\$75
___ Students	\$20	___ \$45,000-\$54,999	\$90
___ Unemployed	\$20	___ \$55,000-\$64,999	\$105
___ First Year Employment after Ph.D.	\$35	___ \$65,000-\$74,999	\$120
___ First Time Professional Member	\$35	___ \$75,000 & up	\$135
___ \$24,999 and under	\$50	___ Sustaining Membership	\$1,200

**GRAND TOTAL (from all above selections)** \_\_\_\_\_

Make check or money order payable, in **US DOLLARS** to SSSP or provide credit card authorization below.

Credit Card Type: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature (mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

Office Use Only: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Authorization #: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE: Forms and payments must be postmarked by/faxed no later than July 16 to be eligible for the preregistration discount.** Preregistration ends on July 16. Any forms received after July 16 will be processed at the on-site rate. **All program participants must preregister by May 31 in order to have their names listed in the final program.**

**REFUND POLICY:** Registration fees will be refunded to persons who notify us prior to July 16. Once the final program is printed and participant packets have been prepared, the cost of processing the participant has occurred. Unfortunately, under no circumstances will SSSP issue refunds for no-shows.

**ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES:** Registrants with disabilities may request accessibility services such as sign language interpreters, sighted guides, accessible accommodations, etc., to facilitate their full participation in the Annual Meeting. If you need accessibility services, please check the box below. The Administrative Officer will contact you about service arrangements.

☐ Accessible Services Request: \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATE A BANQUET TICKET PROGRAM:** Some members purchase extra banquet tickets for graduate students, foreign scholars and scholar-activists. Please check the box below if you are interested in applying for a complimentary ticket. Donated tickets will be distributed on a first come/first served basis. SSSP will notify all recipients no later than July 16.

☐ I would like to be considered for a complimentary banquet ticket.

Please indicate your classification. ☐ Graduate Student ☐ Foreign Scholar ☐ Scholar-Activist

**MEETING MENTOR PROGRAM:** Would you like to participate in the meeting mentor program? If so, please submit your mentoring request no later than June 1. The Lee Student Support Fund Committee will pair you with a mentor and provide you with his/her contact information no later than June 29.

☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, list your areas of interest. \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to serve as a mentor for a graduate student or new faculty member?

☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, list your areas of interest. \_\_\_\_\_

**ROOMMATE MATCHING SERVICE:** Would you like to participate in the roommate matching service? If so, the Executive Office will send you a list of those who are interested in sharing a room no later than June 29. Please indicate your smoking preference.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Smoking ☐ Non-smoking

**RETURN FORM WITH PAYMENT IN US DOLLARS TO:**

SSSP, University of Tennessee, 901 McClung Tower  
Knoxville, TN 37996-0490  
or fax to 865-689-1534 (**credit card payments only**)  
or register online at <http://www.sssp1.org> (**credit card payments only**)

**GENERAL INQUIRIES SHOULD BE SENT TO:**

Michele Smith Koontz, Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager  
W: 865-689-1531; F: 865-689-1534; Email: [mkoontz3@utk.edu](mailto:mkoontz3@utk.edu)

+Requests for exemption from meeting registration and membership dues must be approved by one of the following people: JoAnn Miller, Program Chair, [jlmiller@purdue.edu](mailto:jlmiller@purdue.edu) or Valerie Jenness, President, [jenness@uci.edu](mailto:jenness@uci.edu). When sending an email, please place SSSP in the subject line.



**MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION TODAY!**

**CALL TOLL-FREE: 1-888-833-3969**

**NOTE:**

Dear SSSP members,

As of May 24, we have met our room block at the Roosevelt Hotel . Unfortunately there are no more sleeping rooms available at the \$185 conference rate. The Roosevelt Hotel is offering SSSP members a reduced rate of \$259 single/double occupancy ([their rack rates range from \\$299 - \\$329 over this period](#)). We apologize for the inconvenience.

Thank you,

The Executive Office

**GROUP:** THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS

**DATE:** AUGUST 7-15, 2007

**RATE:** \$185.00 per night, Superior Accommodations (Single/Double occupancy)  
\$205.00/225.00 per night, (Triple/Quadruple occupancy)  
\$165.00 per night, limited Standard Single rooms (one twin bed, one person)  
(all rates subject to a 13.375% NYC/NYS tax and a \$3.50 per room, per night occupancy tax, subject to change).

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**Hotel:**

The Roosevelt Hotel offers the classic styling of the past, seamlessly blended with the modern conveniences of today. The Roosevelt Hotel is situated right where the business district meets the theatre and fifth Avenue Shopping districts, giving attendees the freedom to walk to Rockefeller Center, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and scores of other famous New York City attractions.

**Hotel Guestrooms:**

We are excited to offer 1,015 comfortable guest rooms, including 30 suites, equipped with cable channels, high speed Internet service (add'l charge), in-room movies, in-room safe, climate control, block out curtains, high speed Internet service, in-room hairdryers, irons and boards and more.

**How to Make a Reservation:**

Please call 1-888-833-3969 or 212-661-9600 (ask for the reservation department) to make your reservation. Be sure to request **The Society for the Social Problems'** room rate. Kindly note, guestrooms reservation must be guaranteed with a credit card. Check-in is 3:00pm and Check-out is noon. Cancellation policy is 24 hours prior to arrival.

**Cut-off Date:**

Reservations must be confirmed by Tuesday, July 17, 2007 to guarantee our negotiated group rate. Reservations received after or if the room block is filled prior to that date, are subject to availability.

**Madison Avenue at 45<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10017**

**Telephone: (212)-661-9600 \* Fax (212)-885-6162**

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