

THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST

Newsletter of the Association for Humanist Sociology

Fall, 2013

Letter from the Editor *Saher Selod, Simmons College*

AHS Members,

Welcome to the Fall 2013 issue of *The Humanist Sociologist*! In this issue you will find the final program for the upcoming conference (October 9-13) in Arlington, VA entitled **Racism, Capitalism, Crisis and Resistance**. You will also find the latest news from your AHS members, an article by Rebecca Hensley on the power of blogging and a call for papers for the 2014 Annual AHS conference in Cleveland, Ohio.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you for the Winter 2014 newsletter. Please consider submitting any articles, news, updates and pictures for the next issue. Good times are sure to be had at the conference, so please consider taking a few pictures and sending them to me at saher.selod@simmons.edu. You can see below what fun we had in the hospitality suite in Nashville with our current president entertaining us with his musical talents. We hope to continue this tradition next week!

Finally please remember in order for AHS to stay a strong and healthy organization, it is IMPERATIVE everyone renew and pay their membership fees as well as their registration fee.

I look forward to seeing you all at the conference!



NEWS from AHS MEMBERS

Congratulations to **Pamela Quiroz** and **Nilda Flores Gonzalvez** who have been named co-editors of *Social Problems* for the 2014-2017 term. Given the intersecting interests of the AHS and *Social Problems* they encourage members of AHS to submit articles.

Pamela Quiroz's recent publication, "School as the solution to the 'problem' of urban place: Student migration, perceptions of safety, and children's concept of community" is currently online in the *Childhood Journal* and due in print in 2014. This is a case study of how student migration impacts low income fourth grade African American and Latino children who leave their neighborhoods to attend a state-of-the-art facility in a downtown urban area. Children at the World Citizens School convey how safety plays a key role in their restrictions by parents and in their daily lives in a near total institutional environment. The use of multiple methods that include community asset maps and self-directed photography show how the social relations of community are modified by student migration and how one community is displaced by another.

Anthony Ladd, Loyola University New Orleans, has a recent publication titled: "Stakeholder Perceptions of Socioeconomic Impacts From Unconventional Natural Gas Development and Hydraulic Fracturing in the Haynesville Shale" in the Fall 2013 issue of *Journal of Rural Social Sciences*.

Jason Smith was invited to serve as a member on the National Programs Assessment Committee for the National Association of El Sistema Inspired Programs. El Sistema programs are after-school music programs aimed at engaging youth in new and innovative ways.

Werner Lange has several publications (listed below) and on September 9th, 2013 organized a candlelight peace vigil against any US war in Syria in downtown Youngstown, Ohio.

"A Voice in the Wilderness: W.E.B. DuBois on Peace," 488 pages, Lambert Academic Publishing, Saarbrücken, Germany, August 2013.

"Amish Under Siege in America," 61 pages, Lambert Academic Publishing Saarbrücken, Germany, June 20-13.

"On the Passing of W.E.B. DuBois, and the Torch, 50 years ago," Op-Ed, The Plain Dealer, Cleveland, Ohio August 25, 2013.

Levon Chorbajian (UMass Lowell) was interviewed on the history and current status of the Armenian/Azeri conflict over the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh and the recent Gezi Park protests in Istanbul. The interview was published in *Agos*, the newspaper founded by Hrant Dink, the martyred Turkish-Armenian journalist and human rights activist.

To Blog or Not to Blog – Is THAT the Question?

Rebecca Hensley

Southeastern Louisiana University

I'm a blogger. Make no bones about that. In fact, I started blogging because my students in race classes wanted more. I was "just" an adjunct at the time and they had me standing next to my car for hours after class in the parking lot in the middle of the night. So I agreed to meet them regularly outside of class in a conference room at the library.

Pretty soon (smart cookie that I am), it occurred to me that this was adding a whole 3-hour class period to my week (without pay or any kind of consideration) and they were making noises like one was not enough. So I decided to take a different tack. I could write a blog. I could say roughly whatever I wanted, since I wasn't going to use my real name (duh!). I could write it anytime, dressed in my pajamas, if I liked. They could read it whenever they pleased. And if they had a comment or question, I could

address it when I got around to it. In fact, if it was a question I had answered already elsewhere, I could simply refer them to the appropriate post. Win, win, and more win.

That was more than eight years and a couple of hundred thousand hits ago. My blog on race is now read in over two hundred countries and whatever academe thinks or does not think of the practice, I can't imagine I would have reached anything like that number with a book.

It does take time. I have been known to spend as much as six or eight hours on one post (after all, I'm writing for publication). On the other hand, I have on occasion let my readers cool their heels for more than a month while I was busy or something. Still, I once got a call from Cengage requesting to use one of my posts in a book on social problems related to welfare and they *paid* me to do it...!

So what the heck? I'm going to use up all the hours in my days one way or the other, right? I can't make tenure without a Ph.D. at my university anyway. And my daughter – who makes it a point to be openly unimpressed by me as often as possible – once confided somewhat ruefully: "I have to tell you, Mom. My friends decided the other day that it's really cool you blog."

It doesn't get better than that.

To take a look at some of the better sociology blogs on the internet right now, see:

A Very Public Sociologist

<http://averypublicsociologist.blogspot.com>

Everyday Sociology

<http://nortonbooks.typepad.com/everydaysociology>

Sociological Images

<http://thesocietypages.org/socimages>

Sociology in Focus

<http://www.sociologyinfocus.com>

The Global Sociology Blog

<http://globalsociology.com>

The SocJournal

<http://www.sociology.org>

This Sociological Life

<http://simplysociology.wordpress.com>

Why Am I Not Surprised?

<http://www.whyaaminotsurprised.blogspot.com>

Red Sociology

<http://redsociology.com>



Call for Papers, Presentations and Sessions

THE ASSOCIATION FOR HUMANIST SOCIOLOGY 2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Injustice, Exploitation, Racism, and the Activist Foundations of Sociology

October 8-12, 2014 in Cleveland, Ohio

Social “development” often only deepens structural processes that perpetuate injustice, exploitation, and racism. American slavery provided cause for a racist ideology that may have clouded people’s vision, but it could not conceal the violence and exploitation at its core. In the early days of industrial production, the direct social relations between workers and owners enabled the worker to see the contribution of their own poverty to both the property and the pockets of the owner. Today, racial inequality continues with great effect in a “color-blind” system “without racists.” Today, poverty often appears to be more about neglect, than active exploitation. Few can trace their dispossession to the accumulations of others, while those who accumulate insulate themselves from those who bear the cost of their good fortune.

The activist foundation of sociology resides in the good work of founders – Addams, DuBois, Marx, Fanon, de Beauvoir, Lee, and so many others – who challenged illusions to address structural injustices. It resides in the thousands of students who are drawn into sociology classrooms because they have come to see that the social world is not as they had been led to believe. And it resides in intellectual work that identifies and documents social conditions hidden beneath the veneer of our public discourse.

If a more just world lies in our future (and perhaps even if it does not), then future generations will look back and shake their heads over our barbarism. Between us and that future, much work will be needed to assess, challenge and dismantle the systems, processes, and ideologies that perpetuate our current inhumanity. Sociologists may not lead such a transformation, but some fraction of them (AHS members at least) will be there to inquire, to study, to document, to inform, to agitate, and to teach of the promises and perils in change and the inadequacies of current conditions.

Papers and session topics that build from this foundation are encouraged, but we welcome all submissions of interest to sociologists and humanists.

Abstracts for papers, presentations or sessions as well as any questions should be submitted by July 15 to the Program Chair, Mary Erdmans mpe10@case.edu, or the 2014 AHS President, Stephen Adair adairs@ccsu.edu



THE ASSOCIATION FOR HUMANIST SOCIOLOGY

October 9-13, 2013

2013 ANNUAL MEETINGS ARLINGTON, VA

Special points of interest:

- AHS Band
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Finley C. Campbell
- Activist Lunch Speaker: Dr. Taye Woldesmiatie
- Performance by "R STREET COLLECTIVE"
- Special Event: Harpers Ferry
- Workshop by Randy Stoecker
- Special Session on Retirement by Hal Pepinsky
- Special Interactive Session: "Humanist Teaching to Go"
- Film & Discussion: The Invisible War
- Film & Discussion: Dirty Energy
- Film & Discussion: Survival of the Fastest

INSIDE THIS PROGRAM:

Wednesday 9th	2
Thursday 10th	2
Friday 11th	10
Saturday 12th	21
Sunday 13th	32

RACISM, CAPITALISM, CRISIS & RESISTANCE

Welcome to the Washington area and the 2013 AHS Annual Conference. This year's conference promises to be very rewarding because so many people have come forward with great proposals. I do hope that participants will consider taking part in the Harpers Ferry tour, which is a unique experience, and the Activist Lunch on Friday, which will offer an important presentation by Dr. Taye Woldesmiatie, president (in-exile) of the Ethiopian Teachers Union and an international leader for labor rights and against ethnic discrimination. The lunch also offers the opportunity to network informally with others. And, of course, you get lunch! The Friday night Keynote Speaker, Dr. Finley C. Campbell, is a long time veteran teacher and organizer against racism whose insights have proven valuable in the struggle for social justice. Another special event, for Saturday evening, is a performance by D.C. area youth "The R Street Collective", whose powerful messages will provoke in profoundly important ways.

Three points (which you will likely hear me repeat often) –

1) The theme of this year's conference is "Racism-Capitalism-Crisis-Resistance." It is focused on the understanding that racist (broadly defined) exploitation, oppression and racist ideas and divisions are not only obviously destructive to those racial-ethnic minorities but that this is the cutting edge of class oppression and is used as a sledge hammer to divide and weaken the entire struggle for social justice. Therefore, as

we resist the various abuses and oppression that we all experience –from sexism, to destruction of the environment, to economic hardship, to a culture of dehumanization, to political repression—we should understand that the front edge, not the only part, but the front edge of the struggle against oppression must be the struggle against "race-ethnic" exploitation/oppression. To me, that also means that AHS members should work in a determined, consistent way to increase the "race-ethnic" and global diversity of our membership and leadership.

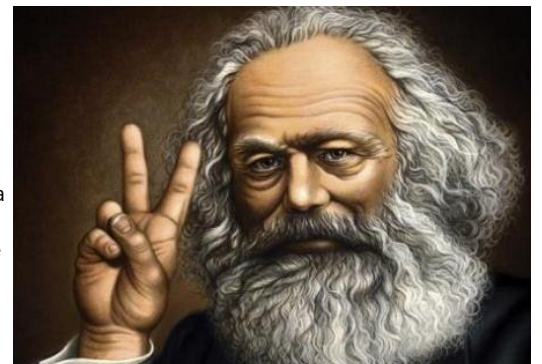
2) This year's theme emphasizes the connection between capitalist exploitation and racist exploitation/oppression. It raises important questions as to whether (on Earth) capitalism could exist without racism and racism could exist without capitalism. If the answers seem to point towards "NO", then what are the implications for how we organize?

3) Many organizations have as their purpose accomplishing certain specific goals. Other groups have the additional goal of being more like a movement, where the goals are many and a major goal is to grow in order to broaden the struggle. AHS combines these two, and most AHS folks appreciate that AHS is not merely a place to "learn things" but is a "safe" place, a place for learning for action, a place to meet and build relationships with like-minded peo-



ple.

But it would be great if AHS can transition to being that on a larger scale – where AHS members in different regions maintain contact, events, mini-conferences, workshops on teaching, study/reading groups to build cohesion so that AHS can sustain and grow. Many AHS members appreciate the sense of community we find at AHS conferences, but there is no reason why AHS cannot grow and still maintain, even enhance the community while learning more from each other and increasing our impact on helping to build a more humanistic world – a world where people are freed from exploitation and oppression and are free to develop our productive, creative qualities. So consider doing more than just attending an AHS event – consider joining AHS, participating on committees, writing for the publications, encouraging others to attend events and join, and helping to build AHS activities in local areas between conferences. Next year is Cleveland – start planning now!





**“Either
America will
destroy
ignorance or
ignorance will
destroy the
United States”
W.E.B. DuBois**

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 9th, 2013

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Registration Table, Room: Lincoln

7:00pm – 9:00pm

AHS Opening Board Meeting, Room: Madison



THURSDAY OCTOBER 10th, 2013

8:30am—5:30pm

Registration Table, Room: Lincoln

Book Exhibit, Room: Lincoln

Rest & Recovery, Room: Jackson (Need to get away from the frenzy... need a place to sit... need to catch up on Facebook... here’s the place to do it!)

Group Dinners— Meet new folks, revisit old folks—Sign up sheets are located at the registration table for three dinners.

REGULAR SESSIONS

8:30am – 1:15pm

[1] SPECIAL EVENT:

Harper’s Ferry (see below for write up)

10:00am—12:00pm

ROOM: Monroe

[2] SPECIAL WORKSHOP SESSION: “A Project-

Based Approach to Higher Ed Community Engagement”

Organizer: Corey Dolgon, Stonehill College

Speaker: Randy Stoecker

This workshop is designed to help participants understand how to plan and carry out higher education community engagement strategies (like service learning and community-based research) in ways that can maximize community impact. In the workshop, participants will learn:

1. New principles for higher education community engagement, such as a commitment to the project rather than the partnership, and a focus on outcomes rather than hours.
2. How to hold a "first contact" conversation with a community group representative.
3. How to choose a project that is precise, organizable, and winnable.
4. How to track and evaluate projects to maximize the chances for success.

HARPERS FERRY

The National Park Service has maintained the town of Harpers Ferry as a living museum to memorialize the struggle of Abolitionists in general, and John Brown's Raid in particular. It is a most fitting part of this year's conference and is a place all anti-racists should visit at least once. There are stores, exhibits, and a park which includes the famous armory seized by John Brown and his band. The trip is about one hour each way, giving a few hours to wander around the town. You can find out more about Harpers



10:00am—11:20am

ROOM: Jefferson

[3] "Humanist Sociology was Public Sociology before Public Sociology"

Organizer & Presider: Joe Scimecca, George Mason University

Panel Abstract: When Alfred McClung Lee, Betty Lee and Charles Flynn founded the AHS in 1977 they saw it as an organization of sociologists who would be both scholars and activists whose research would be to use Al Lee's title SOCIOLOGY FOR PEOPLE. We, at George Mason University in starting the first Ph.D in the United States in Public Sociology are carrying on the tradition of the AHS.

Panelists: **Marisa Allison, George Mason University, "Academic Labor Conditions: Research and Advocacy within Higher Education."**

How to bridge the scholar/activist divide has been a highly debated area within the sociological discipline. When studying academic labor conditions, that bridge becomes even more shaky and difficult to navigate because you exist in the institution that your research, activism, and advocacy work is directed. This presentation examines this link looking at a doctoral student's research, activism, and advocacy work in the growing worker's rights movement of part time and contingent faculty within her own university and across the nation.

Robert Fenton, George Mason University, "Sociological Research and the Activist Orientation: Commentary on 'Public Sociology' in the Academy."

Sociology, while completely ensnared in the academic division of labor, has, for me, always opened doors to and inspired action in what others call the public or civic sphere. My work on food is a case in point. Though particularly concerned with Japanese food and globalization, it urges readers to think about where their food comes from, who produces and prepares it, what sort of historical and cultural dimensions may be embodied in the particular dish, and even the environmental impacts of consumption. Furthermore, it requires us to think about food socially—from production to consumption—in the webs of dependency, domination, power, and pleasure in which food exists.

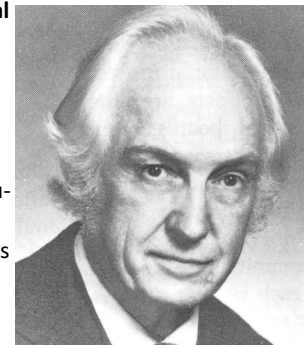
Jason Smith, George Mason University, "Media Policy, Diversity, and FCC Rulemaking: A Public Sociology Approach"

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), as an independent rule-making body of the U.S. government, seeks to promote both diversity and localism within the media environment. One topic of contention in this endeavor is the ownership rules as set forth by the FCC with continual talks of lessening restrictions on the amount of outlets an entity can own in one town. Observing current debates around this topic from the perspective of a public sociologist I seek to assess such arguments from McClung Lee's stance on whose interests are being served, as well as Mill's assertion of public issues to highlight why the media ownership debates need to be thought of in more localized and deliberative ways to address disparities in power and representation.

Joshua Tuttle, George Mason University, "Injecting the 'Public' into the Sociological Perspective: Graduate Work with Local Communities and Economies."

Through the shared vision of Dr. Hossfeld and several other committed professionals, the Feast Downeast program was able to empower socially disadvantaged, low-income farmers while also strengthening communities and economies in rural North Carolina. Food security in the region has increased and rural poverty has been illuminated and combatted as a result. It is my belief that experiences such as these must become a central component of sociological training, particularly at the graduate level. I think there is a critical disconnect between the discipline and the matter it takes as its primary interest, which is actually existing social life. I see public sociology as a way to mend that disconnect, beginning with the adoption of graduate training modules that incorporate experience with real public problem and social inequalities.

"Communication as a social device has characteristics other than the mere presentation of ideas by one man to others. For his ideas to be acceptable, for the listener or reader to be convinced, something must indicate his authority"
Alfred
McClung Lee



THURSDAY OCTOBER 10th, 2013

11:20pm — 1:30pm

Lunch "On Your Own!!!"

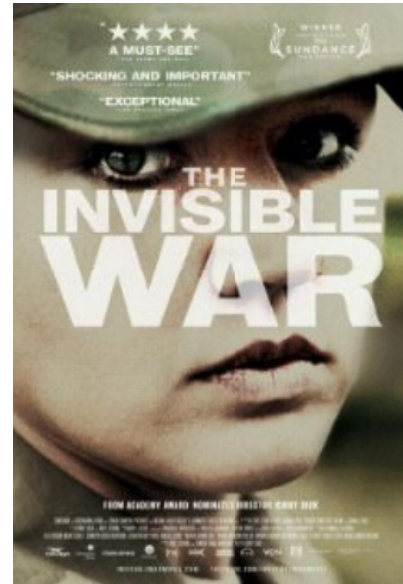
1:30pm—3:30pm

ROOM: Monroe

[4] SPECIAL FILM SESSION: "The Invisible War – on the pervasiveness of rape and assault against women in the military, and the military's efforts to keep this silent"

Organizer: Chris Dale, New England College

Discussant: Chris Dale, New England College



"Capital, created by the labour of the worker, crushes the worker, ruining small proprietors and creating an army of the unemployed"
Lenin

1:30pm—2:50pm

ROOM: Jefferson

[5] Session Title: Cities And Nationalism

Organizer & Presider: Brian Sherman, Albany State University (GA)-Retired

Panelists: **Brian Sherman, Albany State University (GA)-Retired, "Knowing Cities/Knowing a City: A Demonstration: Istanbul"**

I propose demonstrating my method for "knowing" a city. The method culminates in a sociological performance art piece which I do typically in a sixty-five inch square space in my loft. I do this for every city I've come to "know" since I codified this version of the method in 2007. [nineteen cities to date]. The method involves creating a "circuit" in the city which takes several hours to walk through [about seven hours in Istanbul] and then condensing it into a sociological performance art piece of a half hour [or less if there is less time]. I was in Istanbul for twelve days, last spring [2013] and created such a circuit which I propose demonstrating at this year's AHS meeting.

Christopher Radjenovich, Purdue University at Calumet, "The Modern Construction of Jewish and Arab Nationalism: The Role of Economy and the Printing Press"

This presentation explores the material conditions which were to occur around the world from 1789 to 1918 that played a major role in influencing the construction of Jewish and Arab nationalism. It sees these political, economic, and technological changes as crucial in creating and shaping the nationalisms, rather than seeing the nationalisms as the direct consequence of supposed "ancient hostilities." The conclusions drawn from this show that nationalism always had a hint of chauvinistic tendencies and that the only solutions to the present day conflicts between Israel-Palestine, and other conflicts among various nationalities in general, necessitates the discarding of the ideas that today's nations are "natural." For the sake of the world, conflicts of nationality can only be resolved by striving for an international goal based on concrete material reality.



1:30pm—2:50pm

ROOM: Washington

[6] Humanist Approaches to Gender and Sexuality

Organizer & Presider: Greta Pennell, University of Indianapolis

Panelists: **J. Young, Temple University, “Just one of the Gays? Exploring What Gay Transmen’s Experiences Tell Us about Gay Subjectivity”**

My work focuses on the experiences of gay and queer transmen (female-born people who transition to male and are attracted to other men/male-identified people) in gay male spaces. I am particularly interested in what the experiences of gay/queer transmen can tell us about what it means to be gay more generally. Building off of the work of scholars such as David Halperin and David Valentine, my work seeks to explore an understudied area of queer and transgender studies which focuses not on transmen’s physical transition, but their social transition into the gay male community as men and how gay transmen’s presence in the gay community challenges, supports, and augments current understandings of “how to be gay.”

Colin Hammar, Temple University, “Music, Symphony Orchestras, and Patterns of Gender Inequality”

In this paper I attempt to explore the role of gender inequality within American orchestras today. Research on the gendered nature of orchestras has been explored by scholars in numerous fields including musicology and cultural anthropology. I attempt to bring this existing literature into focus with the sociological literature on stratification and inequality. I seek to ground the historical processes of gender discrimination in orchestras within a sociological paradigm of structural inequities. I further begin to examine how the intersections of gender, race, and sexuality combine to affect the structures of inequality within American orchestras.

Kevin J. Delaney, Temple University, “From Banking to Credit Counseling: A Liberatory Journey within Structural Constraints”

As part of my research for a book on how working in particular occupations shapes a person’s view of money and finance, I discovered that many debt and credit counselors are women who once worked in retail and commercial banking. In this field, they gain significant satisfaction from helping many individuals gain financial literacy and sort through thorny financial problems. However, the individualistic approach of credit counseling and the tools they are able to employ in their work (e.g., budget diaries) provide little opportunity to attack the structural features of poverty, particularly as they affect women. Paradoxically, women who have left banking for credit counseling become more compassionate and more deeply understanding of individuals in debt trouble, yet they do not have all of the tools necessary to help with the structural problems that cause poverty (e.g., lack of medical insurance, part-time and contingent work, the feminization of poverty).

2:50pm — 3:00pm

BREAK!

AHS 2014 OFFICERS

President-Elect: Stephen Adair

Program Chair: Mary Erdmans

Secretary: Rebecca Hensley

Treasure: Chuck Koeber

Vice-President of Publications: Corey Dolgon

Vice-President of Membership: Johnny Williams

“Sometimes people hold a core belief that is very strong. When they are presented with evidence that works against that belief, the new evidence cannot be accepted. It would create a feeling that is extremely uncomfortable, called cognitive dissonance. And because it is so important to protect the core belief, they will rationalize, ignore and even deny anything that doesn’t fit in with the core belief.”
Franz Fanon



"Racial antagonism is part and parcel of this class struggle, because it developed within the capitalist system as one of its fundamental traits"

Oliver Cromwell Cox



THURSDAY OCTOBER 10th, 2013

3:00pm – 4:20pm

ROOM: Jefferson

[7] "Resisting Whiteness Through Research."

Organizer & Presider: Callie Watkins Liu, Brandeis University



Panel Abstract: "Whiteness as a site of privilege and power is named and identified. Whiteness as an embedded set of social practices that render white people complicit in larger social practices of white racism is nominated. It is about turning our bodies (and our attention) in the direction of white discourse and white social performances that attempt to pass themselves off as racially neutral, and it is about finding the courage to say 'Look, a White!'" The three studies profiled in this session, summarized below, all challenge the fact that whiteness is an invisible and uncontested "norm."

Presenters: **Callie Watkins Liu, Brandeis University & Phomdaen Souvanna, Brandeis University "Resistance through Framing: Interrogating Positions of Power in Doctoral Education"**

This project uses qualitative analyses to understand how primarily white faculty members understand their roles in doctoral programs and the impacts on students of color. Studies have revealed the negative effects that experiences of racism have on the psychological and physiological well being of students of color, as well as their academic trajectory. Racism within doctoral education may manifest itself in subtle and covert ways through microaggressions, which are "brief and commonplace daily verbal, behavioral and environmental indignities, whether intentional or unintentional, that communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative racial slights and insults".

Megan Madison, Brandeis University, "Worrying the Hyphens: Conducting Diversity Research in a Racially Ambiguous Body"

Informing the work of her school's diversity initiative, the author conducted informal interviews with predominantly white faculty about their work and their conceptions of diversity. Focusing on the research process rather than the specific findings from this project, this autoethnography explores some of the challenges and opportunities related to naming and resisting white racism within the academe from the standpoint of a PhD student and biracial woman of color. In so doing, it adds to the small body of literature that engages the topic of navigating racial difference in qualitative research from the vantage of 'minority' researchers.

Jessica Santos, Brandeis University, "Challenging Norms of Immigrant Integration through Participatory Action Research"

In New Hampshire, concepts of immigrant integration are built around whiteness as an invisible norm, describing a process of assimilation to the dominant culture. An American PhD Student and four Bhutanese co-researchers engaged in participatory action research to generate a deeper understanding of the experiences that newcomers face in coming to and settling in New Hampshire. Findings from 18 qualitative interviews with Bhutanese young adults reveal nuanced and in-depth perspectives on white American culture and how they plan to critically integrate

Eleanor "Tussy" Marx

"By the time your life is finished, you will have learned just enough to begin it well"

THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST IS AHS'S NEWSLETTER, WHICH DISSEMINATES INFORMATION ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION AND ITS ACTIVITIES. THE EDITOR OF *THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST* IS SAHER SELOD, SIMMONS COLLEGE. PLEASE DIRECT ALL SUBMISSIONS AND INQUIRIES TO: SAHER.SELOD@SIMMONS.EDU

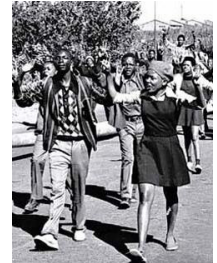
3:00pm—4:20pm

ROOM: Washington

[8] Race, Resistance and Identity

Organizer & Presider: Saher Selod, Simmons College

Presenters: **Alfred DeFreece, Roosevelt University, "The End of Racial Resistance: Constructions of Education, Class, and Black Identity after Obama"**



Many commentators have considered the implications of class cleavages for a unified Black progressive politics in the post-Obama era, suggesting both a growing distance between Black haves and have-nots and the persistence of a more or less ideologically cohesive Black political culture. This article develops a constructionist perspective in considering the connections in how a sample of urban-based Black youth inhabiting low-income households makes sense of educational opportunity and envisions racial justice. Though able to penetrate the dominant achievement ideology, these youth contextualize their current educational trajectories in ways that undermine creative constructions of resistance and transformation through the de-politicization of Black racial identity.

Saher Selod, Simmons College, "Race, Ethnicity and Religion: Locating and Labeling Discrimination and Prejudice by Muslims in America"

For this presentation I examine how Muslims classify the discrimination they experience. I analyze survey data I collected at the Islamic Society of North America's annual conference in Washington, D.C. in September of 2012. I modified the National American Survey Life (2003), which asks questions about perceived levels of discrimination. Interviews reveal that Muslim men and women are questioned about their status as an American when their religious identity becomes known. I will use the testimonies from the qualitative interviews and compare them to the survey data in order to demonstrate how a Muslim identity racializes individuals in the United States. Data from this research reveals the need for race scholarship to move beyond a black and white paradigm and expand to provide a space to talk about other groups such as Muslims.

Leighton Kenji Vila, Virginia Tech, "Microaggressions & Asian American Memes: the case of Virtual Invalidation"

This paper explores the racial experiences of Korean and Filipino American college students at a large mid-Atlantic public university, specifically the way in which their race and ethnicity affects their lived experiences as measured through semi-structured interviews. Respondents indicate that Internet Memes, virtual photos with humorous, and sometimes racist, subtitles are a new form of Microaggression that occurs on the macro level. Implications for the understanding of subtle racism, 21st century macro level microaggressions, and future research will be discussed.

"Capitalism is a stupid system, a backward system" Stokely Carmichael

4:20pm — 4:30pm

BREAK!

"To operate within the matrix of power is not the same as to replicate uncritically relations of domination."

Judith Butler



4:30pm – 5:50pm

ROOM: Monroe

[9] Social Problems through U.S. Case Studies

Organizer & Presider: Kasey Henricks, Loyola University-Chicago

Presenter(s): **Marc R. Settembrino, Southeastern Louisiana University, “When There’s No Home to Prepare: Understanding Natural Hazards Vulnerability Among the Homeless in Central Florida”**

Disaster research has traditionally examined how housed individuals and families prepare for, experience, and recover from the effects of natural hazards. While this approach is pragmatic, it has resulted in a body of literature that constructs housed people as the hegemonic disaster victims. The present study seeks to fill this gap through examining the homeless men’s perceptions of vulnerability and their experiences managing their perceived risk. I find that although the homeless experience increased risk to natural hazards, some homeless are able to exercise limited degrees of agency allowing them to mitigate these risks.

Rumu DasGupta, Georgian Court University, “Solving Chronic Homelessness is about More Than Finding a ‘Home’”

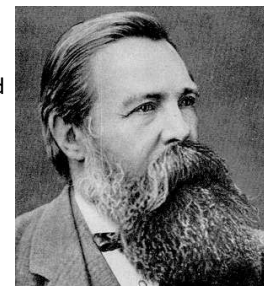
This paper explores the many challenges that surfaces when dealing with men and women who are chronically homeless. The material for this paper comes from the author’s interactions with 100 or so individuals who have ‘occupied’ a clearing in the Pine Barrens of Lakewood, NJ and have called it ‘home,’ to the utter consternation of the township and county government. When the township tried to ‘evict’ them the homeless fought back in the County Court. The judge mandated that the township government find an ‘alternative’ before putting the homeless out into the streets. Yet, finding the ‘alternative’ has been a challenge and the subject of this paper.

Tamera Lee Stover, University of California at Berkeley, Transnational Racio-Capitalism in Pakistani Communities

This paper asks the question, how do elite Pakistanis in Silicon Valley and Toronto export racialized capitalist forms to their home country? The question is addressed on the basis of three themes: (1) racism in the Pakistani community, (2) capitalist connections, (3) positionality of being a racially stigmatized part of the technological / (industrial / manufacturing / military) elite. This paper details and explicates these themes using empirical data collected for my dissertation, including 100 in-depth interviews, 9 months of ethnographic fieldwork in Toronto, 2 years of field work in Silicon Valley, and collection and analysis of the contemporary virtual and material archive pertaining to this population. Ultimately, I try to untangle the relationships between individuals’ identities as immigrants in neoliberal epicenters with their participation in an ongoing colonialism via racism and capitalism veiled as a technologically liberatory form of development. Given Pakistan’s “failed state” status, along with the social, political and economic turmoil within the country, how elites facilitate or repress resistance towards oppression is a vital question for our times.

**“Private beneficence is totally inadequate to deal with the vast numbers of the city’s disinherited.”
Jane Adams**

“All history has been a history of class struggles between dominated classes at various stages of social development.” Friedrich Engels



ROOM: Jefferson

[10] Prison (and U.S. Legal) Industrial Complex

Organizer & Presider: Bhoomi K. Thakore, Northwestern University

Presenter(s): **Scott Duncan, Bloomsburg University & Leo Barrile, Bloomsburg University, "Facing Down Mass Incarceration: Alternatives that Work"**

We explore the reasons for the exponential growth in prisons and evaluate the best decarceration strategies. There are promising trends occurring politically regarding retributive sentencing given recent drug decriminalization in several states, and the wider use of alternatives to incarceration such as drug and domestic violence courts. We evaluate some of the most propitious alternative programs, such as substance abuse, mental health treatment, employment, and life skills.

Akili Shakur, Purdue University- Calumet, "Poisoning the Political Process: How the Private Prison Industry Promotes Mass Incarceration to Protect Its Profits"

The rapid increase in incarceration over the past thirty years has been well documented, and the growing role of private prisons, as an aspect of privatization in general, has also been well documented. What will be examined in this paper is the way that the private prison industry has worked with politicians, lobbying and providing campaign funding, for policies that will ensure a continuous flow of prisoners into their institutions

Phillip Arnold Carey Jr, Virginia Tech, "Race and Resistance: Legal and Social Responses to the Zimmerman Trial"

The verdict rendered in the recent Trayvon Martin murder trial intensified the national debate surrounding race, class and social justice. Primarily, this essay argues that the verdict relies on embedded socio-cultural understandings of race, particularly norms concerning the "reasonableness" of fear. Second, the article will present evidence which suggests that making race salient in and outside the courtroom can mitigate implicit racial bias and stereotyping. Finally, using specific examples, this article calls for an intellectual project spearheaded by activists and academics to challenge implicit racial assumptions and resist capitalist lobbying efforts to write and re-write the criminal code.



ROOM: Washington

[11] Society and Sports

Organizer & Presider: Greta Pennell, University of Indianapolis

Presenter(s): **Joti Sekhon, Winston-Salem State University, "Constructing National Identity through Sport: Cricket and Baseball"**

The paper will focus on the historical and contemporary role of the sports of cricket and baseball as part of national identity formation in India, the West Indies and the United States. As the British brought the sport to the colonies in the 18th and 19th centuries, locals in India and the West Indies engaged with the British to indigenize cricket as part of anti-colonial struggles. Cricket was the most popular (and elite) sport in the New England colonies till the 1840s. The discussion will conclude with some thoughts on cricket and baseball within the context of globalization and capitalism.

Rick Eckstein, Villanova University, "Washington DC's Relentless and Unrequited Love Affair with Publicly Financed Stadiums."

Decision makers in Washington DC, as in most U.S. cities, continue to advocate for publicly financed professional sports stadiums thinking that they will be a catalyst for economic development and a source of community solidarity. Despite local and aggregate evidence to the contrary, most notably the 98% publicly subsidized Washington Nationals baseball stadium (opened in 2008), there is currently a strong push to build a new stadium for the DC United team of Major League Soccer. Despite strong public opposition to this proposal, as well as to the earlier baseball stadium deal, Washington's strong local growth coalition easily moved this issue to the current policy agenda (and was successful in building the baseball stadium).

"THE 2008 ELECTIONS AND THE FUTURE OF ANTI-RACISM IN 21ST CENTURY AMERIKA OR HOW WE GOT DRUNK WITH OBAMA'S HOPE LIQUOR AND FAILED TO SEE REALITY"
Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, 2008 AHS Keynote Address

6:00pm—8:00pm RECEPTION AND BUSINESS MEETING (All members welcome!!!)

9:30pm Hospitality Room—Join fellow AHS members for conversation, music, drinks and snacks. Catch up with old friends, meet new friends...or mill around just for fun!

“The answer to the problem between the white race and the colored, between males and females, lies in healing the split that originates in the very foundation of our lives, our culture, our languages, our thoughts. A massive uprooting of dualistic thinking in the individual and collective consciousness is the beginning of a long struggle, but one that could, in our best hopes, bring us to the end of rape, of violence, of war”

Gloria E. Anzaldúa



FRIDAY OCTOBER 11th, 2013

7:45am—9:00am

Editorial Board Meeting Breakfast

First Timers Breakfast (meet and greet)

Breakfast Meetings (reserved time for committees to meet)

8:30am—5:00pm

Registration Table, Room: Lincoln

Book Exhibit, Room: Lincoln

Rest & Recovery Room, Room: Jackson

REGULAR SESSIONS

9:00am—10:20am

ROOM: Monroe

[12] SPECIAL INFORMAL SESSION: “Sociologist, Activist & Retired: Continuing the Call or Calling the End?”

Organizer & Presider: Hal Pepinsky, Indiana University, retired

Discussion Abstract: I expect that all of us those among us in ahs who are retired, facing retirement, choose not to retire, can't afford to retire, or want paid work and can't get it, get often at first meeting get asked what we "do." I imagine I'm not alone in feeling a need to show I'm still leading a socially worthwhile life. I propose that those of us who show up at the session share how we describe to ourselves and others what we "do" or wish we could do or didn't have to do to survive, and thrive. I have so much leisure time in retirement that I think about justifying my continuing social existence to myself all the time. For starters among those of us who come to the session, I'm particularly interested in choices each of us makes about whether we do and don't retire if and when we can afford to.

ROOM: Jefferson

[13] “Race, Class, Gender and Global Capitalism – the Struggle for Socialism in the 21st Century”

Organizer & Presider: Walda Katz-Fishman, Howard University

Panel Abstract: The murder of Trayvon Martin and the acquittal of his killer reminds us that the struggle against white supremacy and racial oppression is inextricably intertwined with the historic development and crises of global capitalism since its inception, and the uprisings breaking out in bottom-up social motion across continents, sectors, and fronts of struggle. This historic moment is pushing forward 21st century transformative movements. The leap in social development is creating the conditions for moving from spontaneity to consciousness, and for nurturing conscious leadership from all sections of society affected by the current moment, crisis, and destruction of society.

Panelists: Ralph Gomes, Howard University
 Anthony Justin Barnum, Howard University
 Anne Luna, Howard University
 Val Suarez, Howard University
 Adebayo Arowolaju, Howard University
 Jerome Scott, League of Revolutionaries for a New America



ROOM: Washington

[14] "Responses to the Animal-Human Bond: Recognition, Reluctance, and Resistance."

Organizer and Presider: Cheryl Joseph

Panelists: **Cheryl Joseph, "Lessons in Compassion from Coyotes, Condors and Coatis: Problems and Possibilities with an Animal Therapy Program."**

Using data from a wildlife sanctuary that addresses emotional needs of troubled teenagers, this paper explores the impact of using wildlife to promote compassion and empathy toward life in general. Various animal-centered programs are examined and the value of qualitative versus quantitative data is questioned.

Elizabeth Cherry, Manhattanville College, "I Was a Teenage Vegan: Motivation and Maintenance of Lifestyle Movements"

Sociologists view subcultures as a way for youths to express their cultural agency. However, academics either overestimate or depoliticize resistance and social activism in youth subcultures. Using interviews with youths who are vegan---strict vegetarians who exclude all animal products from their diet and lifestyle---I investigate veganism as a socially aware subculture. Recent research has pointed to the rise of "lifestyle movements," or social movements that focus on changing one's everyday lifestyle choices as a form of protest. Using this framework, I investigate how young people decide to engage in veganism as a form of lifestyle movement, as well as what makes them stay vegan. I also show how participation in the punk subculture further facilitates recruitment to and maintenance of veganism as a lifestyle movement. This work will contribute to studies of youth subcultures and social movements by showing how the two intersect in this new form of activism.

ROOM: Adams

[15] Special Session on the 50th Anniversary of the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy: "The JFK Assassination and the Failure of Social Institutions."

Organizer and Presider: Dennis MacDonald, Saint Anselm College

Panel Abstract: Although we will likely never know the answer to the question of "Who killed President Kennedy?" there is much that serious scholarship can reveal about what happened on November 22, 1963 and subsequently as society attempted to come to grips with this violent political crime. One of the major themes that emerges from such study is that all of our major institutions failed us in this time of profound crisis. Government failed to investigate the murder and issued a report that "misrepresented and distorted almost every relevant fact about the crime" and "virtually every institution in our society that is supposed to make sure that government works properly and honestly failed to function in face of a profound challenge." Such institutional failure has lasting implications. As Harold Weisberg wrote: "If the government can manufacture, suppress and lie when a president is cut down – and get away with it – what cannot follow? Of what is it not capable, regardless of motive...?"

Panelists: Gerald McKnight, Emeritus Professor of History at Hood College. "The Failure of Justice: The Warren Commission and the Presumption of Guilt."
 Dennis MacDonald, Professor of Sociology and Chair at Saint Anselm College. "The Failure of the Police: Criminal Investigation – Dallas Style."
 David Wrone, Emeritus Professor of History at UW-Stevens Point. "The Failure of Scholarship: Obfuscating Reality – the Work of the 'Theorists.'"
 Gerald Ginocchio, Professor of Sociology at Wofford College. "The Failure of the Media: Press Coverage of the Investigation and Controversy Surrounding the JFK Assassination -- The Case of Time Magazine."

10:20am – 10:30am

BREAK!



ROOM: Monroe

[16] “Places of Discomfort, Pedagogies of Disruption: Social identity formation through teaching and learning in institutional settings”

Organizer & Presider: Shan Mukhtar, Emory University

Panel Abstract: This panel will weave together themes of resistance and reproduction as it explores the various ways that teaching and learning affects how groups view themselves within dominant institutional and economic frameworks. All three papers examine aspects of these themes in the development of formal and informal organizations and narratives.

Panelists: **Sarah M. Franzen, Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts at Emory University, “Developing New Possibilities: Rural Development Strategies Among African American Farmers in the Southeastern USA”**

Drawing on my dissertation research, this paper explores the efforts of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund (FSC/LAF) to develop, promote, and teach farming and rural development strategies. The FSC/LAF presents a vision of rural development that creates independent economic and social structures separate from the logic and practices of the dominant capitalist agricultural system. Additionally, they work to reclaim their past and reframe the practices of agriculture as forms of knowledge and pride. This paper examines the combination of material, ideological, symbolic, and affective techniques utilized by the FSC/LAF in the process of training, teaching, and growing rural African American farmers and communities.

John A. Armstrong, Adult and Extension Education at Cornell University, “Utilizing Pedagogies of Discomfort to Confront Supremacism in Community Campus Partnerships”

In the borderland of engagement between university campuses and the communities they reside in, between the so-called gown and town, lie multiple facets of supremacism along continuums of race, class, formal academic attainment, and gender. Building off Megan Boler and George Yancy’s work in particular, this paper explores how various actors mobilize a pedagogy of discomfort to produce a “creative discontent” among privileged academics in collaborative projects. These often informal exchanges of discomfort reflect counternarratives and strategies of resistance that are essential to nurturing an ethical approach to publicly active scholarship among campus-based actors.

Shan Mukhtar, Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts at Emory University, “Destination Education: Diversity Discourse, Colorblind Racism and the Growth of International Students at a Public University”

Through ongoing research at a large public university in the southeastern United States, I explore the marketplace of international education alongside discourses of diversity, multiculturalism, and racial formation in American higher education. This paper develops a critique of multicultural pedagogies within self-described destination universities, and elaborates on the relationship between international student recruitment, globalized modes of colorblind racism, and the inequitable marketplace of international education that both suppresses and profits from “economies of difference”.

ROOM: Jefferson

[17] Experiences of Inequalities in Society

Organizer & Presider: Shawn Bingham, University of South Florida

Presenters: **Shawn Bingham, University of South Florida & Sara Green, University of South Florida, “Synthesizing Theories of Humor and Disability Through Stand-up Comedy”**

Using the work of comedians with impairments and bodily differences who use disability as part of their performance content, this paper makes a case for the theoretical complexity of humor by demonstrating how various types of humor themselves can function as *analytical tools of social life* -- as frames or lenses. In doing so, we highlight the ways that a single type of humor can be used in different ways to connect with different disability frames. Our work here is part of a larger project that examines how humor can paradoxically reinforce stereotypical narratives of disability, and how comedic mediums are now being reclaimed to *contest traditional views* of disability. In doing so, we build on arguments of humor as a form of cultural expertise (Francis’ 1994) relevant to social analysis in general, and more specifically, a sophisticated theoretical lens into the disability experience.

E. Miranda Reiter, Utah State University & Victoria Hoverman, George Mason University, “Racial Differences in the Impact of Obesity in Terms of QOL and Psychosocial Measures.”

The purpose of this paper is to test the hypothesis that overweight and obese black men and women are more satisfied with themselves physically, as compared to overweight and obese white men and women. We also posit that they likely lead fuller social lives and exhibit less negative and depressed psychological characteristics, and possibly less physical complaints, as compared to their white counterparts. Results supporting our hypotheses could possibly shed some light on the persisting and growing racial disparities in obesity and overweight in the US, for if blacks are less negatively affected by obesity and overweight than whites, then they would have less incentive to maintain healthier body weights. Findings could possibly be used to support healthier body ideals and culturally sensitive programs to help men and women of all racial groups maintain healthy body sizes.

Session Continued...

LaJenne` Alcantar, Purdue University Calumet, "Perspectives on Work and Opportunity among African-Americans in an Urban Poverty Area"

What does it mean to be a resident of Camden, New Jersey, trying to access the world of work? How do these residents view their work prospects and how is it affected by their understanding of their geographical location and their access to "good jobs?" The interplay between the realities of opportunity and lack of opportunity and the perception/understanding of class and race discrimination is explored through an analysis of the demographics and narratives of these residents.

ROOM: Washington

[18] Work Under Capitalism

Organizer & Presider: Alan Spector, Purdue University– Calumet

Presenters: **Cezara Crisan, Purdue University-Calumet, "From Solidarity to Competition: Work Experience and Changing Attitudes on Race among Eastern European Immigrants"**

How certain ethnic minorities, themselves victims of ethnic discrimination, became "white" and assimilated into U.S. society is an important process to explore and understand. Why and how they further adopted attitudes of racial-ethnic prejudice towards other minorities is an even deeper question to explore and understand, as it relates to U.S. society and as it might relate to other societies. This research explores the experiences, including the employment experiences, of immigrants from a number of Eastern European immigrants, most of whom arrived shortly after World War II, and how those experiences changed their status and their attitudes.

Jay Arena, College of Staten Island, "NGO-Identitarians, AFL-CIO-Fragmentarians, and the Movement for Jobs For All/Legalization For All: Lessons from New Orleans, New York, and New Jersey"

A central question of the Association of Humanist Sociology's 2013 "Racism - Capitalism / Crisis – Resistance" conference is how capitalist induced divisions among oppressed and exploited peoples can be overcome to forge genuine working class solidarity. This paper takes up this challenge by looking at how the nature of accumulation in the neoliberal era, combined with NGOization of community based social movements and the cultivation of "consent to sacrifice" by the US trade union leadership, has deepened class fragmentation and contributed to the US working class's political impotence in the face of the deepest capitalist crisis since the 1930s. Drawing from and critiquing strategies proposed by David Harvey, Mark Purcell, and Karl Beitel, I theorize a class-based, anti-racist movement that can unite struggles from the terrains of both "accumulation by dispossession" and "expanded reproduction of capital"—community and workplace—into a powerful anti-capitalist political force. A case study of the experiences and lessons of the emerging Jobs For All/Legalization For All movement is presented to elaborate and extend the theory.

Chad Kimmel, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, "The enemy within: Exploring the benefits and challenges of Time Banks in the US"

In the 1980s, in response to the severe budget cuts to social welfare programs in the United States, Dr. Edgar Cahn developed Time Banking. Time Banking set out to complement the American dollar—not replace it. In Time Banking, one hour of time is worth one Time Dollar. Time Banks are collections of people who trade services for Time Dollars and, in turn, strengthen community by building relationships of trust. There are approximately 128 Time Banks in the US compared with over 300 in the UK. This presentation will describe the current state of Time Banks in the US, their general benefits and the challenges that work against Time Bank sustainability. Particular attention will be given to the intersection between the social justice benefits of Time Banks and the very cultural dimensions that work against their success.

FRANK LINDENFELD OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Frank Lindenfeld, a long-time member and dear friend to AHS, passed away on June 8, 2008. He was a husband and father, scholar, visionary advocate for democracy, and tireless worker for social and economic justice. As a scholar-activist, Frank was a leading authority on worker cooperatives and the co-founder of Grassroots Economic Organizing (GEO), a decentralized collective of educators, researchers and grassroots activists working to promote an economy based on democratic participation, worker and community ownership, social and economic justice, and ecological sustainability. Frank's wisdom, kindness, dedication and gentle manner touched the lives of many people and his spirit will live on in the work that we do together to build a better world. Toward this end the AHS Frank Lindenfeld Memorial fund was established and makes possible this paper competition.



[19] Post-Colonialism

Organizer & Presider: Melissa Weiner, College of the Holy Cross

Presenters: **Janine Schipper, Northern Arizona University; Mara Pfeffer, Northern Arizona University & J. Chase Buttice, Northern Arizona University, "Case Studies in Decolonizing Our Minds"**

Colonization not only oppresses subjugated groups, but also shapes the minds of all living within the colonizing culture. Colonization may be thought of as an insidious process whereby the dominant groups not only impose their power structures, institutions and cultural models upon others, but also subtly impose their very thought processes upon the populace. This paper explores the role that decolonizing our minds may play within the social sciences. We first examine the process of reflexivity in doing social research. Social researchers have been aware of how dominant structures influence their research process and seek to identify and thus reduce the influence such factors as race, class, gender, and sexual orientation have on their research. However, how can researchers identify and reduce other subtle influences, influences that are challenging to recognize because they are deeply ingrained in our minds?

Melissa F. Weiner, College of the Holy Cross, "Benevolent Post-Colonial Development: Discourses of Africa, African Independence, and Aid Organizations in Dutch Primary School History Textbooks"

The stories found in a nation's history textbook are profound statements about the way the nation sees itself, others, and in relation to others. Although scholars have long documented the stereotypical appearance of Africa in textbooks, scant research addresses African independence movements or Western aid organizations involvement in Africa. This paper uses content and discourse analysis to examine how Africa, African independence, and European, particularly Dutch, aid organizations operating in Africa are represented in all Dutch primary school history textbooks published since 1980. Preliminary findings suggest a Eurocentric neo-colonial master narrative that continues to homogenize and essentialize Africa as a poor, primitive, and violent continent, discursively denies Dutch historical responsibility for African underdevelopment, disenfranchises African nationalist efforts, and depicts the Dutch engaging in benevolent aid efforts towards African nations and peoples unable to help themselves.

Asafa Jalata, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, "Capitalism, Racism, and Terrorism as the Root Causes for African Continuous Dehumanization and Suffering"

The African peoples have been immensely dehumanized and suffering for almost five centuries because of the triple evils of capitalism, racism, and terrorism that have been imposed by European colonial powers, successive global powers, and their African collaborators. Since most of these indigenous peoples are still not represented in government, academic, and media institutions of neo-colonial Africa, their voices are muzzled and hidden and most people of the world are misinformed and know nothing or little about them. The paper attempts to inform the world community about the triple evils of capitalism, racism, and terrorism and to search for ways of implementing universal human rights and rights of indigenous peoples by supporting their respective social justice movements.

ROOM: Madison

[20] Revisiting the Affordable Care Act

Organizer & Presider: Dennis Kalob, New England College

Presenters: **Judy Lubin, Howard University Department of Sociology, "Health Justice in a Market-Based Health Care System: Race, Class and the Politics of Health Reform"**

Aspects of the organization of health care in the U.S. sustain and exacerbate racial health inequities. The Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare") based on the existing system of private and employer based coverage, spurred a barrage of racially tinged protest against what opponents labeled a "big government" and "socialist" takeover of health care. These terms have historically been used to frame policies benefitting blacks and other groups deemed as undeserving of public benefits. Economic interests undergird the maintenance of the health care system in its present form. This presentation reviews the history of health reform and the role of race and racism in shaping national health insurance discourse and policymaking. These topics are examined in the context of persistent racial health inequities and the limits of reforming a patchwork health care system.

Dennis Kalob, New England College, "An Affordable Care Act Update: The Good (real benefits), The Bad (it sure isn't single-payer) and The Ugly (the Republican response)"

I will examine some of the real benefits provided by the Affordable Care Act, such as certain regulations placed on insurers and increased access to affordable health insurance and care. I will, however, point out some of the limitations in the law, such as the fact that following full implementation we will still have the most expensive health care system in the world while leaving millions uninsured or underinsured. The bright spot might be, though, that the law can be seen as a foundation from which to build a much more effective health care system, perhaps similar to the much-heralded French system. Finally, I will address the myriad ways that conservatives have attempted to sabotage the law, seeking to prevent people from acquiring health insurance and health care, a truly despicable turn of events.

11:50pm – 2:00pm ACTIVIST CAFÉ/LUNCH, ROOM:

ACTIVIST LUNCH SPEAKER: Dr. Taye Woldesmiat, President of the Ethiopian Teachers Association

Dr. Taye Woldesmiat earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Missouri and returned to teach at Addis Ababa University. At the time, the country was ruled by the dictatorial Mengistu regime. The overthrow of Mengistu led to new problems, as the new regime used the language of "self-determination" to promote divisive competition among different ethnic groups. After a series of student protests, the regime fired dozens of professors, including Dr. Taye. He then went on to work with the Ethiopian Teachers Association, representing eventually becoming national president and representing about 150,000 teachers. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethiopian_Teachers'_Association



The government attempted to set up a "New ETA" based on ethnic separation, but Dr. Taye and the ETA insisted that it served the teachers and students best to have unity in one national union. In response, the government framed Dr. Taye on phony charges, sentenced him to fifteen years in prison. He spent six years in prison in Ethiopia but after major international protest, including by the European Parliament and Amnesty International, Dr. Taye was released. Resuming his duties with the ETA, he chose to take a temporary teaching position in the USA. While in the USA, the government issued a new arrest warrant for him, raided the ETA headquarters in Addis Ababa and shut down the ETA. While the "New" ETA, set up by the government, tries to gain legitimacy internationally and within Ethiopia, members of the original ETA continue to do grassroots organizing. Dr. Taye's experience as a professor and an organizer have given him valuable insights into how ethnic divisions (parallel to "racism") have been used to weaken the unified movement for social justice in Ethiopia, and how these divisions weaken movements all over the world. Dr. Taye is a member of the Association for Humanist Sociology.

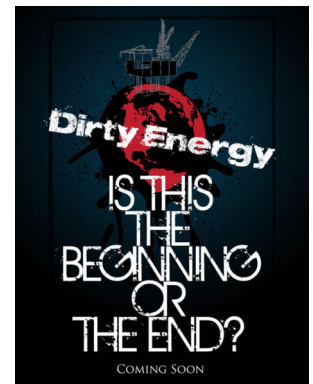
2:00pm – 4:00pm

ROOM: Monroe

[21] SPECIAL FILM SESSION: "Dirty Energy"

Organizer: Anthony Ladd, Loyola University- New Orleans
 Discussant: Anthony Ladd, Loyola University- New Orleans

Abstract: On April 20th, 2010, the BP Deepwater Horizon oil rig exploded 50 miles south of Louisiana in the Gulf of Mexico, killing 11 workers, injuring 17 others, and spewing 4.9 million barrels of oil into the ocean over a three month period. DIRTY ENERGY brings to light the personal stories of the Louisiana fishermen and local residents directly impacted by the worst environmental disaster in U.S. history. Filmmaker Bryan D. Hopkins gains intimate access to the lives and homes of these people, as they struggle to rebuild their lives and contend with the emerging health crises related to the toxic dispersants used to "clean up" the oil. DIRTY ENERGY paints a poignant portrait of the human cost of the calamity and the systematic failure by BP and the U.S. government to effectively and transparently manage the continuing environmental impacts tied to our reliance on oil and fossil fuels.



ROOM: Jefferson

[22] Racism and Whiteness

Organizer & Presider: Ashley “Woody” Doane, University of Hartford

Presenters: **Latashia Harris, George Mason University, “The Tacit Nature of Blackness and the Negative Ramifications of Obedience & Social Silence in Public Space”**

This presentation expounds upon the racial socialization of African Americans and the assimilation to the baseline “normalcy” of whiteness in public space. We must have open dialogue, we must stop seeking majority body validation of struggles we stifled ourselves from expressing out of fear, we must stop socializing our communities to assimilate and devalue the various forms of capital that we have gained in comparison to bodies that have had the privilege for far longer than we to access or retain such capitals. I will expand on this topic and discuss the future negative ramifications of “obedience” that inevitably become invisible shackles of the black body. The more the black body owns itself authentically, the more *true* efficacy can be achieved to which the black body is nearly destitute of

Victoria Hoverman, George Mason University; Abby Reiter, George Mason University & E. Miranda Reiter, Utah State University, “Why do you care about race anyways, you’re white! An action plan for confronting white privilege and racism in predominately whites spaces.”

The purpose of this paper is to illuminate the often hidden, and sometimes overt, ways in which racial discrimination works and is perpetuated through interpersonal interactions among the dominant group. We plan to start the conversation that will advance arguments concerning white privilege in the predominately “white spaces,” and among whites. Since it is no longer socially acceptable for whites to express racist sentiment and behavior in mixed company, most of such attitudes and actions are relegated to spaces where only whites are present or at least whites are the overwhelming majority. These “white spaces” as we are terming them, serve to perpetuate and reinforce a legacy of racism that has plagued the United States for hundreds of years. Our paper will provide evidence on the continued injustices that exist around race in the United States, but also present ideas for an action plan of resistance that will specifically be instituted in “white spaces.”

ROOM: Washington

[23] Humanist Approaches to Environmentalism

Organizer & Presider: Chuck Koeber, Wichita State University

Presenters: **Dr. Susan Machum, St. Thomas University, “Empty but not by choice: Recycling patterns and social inequality — Who are the real resisters?”**

Even though recycling is the third ‘r’ in the waste reduction mantra— reduce, reuse, recycle, reclaim— it has garnered a significant amount of attention in both the world of academia and amongst the general public. Understanding “Who recycles and why?” is an integral dimension of sorting out how to divert greater quantities of reusable materials from the waste stream. This paper examines recycling data from three New Brunswick, Canada regional waste regions to explore the recycling ‘success rates’ amongst these different regions and communities. This paper argues the participation rate in recycling programs is a direct reflection of both consumer shopping patterns and consumer spending power. Social class relations and social inequalities are as visible in the neighbourhood recycling bin as they are anywhere else in society — perhaps even more so.

Chuck Koeber, Wichita State University; Deborah Ballard-Reisch & Mellissa A. Granville, “The Importance of Education and Consultation in Wind Energy Development: Implications for Achieving Sustainability and Enhancing Livelihood of Rurally Located Wind Farms and their Surrounding Communities”

This study examines the perceptions of a broad cross-section of community members regarding Kansas industrial wind energy development. Three Kansas counties in which wind farms were proposed and/or constructed serve as comparative cases. Based on the analysis of data collected from community members, government officials, wind energy developers and advocates for and against wind power, a consistent perspective emerged across groups: the sustainability and livelihood of both wind energy projects in Kansas and rural communities where the projects take place can be enhanced when communities are actively involved in wind energy decision-making throughout project planning and development. This can be accomplished through a paradigm of communication that stresses the provision of both sufficient amounts and types of information to and consultation with communities. Within this communications paradigm communities are empowered to collaboratively make decisions regarding the development of appropriate wind energy projects and are more likely to support the projects when completed.

[24] Educational Policies

Organizer & Presider: Jeff Torlina, Utah Valley State

Presenters: **Jeff Torlina, Utah Valley State, "Education, Religious Fundamentalism, and Corporate Ideology: The Case of Mormon Influence on Education Policy."**



This paper contributes to understanding how the pro-corporate ideology became so dominant so quickly by connecting the capital-friendly values and policies with religious fundamentalism. The argument uses the case of Utah Valley University's institutional culture and policies to show how critical thinking and alternative perspectives are stifled in order to defend fundamentalist religious views and to subvert the goals of a traditional liberal arts higher education. This case illustrates a collaboration between religious motives to maintain fundamentalist beliefs and corporate interests which also seek to stifle debate on neoliberal ideologies and corporate influence in the political economy. The paper suggests through this case study that fundamentalist religious organizations have been co-opted by business interests to promote a popular culture that supports the interests of capital.

Mark Williams, "Legislated Hate"

The aim of this presentation is to present strategies towards providing an educational framework, paradigm and pedagogy that is not necessarily racist, that does not capitalize off of demographic, condition, and the rhetoric of diversity, that challenges the "hate legislation" of No Child Left Behind, and finally that seeks to illustrate a discussion model for this conference on how irrespective of discipline within the Humanities, the urgency of the meticulous scrutiny of the income gap within this country has to do with a belief in and interrogation of the document that charts the freedoms of its citizenry and the exclusivity of said freedoms.

Jonathan Wilson, Purdue University Calumet, "Educating Girls in Tanzania: Challenges and Contradictions"

Tanzania, like many other "Third World" countries, confronts the problem of mass education in uneven ways. In the rural areas and towns in more remote areas, education of girls, in particular, is especially spotty. Yet educating girls is not only important for the opportunity to obtain employment beyond domestic work or agricultural work; it can provide a window of learning that can broaden their perspectives and give them the self-confidence to more fully engage in the political processes. It also provides physical protection, because girls not in school are especially vulnerable to physical exploitation/abuse. This presentation is based on research and on a weeks long participant-observation trip to Tanzania, where these issues were explored.

**"One of the key components in environmental justice is getting people to the table to speak for themselves ... they need to be in the room where policy is being made."
Robert Bullard**

3:20pm – 3:30pm

BREAK!

GUIDELINES FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

In keeping with AHS tradition, presenters are asked to begin with a short reflexive statement; that is, a statement of the author's values and perspectives with respect to the subject area (see *Humanity & Society*, the official AHS journal, for examples). AHS is committed to sessions that maximize the exchange of ideas. Towards that end, we have adopted the following guidelines for program presentations: (1) Presenters are asked not to read papers, but instead to talk about the major ideas and findings in their work; (2) AHS meetings sessions do not, except in special circumstances, include a discussant. Instead, the entire audience serves as discussant; (3) Presenters should plan presentations to leave adequate time for other presentations and group discussion; and (4) Session facilitators are asked to set and enforce time limits.

ROOM: Jefferson

[25] 21st Century Politics

Organizer & Presider: Lorrell D. Kilpatrick, Purdue University Calumet

Presenter(s): **C. Damien Arthur, West Virginia State University & Joshua Woods, West Virginia State University, “Presidential Framing and Immigration Policy: Do States Respond to Negative Rhetoric?”**

There has been a dramatic increase in the attention paid to immigration since September 11th. We maintain that the increases in attention and the negative narratives are due to a significant critical juncture: the *Republican Party Platform of 2004* and President Bush’s subsequent reelection. The rhetoric has become more negative and exclusive, creating a pervasive negative immigrant narrative. We examined the consequences of the negative rhetoric on state legislatures in the G.W. Bush Administration as a measure of the reaction to the rhetoric and presidential agenda. We question whether negative immigration narratives in presidential rhetoric shape policies relating to immigration at the state level? We provide results that suggest presidential rhetoric can increase negative-effects legislation in states and influence the policy content of that legislation with negative rhetoric.

James R. Jones, Columbia University, “The Black Capitol: A history of racial segregation and stratification in the U.S. congressional workforce”

This paper provides a chronology of black employees working in the Federal legislature and advances a sociological analysis that documents how race has acted as a systemic barrier. This analysis presents a different portrait of the Congress; it illustrates the persistence of racial stratification and segregation within the congressional workforce. In addition, it provides a strong analytical foundation to understand contemporary racial dynamics in Congress and the continued underrepresentation of staffers of color. Most importantly, this study mandates an intervention into how we understand and conceptualize Congress, requiring further interrogations of race as an organizing force.

Angela J. Hattery, George Mason University & Earl Smith, Wake Forest University, “Race, Class and Gender in the Era of Obama”

This presentation will examine the impact of the election of the first African American President of the United States, Barack Obama, on the African American family. Specifically, using empirical evidence of achievement and well-being (education, wealth, health, incarceration) in the African American community we will interrogate the question of whether his election has signaled the entrance of a post-racial society. We will demonstrate first that the election of President Obama has not in fact ushered in nor signaled that the US has entered a post-racial era. Second, we will demonstrate that the impact of his election (and other forces, including the recession) has been differentially experienced by men and women as well as individuals and families in different class locations. Finally, we will use our empirical data to theorize about the impact of several recent decisions by the US Supreme Court—the turning back of the Voting Rights Act, the indecision on Affirmative Action, and the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) decision—on African American families moving forward

ROOM: Washington

[26] Application of Marxist Theories

Organizer & Presider: Jeff Torlina, Utah Valley State

Presenters: **Robert Fenton III, George Mason University, “Too Much on My Plate?: Marxism, Food and Humanist Sociology”**
 Properly speaking a Marxist theory of food does not exist. Elements from the production of food to commodity fetishism through labeling schemes take elements of Marxist analysis, but food itself has never really been given scrutiny of dialectical materialism. In this essay I wish to develop this analysis, which will largely be theoretical, in an effort to understand not only food and food consumption from the perspective of capital (as exchange-value and essential in reproducing labor-power), but also through the deeply humanist lens of the so-called young Marx—through the prism of alienation, reification, and starvation. It is from this fact that I will attempt to trace and connect the linkages between food production-preparation-consumption, economic conditions and forces, cultural particularities, the household division of labor, representations of food in the media, the food culture industries, as well as the impact of crises, environmental degradation, pollutants, “real” scarcity, and cultural colonialism.

Yale Magrass, University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, Charles Derber, Boston College, “TBA”

Marx demonstrated that as capitalism strove to overcome caste barriers, it intensified class inequality. The Civil Rights Movement had two goals: to end poverty-impossible under capitalism, and eliminate racial obstacles to opportunity—an aspiration consistent with capitalist ideals. The side of the Civil Rights Movement, which did not challenge capitalism has been a resounding success, but the other side has been an abject failure. The result is that the black middle class and upper class have grown, along with a class of black left-behinds. This paper looks at three paradigms within political economy, neoclassicism, Keynesianism and neo-Marxism. Two of them, neoclassicism and Keynesianism, in accepting capitalism, fail to address racism in ways which improve life for the black majority. The third, neo-Marxism, concludes life for the vast black majority cannot improve as long as capitalism exists.

[27] Discourse and Community

Organizer & Presider: Saher Selod, Simmons University

Presenter(s): **Robert D. Francis, Lutheran Services in America, "Negotiating Between Continuity and Change in a Postmodern World: A Case Study of the Emerging Church"**

In this paper, I argue that religious communities use certain cognitive bargaining tools to negotiate between deeply held elements of their religious character and changes in the sociocultural environment. My case study is the emerging church, a new religious movement that is seeking to constructively adapt to what it describes as "the emerging postmodern, postcolonial world." By rethinking faith and practice in light of deep social and cultural changes, the emerging church stands in a long line of other religious groups throughout history whose grappling with change has led to religious innovation and transformation. I propose and describe three components of analysis for understanding new religious movements: change, structure, and discourse. Within this conceptual framework, I identify and examine the three most prominent discursive strategies utilized by the emerging church - grievance, relevance, and survival - as it negotiates the "postmodern turn." I conclude with brief speculation about the future of the emerging church and suggest ideas for future research

Cameron Williams, Loyola University-Chicago, "American Attitudes about the Causes of the Rwandan Genocide"

The purpose of this presentation aims to gain insight into the attitudes American people have as to why the Rwandan genocide happened. The sample for this project consists of people working or volunteering for refugee and immigrant organizations in Chicago. The project uses this group of people because they receive many refugees as a result of current conflicts. The purpose of this project is not to see how much they know about the genocide, but to see what discourses they use to explain the causes. A qualitative methodology is in use for this project, using 20 in-depth interviews.

Mireille Cecil, George Mason University, "A Critical Response to the 'Alternative' Wedding as Intimate Political Resistance"

The 'alternative' wedding can be understood as an event staged by couples grappling with the ambivalence of entering into an institution they perceive as being a mechanism of social, cultural and economic domination while simultaneously striving to meaningfully celebrate their commitment to each other and their community. I argue that central to this is a sort of embedded utopian yearning to transform social conditions through intimate praxis. With this in mind, I understand the alternative wedding as an effort undertaken by everyday people to explore and celebrate the liberatory possibilities of love. This, however, is most often mediated through forms of ethical consumption that emphasize personalization as the conduit par excellence to assuage personal and/or political anxiety. The logic of the alternative wedding is filtered through a hope that the establishment of a more egalitarian culture can, and indeed must be, enacted through a specialized engagement with capitalism. I argue that personalization is specifically problematic precisely because it allows people to feel as if they are transgressing beyond oppressive cultural forms yet it ultimately blinds them to their complacency with structures of domination.

ROOM: Madison

[28] AUTHOR MEETS CRITIC

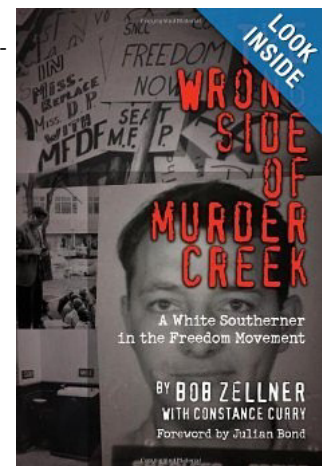
Author:	Bob Zellner, <i>Wrong Side of Murder Creek: A White Southerner in the Freedom Movement</i>
Organizer & Presider:	Corey Dolgon, Stonehill College
Critics:	Lester Spence, Johns Hopkins University Leslie Hinkson, Georgetown University Karen Tejada, University of Hartford

4:50pm – 5:00pm

Break!

5:00pm—6:30pm

RECEPTION FEATURING THE AHS BAND (See photo on page 21)



“....It is not accidental that the American bourgeoisie has intensified its oppression, not only of the Negro people in general, but of Negro women in particular. Nothing so exposes the drive to fascization in the nation as the callous attitude which the bourgeoisie displays and cultivates toward Negro women.”
 Claudia Cumberbatch Jones



6:30pm KEYNOTE ADDRESS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. Finley C. Campbell

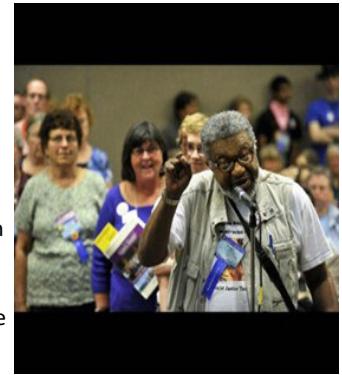
“Common Roots – Common Destiny – Common Struggle: The Role of Fighting Racism in the Struggle to Liberate Humankind”

There are those in the movement who are well-known to activists by their writings or their media presence. Then there are those less known who have worked tirelessly-- the glue that has held the movement together, the engines that helped drive it forward, doing the day to day work, teaching, organizing, mentoring future leaders. It is these "on-the-ground" activists, often not celebrities, from whom we have the most to learn.

In the late 1960's, Finley C. Campbell taught at Morehouse College in Atlanta, where he interacted with many in the "Atlanta Scene" of black activists who went on to enter politics or other aspects of public life. Campbell chose otherwise, to work as a teacher and grassroots organizer for over fifty years. He was on a first-name basis with Howard Zinn, and earned a Ph.D. in literature from the University of Chicago, where John Hope Franklin served on his dissertation committee. In the early 1970's, he took on a major challenge, running for Governor of Indiana (!) on the Indiana Peace and Freedom Party ticket. Campaigning energetically in the small, white towns of Southern Indiana as well as throughout the state, he garnered thousands of votes. From there he went to teach at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana, working with the Malcolm X Institute for Black Studies. He then went on to be one of the founding members of the International Committee Against Racism, which distinguished itself from the 1970's through the 1990's by taking an uncompromising stand against all forms of racism while building within the organization, genuine, grassroots multi-racial unity based on respect rather than condescension or fake, formalistic diplomacy. InCAR was well-known for exposing the lies of the racist IQ frauds, including Jensen, Herrnstein, Shockley, Murray and others who distorted biological language to promote racist policies, and InCar was especially well-known for leading militant demonstrations against the resurgence of the KKK and Nazis in the 1970's and 1980's, as well as helping to integrate notoriously racist South Boston and Chicago's Marquette Park.

After Wabash, Dr. Campbell accepted the position of Chair of the Afro-American Studies Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He taught there for a number of years, but his activism again drew the wrath of the higher authorities. They denied him tenure and rubber-stamped his termination. From there he moved to Chicago and taught at various schools. He remains active in community groups, including the Unitarian Church.

A powerful, dynamic speaker, Dr. Campbell has impacted thousands of students and mentored hundreds of anti-racist activists who continue this grassroots organizing in the basic ways that give the movement substance, strength, and sustainability. His understanding of the role of "black history" as part of the history of the working class struggle in general is extraordinarily profound and this understanding, combined with his rich half-century of activist experience, gives him, and therefore us, better insights into understanding these complex dynamics. His particular grasp of the relationship of racist oppression to class oppression -- **that the struggle against all forms of racism must be the cutting edge of the struggle for social justice** -- and his ability to take uncompromising stands against racism without laying the "root cause" blame on the psyches of "white" folks -- understanding that there are major differences in degrees of oppression but that most white folks are not "privileged" to live under capitalism -- it is this perspective and commitment which we hope to amplify as we build a movement for a world free from all forms of exploitation and oppression.



9:30pm Hospitality Room—Join fellow AHS members for conversation, music, drinks and snacks. Catch up with old friends, meet new friends...or mill around just for fun!

7:45am—9:00am

Women's Breakfast, Hosted by Kathleen Fitzgerald (kfitzger@loyno.edu)—meet at hotel restaurant

8:30am—5:00pm

Registration Table, Room: Lincoln

Book Exhibit, Room: Lincoln

Rest & Recovers, Room: Jackson

REGULAR SESSIONS

8:30am – 9:50am

ROOM: Monroe

[29] Identity and Individuality

Organizer & Presider: Jeff Torlina, Utah Valley University

Presenters: **James Meehan, Curry College, "Humanist sociology, the sociological imagination, and human development in the era of hyper-individualization"**

This paper begins with the premise that C. Wright Mills' classic *The sociological imagination* was written both as a critique of the American sociology of his time and as an educational tool for human self-development. Insofar as it is a critique of what Mills considered as two misguided tendencies in sociology- "grand theory" and "abstracted empiricism" - the concept of the sociological imagination points toward greater creativity and everyday relevance in the use of the tools of sociological reasoning. The central argument of the paper is that developments on the ground and in sociological theory indicate the need for a contemporary re-interpretation and specification of the sociological imagination, which after generations of use in sociological teaching is at risk of becoming a platitude. Key analyses in recent decades have focused on an accelerating individualizing process in advanced capitalist societies. The paper argues that a contemporary sociological imagination would be essential tool in this regard.

Damien Contessa, University of South Florida, "Unraveling Monstrous Stories: The Cultural Logic of Inhuman Others in Contemporary Social Life"

Stories are fantasy, yet have significant social consequences. In this paper, I seek to understand how stories of *monstrous* animal pests – such as locusts, "crazy ants," and exotic animals – incorporate images, words, plots, and narrative themes that resonate with fears of the "apocalypse." Are representations and interpretations of monstrous animal pests a fear response to the uncertain times in which we live? And in what ways are monster pest narratives related to depictions of "inhuman" populations in contemporary society? Throughout this paper, I argue that monster pest narratives promote the ritualized discrimination, segregation, and elimination of certain animal identities. Yet, how we treat animals is also intimately connected to how we treat one another.

Kaitland Byrd, Virginia Tech, "Getting a Drink vs. Going Out: The Role of Alcohol in First-Year Socialization into Graduate School"

This study used a series of interviews and fieldwork to examine the role of alcohol in first-year students socialization into graduate school. Graduate student attrition is a substantial problem for universities. One method of reducing attrition is to increase the sense of community in the department. The chosen department attempted to improve the department community by having happy hours. The findings suggest that young graduate students want and need to develop strong working relationships with faculty and older cohorts to be successful in graduate school. However, departmental happy hours are not the most conducive setting to facilitate these relationships.

Brian Sherman, Albany State University (GA)-Retired, "Redrawing the Boundaries Among Nation-States: The Ethical Remap Project."

The current mapping of the world into nation-states reflects the results of historical "scrambles for empire" more than the actual areas in which nations reside. The Ethical Remap Project [ERP] proposes redrawing the map of the nation-states of the world to reflect more closely the "countries" [defined as the residential areas of nations] of the world. Conceptual distinctions among "nation," "country," and "nation-state" will be clarified, along with the understanding of "nation-building" as an imperial project. Historical contexts will be given with emphasis on the Treaty of Westphalia [1648] as establishing the supremacy of the nation-state principle and the United Nations General Assembly as providing the contemporary cover for resulting boundary mappings. And then, finally, the issues raised by remapping will be related to the hobby of stamp collecting as a gateway to knowing the mapping of the inhabitable-by-humans world.



[30] Race, Crime and Deviance

Organizer & Presider: Rebecca Hensley, Southeastern Louisiana State University

Presenters: **Rebecca Hensley, Southeastern Louisiana State University, "The Best Defense: Law Enforcement and African-American Men in the Inner-City"**

This piece of work explores the relationship between law enforcement officers "on the street" and Black American men in inner city communities in a Southern state by reporting on two in-depth interviews, one with two White American sheriff's deputies and one with two unemployed Black American men. It tries to place the violent nature of relations between these two groups into a historical context and utilizes what the two dyads report in an effort to compare their perspectives. Suttles' concept of the "defended neighborhood" as well as work concerning the evolution of the "bad nigger" as a political and emotional response to White American institutionalized oppression against Black American men are applied to the subject in the attempt to suggest a possible theoretical basis for further examination. These interviews indicate a vital need for more research in this area.

Paul R. Ketchum, University of Oklahoma & B. Mitch Peck, University of Oklahoma, "Is "Family Differences" Code for "Racial Differences?": An Analysis of Interviews with Juvenile Justice Professionals"

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) refers to the overrepresentation of non-White youth at every stage of the juvenile justice system. As part of a larger study, we conducted interviews with 176 juvenile justice professionals, including police, juvenile court public defenders, district attorney's, and judges as well as juvenile probation officers from three of the most populous Oklahoma counties. Though some participants noted the role of racial bias, the vast majority of interview participants attributed DMC to differences in families, both in structure and parenting style/involvement. In fact, every participant, White and non-White included differences in White and non-White families as a contributing factor to DMC.

Dawn Tawwater, Austin Community College, "Immigration Detention and the Expansion of Ethnic Criminality in 21st Century Internment Camps"

The presentation will include a brief description of the current issues in immigrant detention with emphasis on two central Texas facilities, Lexington and Hutto. As an activist I've chosen to argue that detention centers today constitute modern internment camps - as many undocumented residents are being treated as enemy combatants by the Federal Government and the private prison system. Followed by a discussion of central Texas based response groups and their grassroots approach to the civil rights violations occurring in these prison facilities.

ROOM: Washington

[31] Humanist Approaches to Environmentalism, Part Deux

Organizer & Presider: Daina Harvey, College of the Holy Cross

Presenter(s): **Susan Machum, St. Thomas University & Michael Clow, St. Thomas University, "Confronting The Erosion of Our World: Environmentalists and the Left"**

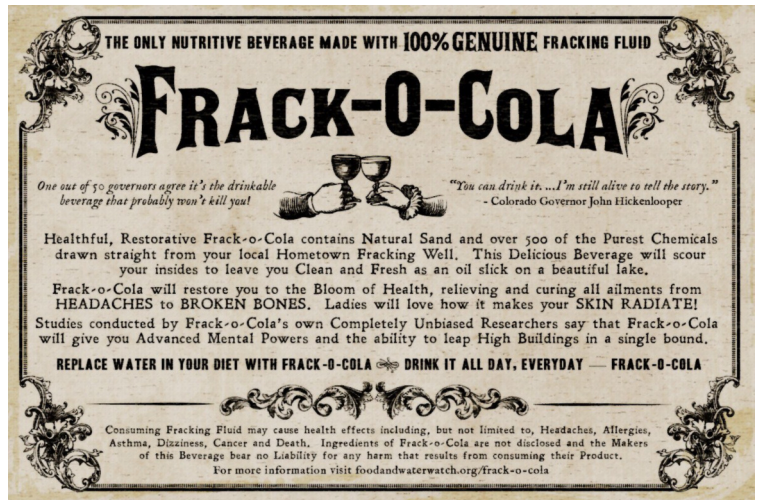
This paper considers the considerable work done on the left concerning the cause of our spiral towards ecological exhaustion and the reasons why mainstream environmentalism has ignored it. We argue many things alienate the Left from mainstream environmentalism. We argue that the mainstream environmental movement is aware of *who* they are up against – the owners and managers of capitalist enterprises – but not *what* they are up against. In that sense they are the victims of a huge failure of sociological imagination, courtesy of the wider culture. We argue the correct response of the environmental left is not only to take greater part in environmental activism, but more importantly to recognize and contribute to the enormous efforts of "public sociology" required to widen the space in everyday discourse for more sociological, and specifically left-sociological, ideas in the public sphere in which environmental debate occurs

Daina Harvey, College of the Holy Cross, "Race, Capitalism, and Environmental Disruption"

While many disruptions have been used to foment what has been called disaster capitalism, other instances have resulted in an abandoning of the social contract. Here the withering of the "sympathetic state" has resulted in a cost-benefit analysis that determines which communities are rebuilt and who is given aid. These analyses favor white, middle-class communities and neighborhoods over others. Furthermore, this abandonment results in the "naturalization of disaster" where the inability of marginalized communities to recover from acute or chronic disaster becomes naturalized and is blamed on the residents themselves. The State's response to environmental disruptions results in the widening of existing disparities between black and white communities, pushing people further into poverty and ultimately increasing the effects of the original disruption on families and communities.

Anthony E. Ladd, Loyola University New Orleans, "Don't Frack With Our Water: Stakeholder Perceptions of Negative Impacts Associated with Hydraulic Fracturing in the Haynesville Shale"

Drawing on current research and extensive interview data collected from a relevant cross-section of community stakeholders, this paper examines the range of perceived negative impacts and threats associated with unconventional natural gas development and whether respondents viewed the benefits of the Haynesville boom as outweighing the costs. While most stakeholders perceived that natural gas development offered the community a host of positive socio-economic benefits in the form of increased jobs, tax revenues, services, and new economic opportunities for local businesses and landowners, a substantial minority of residents also associated shale development with a larger number of negative social, economic, and environmental impacts, including the degradation of water resources, increased road damage, noise, traffic accidents, and other assorted threats to public health, animals, and the rural landscape. These findings both support and extend existing sociological research in a number of key respects. The implications of these findings, both for the region and the national debate over fracking, are discussed.



ROOM: Adams

[32] SPECIAL INTERACTIVE SESSION: "Humanist Teaching To Go."

Organizer and Presider: Steve McGuire, Muskingum University

Panel Abstract: Presenters will bring 25 copies of a 1-2 page handout (colored paper is good). In this session we're *doing*, rather than analyzing much. We're *to-going*. We're consuming, consuming other AHS'ers teaching tidbits. We're making our own presentations so "to go" that people who miss our session can readily obtain what they missed. The handout and the oral presentation should largely follow a recipe format. The oral presentations should take about 10 minutes each, immediately followed by comments and questions. Rationales, goals, and other things of a learning assessment ilk can be talked about in the discussions after.

Panelists: Emma Bailey, Western New Mexico University, "If I could design a Barbie, it would be a _____ Barbie"; "Distribute Wealth"

David Tabachnick, Muskingum University, "How to hang out like a sociologist: introducing students to face to face observation and analysis."

Steve McGuire, Muskingum University, "How Johnnie Might Actually Read the Stuff"; "Tug of Rope."

Codie Wedge, Western Michigan University, TBA

Lisa Sanders, Western Michigan University, TBA

9:50am – 10:00am

BREAK!

"All oppression creates a state of war"
Simone de Beauvoir



ROOM: Monroe

[33] “Backlash: Racialized Anti-Public Sentiment in the Post-Civil Rights Era”

Session Organizers and Presiders: Louise Seamster, Duke University & Kasey Hendricks, Loyola University-Chicago

Session Abstract: Civil Rights Movement activists sought African Americans’ inclusion and equal access into American institutions. They fought for integrated schools and neighborhoods, for better jobs—all gains that would signify their acceptance into larger society. Decades later, we have witnessed large-scale economic and social shifts away from the very institutions that promised racial minorities access to public goods. Could there be a racial motivation in the move towards privatization? Does this move signal a disinvestment in the very notion of “the public”, and is it motivated in part by the Civil Rights Movement’s success? This panel seeks to unite discussion of privatization and racial politics across multiple areas, in an attempt to generate a broader hypothesis about race and belonging in the post-civil rights era. Potential topics include education, municipal employment, public housing, tax policy, urban redevelopment.

Presenters: **Audrey McFarlane, University of Maryland at Baltimore, "Development Disagreements: Race, Class and the Private Privileges and Public Burdens of Economic Development."**

Louise Seamster, Duke University, “Public Goods? Privatization and Local Disenfranchisement in Michigan”

Half of all African Americans in the state of Michigan, in seven cities, have had state-appointed Emergency Managers replace their local government (as compared to 2% of whites), to attempt to fix the cities’ “financial crises”. Emergency managers’ solution to municipal debt is to expand privatization in these cities, firing public employees, privatizing utilities and services, and expanding charter schools. What can we make of this racially-targeted privatization, and what relationship does it have to the curtailment of black Michiganders’ civil rights? Are these financially-strapped majority-black cities the site of experimentation for wider reforms?

Kasey Henricks, Loyola University-Chicago, “Passing the Buck: Race and the Role of State Lotteries in America’s Changing Tax Composition”

During the 1970s and 1980s, white backlash against racially stigmatized government initiatives inspired taxpayer revolts throughout the country. These culminated into reforms that fundamentally revised America’s tax code, caused budgetary shortfalls, and created optimal conditions for alternative government revenue. Lotteries emerged as a politically feasible option for many states and proliferated across the nation. This infrastructural redesign raises a number of unanswered questions. Namely, how do lotteries help redistribute tax liability? Given that some groups buy more lotto tickets than others, I argue that reliance on lotteries for revenue shifts tax liability onto those who play most: people of color.

ROOM: Jefferson

[34] Theories of Racism-Capitalism-Crisis-Resistance

Organizer & Presider: Ashley “Woody” Doane, University of Harford

Presentation(s): **Werner Lange, University of Akron, “W.E.B. DuBois: Anti-Racist, Anti-Capitalist Agent of Peace Vindicated”**

The relationship between W.E.B. DuBois and the USA was a dialectical one, and it reached its most tense levels during the last 15 years of his long and productive life. As US capitalism evolved into its imperialist stages and US race relations descended into the abyss of apartheid, DuBois increasingly embodied and embraced their antithesis in both theory and praxis. His was a voice in the wilderness, one that needs to be heard and heeded in these days of renewed madness wrought by capitalism, racism and militarism.

Bilal Dabir Sekou, University of Hartford, “From Politics to Protest: The Future of the Black Liberation Movement”

In a 1965 article for *Commentary* entitled, *From Protest to Politics: The Future of the Civil Rights Movement*, Bayard Rustin argued that the civil rights movement needed to change from a “protest movement” to a “political movement.” In the decades since Rustin wrote his article, the number of black elected officials in the U.S. has jumped from fewer than 1,500 to as many as 11,000, according to the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies. Yet, despite these gains in political representation, blacks continue to lag far behind whites on nearly every major indicator of social and economic well-being. In this paper, I would like to discuss the limitations of politics as a liberation strategy for black people and the need for a return to protests.

Ashley “Woody” Doane, University of Hartford, “Racism, Capitalism and Resistance: Looking Backward, Looking Ahead”

Since the expansion of the European-based capitalist world economy in the 15th century, racism and capitalism have been integrated in a series of social structures. The evolution of these social formations can be understood as the outcomes of processes of intra-capitalist conflict and market competition, systemic contradictions and crises, and adaptation and resistance on the part of oppressed classes and peoples. In this paper, I provide an overview of the major dynamics that have shaped current social formations, crises, and modes of resistance. From this standpoint, I then offer an assessment of the path forward for anticapitalist and antiracist resistance.

ROOM: Washington

[35] Stratification, Social Mobility & Satisfaction

Organizer & Presider: Rebecca Hensley, Southeastern Louisiana State University

Presenters: **Michael Moses, Purdue University Calumet, “Social Mobility in the United States: The Experience of Racial Minorities”**

Today in the United States, social class and minority status have become the most prevailing two factors of predicting one individual's opportunities in life. With data collected through literature review and interviews, aspects related to the changes in opportunity as experienced by racial minority groups, and the implication these changes might have in the ways minority groups experience social mobility today have been analyzed and discussed. Intergenerational and structural mobility, as traditional forms for upward social mobility, are to be more applicable to the racial minority groups in the United States today than in the past, although patterns of individual stereotyping and structural discrimination continue to exist.

Matthias Wasser, University of Maryland, “A rational choice account of racial formation”

Despite a common history of slave capitalism and interlinked ideological discourses of race (cultural, medical, &c.,) social formations across the Americas have mapped racial difference in sometimes subtly and sometimes drastically different ways. Across different areas of the nineteenth century United States, Haiti, and the British West Indies, the crises of capitalism produced different situations for groups such as planters deprived of pro forma ownership of labor, relatively privileged workers seeking to define the boundaries of labor aristocracies, and recently emancipated slaves among whom the boundaries of race would be negotiated. I develop a rational choice model to account for the ways in which class is translated into race under different politico-economic conditions.

Catherine Turcotte, Colby-Sawyer College, “Subjective well-being and life satisfaction in Maine communities”

The objective of this ongoing project is to demonstrate a more nuanced understanding of subjective community and individual well-being within communities surrounding Augusta and Bangor, Maine. Results from data collected thus far indicate that more than half of respondents have been unemployed in the previous five years, with a mean duration of unemployment of almost two years. Perhaps most importantly, these adverse conditions are linked to significantly lower levels of life satisfaction.

ROOM: Adams

[36] Capital-Capitalism

Organizer & Presider: Stephen Adair, Central Connecticut State University

Presenters: **Richard Bilsker, College of Southern Maryland, “Implications of Moulrier-Boutang’s Cognitive Capitalism”**

I am currently reading the book and preparing a book review for the journal [Ephemera: Theory & Politics in Organization](#). I would like the opportunity to discuss the topic at the AHS meeting. Here is a link to the Amazon page for the book, so you can see its relevance to humanist sociology.

Stephen Adair, Central Connecticut State University, “Seven Contradictions in the Intellectual and Practical History of the Labor Theory of Value”

This essay will explore and describe seven contradictions in the intellectual and practical history of the labor theory of value. These include (I only include the first two here for lack of space): 1. The labor theory of value was foundational in the development and promotion of both capitalism and the critique of capitalism. 2. The labor theory of value only becomes apparent and operative within a specific set of social forms, and yet the law of value operates as a reality behind appearances irrespective of the recognition of it.

Brian Barry, Rochester Institute of Technology, “Considered Consumption”

This paper will identify some of the chief principles an ethical consumer might employ in deciding how to put his or her values to work in philanthropic endeavors and discretionary spending. Beginning with economic considerations such as quality, affordability and value, it will extend its analysis to more basic values such as harmlessness, sustainability and environmental and social impacts. Challenging the simplemindedness of the dictum “live simply, so others might simply live”, it argues that the most commendable lifestyle is one that combines a healthy income with modest expenditures leaving greater opportunity to support the good works of others.

11:20am – 1:00pm LUNCH ON YOUR OWN!!!

1:00pm – 3:00pm

ROOM: Monroe

[37] SPECIAL FILM SESSION: “*Survival of the Fastest?* The Zombie Theory of Racial Essentialism.”

Organizer: Matthew Hughey, University of Connecticut

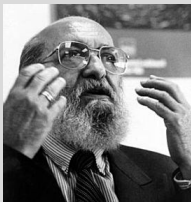
Discussant: Matthew Hughey, University of Connecticut



Abstract: The film showcases Michael Johnson—an Olympic gold medalist and current world and Olympic record holder in the 400-meter men’s sprint—and his quest to answer a simple yet pressing question: Did the brutality of trans-Atlantic slavery create a selection effect that determined the superior track skills qua genetic make-up of elite black athletes in the U.S. and Caribbean today? Johnson’s answer was a resounding “yes.” Johnson presses the thesis that Black sprinters excel because the Trans-Atlantic slave trade accelerated the process of natural selection, effectively killing off the weakest to create a Black population predisposed to superior athletic performance. My critique, that will immediately follow the film, will present both sociological and biological evidence to debunk what is now a resilient and hard to bury notion of racial essentialism.

“Leaders who do not act dialogically, but insist on imposing their decisions, do not organize the people—they manipulate them. They do not liberate, nor are they liberated: they oppress.”

Paulo Freire



1:00pm—2:20pm

ROOM: Jefferson

[38] “Community Engagement and/or Service Learning”

Organizer & Presider: Charles Norman, Indiana State University

Panelists: **James R. Pennell, University of Indianapolis & Timothy Maher, University of Indianapolis, “Research That Makes a Difference: Integrating Teaching, (Community) Service, and Scholarship”**

On the one hand, sociologists seem to be concerned about practical relevance today. Public sociology appears to be a statement about being relevant and making a difference in the real world. But on the other hand, universities, even those that heavily emphasize teaching, continue to pressure faculty to publish in elite journals and gain the accolades of their professional peers, regardless of the practical importance or impact of that work. Even the literature on public sociology doesn’t seem as concerned about the public in many respects as in the issues in our discipline or staying relevant in the minds of policymakers and big grant funders. In this presentation, we will report on our efforts to do research that draws on the knowledge and skills we have as sociologists, but that usually does not serve the more esoteric demands of our discipline to produce large scale, theoretically-driven research that attempts to move theoretical knowledge forward, nor the demands of big funders. We will discuss how we have developed research projects that attempt to serve our local community and provide our students, including undergraduate students, with opportunities to develop their understanding of, and skills at, doing research. We will also share our struggles to maintain institutional support for this work, and why AHS and Humanity & Society are important resources for challenging institutional convention.

Charles Norman, Indiana State University, “A Relevant Community Engagement”

My descriptive data illustrates the shortcomings of most community engagement and then discusses the structural resistance within the university. Lastly, exploration of community engagement with potential for social change will be suggested.

[39] Global Problems and Concerns

Organizer & Presider: Kasey Henricks, Loyola University-Chicago

Presenters: **Taye Woldesmiate, Purdue University-Calument, "Resisting Ethnic Separatism in Labor Unions: The Case of Ethiopia"**

When the pro-Soviet Mengistu government of Ethiopia was overthrown in 1991, the new EPDRF government embarked on a policy that pretended to protect ethnic rights by using the language of "self-determination", but in fact, forcibly separated major institutions into competing branches based on ethnicity. This is problematic because so many Ethiopians have joint ancestry. The Ethiopian Teachers Association successfully resisted this and insisted on maintaining one cooperative union for all the teachers in Ethiopia. The response of the government was first to set up competing unions, then to delegitimize the genuine union, and finally to repress, exile and even imprison activists within the union. This presentation will explore the contradictions inherent in the language of "self-determination" and how it can be used to "divide and conquer" workers' movements while taking away the rights of all workers

Yousef Ali, Kuwait University, "Attitudes of Kuwaiti citizens towards political violence and Democratization of the Society: A case study"

I am searching for the cause or causes of political violence in Kuwait and the impact of Arab spring on it. Therefore, different variables were used such as sect, degree of religiosity, political participation, mass media and tribalism. The findings suggest that citizens do not have the chance to participate in decision making process are more participate in political violence against the government. The findings show that citizens who believe that the absence of participation is the main reason for political violence are Sunnis, young, and from higher class of the society, whereas, citizens believe in intolerance is the reason for political mainly are Shea , males, and from higher class of the society. Also, the findings show that social networks and cultural affinities are significant. These findings also show that the degree of religiosity plays a significant role in political violence in Kuwaiti society.

Jean Boucher, George Mason University, "The Peruvian Case for Human Ecological Sustainability: An Ethnographic Approach"

In 2010, the Living Planet Report (WWF 2010) declared Peru as the only country to have struck a balance between a low Ecological Footprint and high human development (HDI). In light of this report and in consideration of the ecological challenges currently facing humanity—i.e., climate change, I investigate this Peruvian ecological/developmental claim. Through an analysis of the existing ethnographic literature on Peruvian life, I argue that a low carbon lifestyle is the outcome of Andean poverty, habits of subsistence farming, dynamics of kinship, non-competitive tendencies and social structures of inequality and discrimination. These findings, though, are limited; the Andean lifestyle is in decline and the ethnographic research is specifically focused. Furthermore, precisely how Peru is considered a country of high human development is still a question that requires further research.

ROOM: Adams

[40] Race, Science & Genomics

Organizer & Presider: Bhoomi K. Thakore, Northwestern University

Presenters: **Kathleen Fitzgerald, Loyola University- New Orleans, "Genetic Ancestry Testing and Racial/Ethnic Identity Construction"**

My proposed presentation is based upon my current research project, a qualitative analysis of racial/ethnic identity construction in the era of racial genomics, explores the influence of genetic genealogy on racial/ethnic identity. The questions that inform this project are: to what extent does genetic ancestry testing inform and influence one's racial identity? Will the emergence of racial genomics challenge our existing racial hierarchy or reinforce it as people claim new racial identities and reject old ones? Will genetic ancestry testing result in increasing racial solidarity as evidence of ancestral mixture rises, or will it interfere with the development of racial solidarity, as people hostile to multiracialism find such results unsettling (Hochschild, Weaver, and Burch 2012)?

Bhoomi K. Thakore, Northwestern University, "The Academy for Future Science Faculty: An Intervention to Increase Diversity in the Biomedical Sciences"

My colleagues and I at Northwestern have developed an intervention program administered to a sample of biomedical PhD students in the hopes of understanding decisions made about careers in academia. For this presentation, I will discuss findings from our 2011 and 2012 intervention program evaluations to discuss the extent to which our programming has improved the chances of students (particularly women and underrepresented minorities) staying in graduate school and pursuing careers in academia.

Johnny Williams, Trinity College, "Genomics, Race and Racism."

In this paper I argue the genomic community needs to augment its debate about 'race's' biological significance to include rigorous examinations of racialized culture's influence in the construction, interpretation, and presentation of genomic research. While the biological importance of 'race' is questionable, it's social, political and economic impact is not. Specifically, I reveal 1) how racial assumptions inform genomic research; 2) how these assumptions are expressed and framed in genomic analyses; and 3) how genomic ideas and practices emerging from these inquires sustain 'race' and racism.

2:20pm – 2:30pm

BREAK!

2:30pm – 3:50pm

ROOM: Jefferson

[41] Tools and Strategies for the Classroom

Organizer & Presider: Mary Chayko, Rutgers University

Presenters: **Mary Chayko, Rutgers University, "Students, Social Media, and Surveillance"**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) aims to safeguard the privacy of college students by denying anyone but the adult student personal access to his or her educational records. But as college classwork increasingly takes place via internet and mobile phones, what about information and social media created by and about the student? Can the spirit of FERPA be upheld on the internet? I will discuss ways to protect students' privacy when coursework takes place online, and how to help protect them from ever-present data mining and surveillance. Policies and best practices for using social media in the classroom will be shared and discussed.

S. Hooshang Pazaki, East Stroudsburg University & Chin Hu, East Stroudsburg University, "Challenges of Teaching non-Western Cultures and Societies"

In this paper we will discuss some of the challenges of teaching global issues and courses related to non-Western cultures, such as Middle-East cultures and Asian societies. The paper will also discuss some of the institutional and cultural barriers in students' learning and understanding of other cultures. We will discuss the results of focus-group research we conducted with faculty members in terms of the challenges and strategies in teaching global issues. Additionally, we will share information based on a separate focus-group study with students who have taken global society related courses, participated in study-abroad programs, have specific cultural/ethnic/religious background, and international students.

Chris Dale, New England College, "Vietnam, Grenada, Iraq... When Will We Ever Learn?"

Reflections on gov't lies and propaganda re: these U.S. military invasions. Why is nationalist pro-war rhetoric so alluring? Why, time after time, do so many Americans trust the administration's need to go to war? Especially when there's strong evidence (generally outside the mainstream media) that this is not the case!!! I make the case that it is crucial to cover this issue in sociology courses, including Social Problems, given the devastating social, economic, and political costs of war.

ROOM: Washington

[42] "Street Smarts: Producing Knowledge for Social Change"

Organizer and Presider: Corey Dolgon, Stonehill College

Panel Abstract: In this session, practitioners of community based research, service learning, and other engaged pedagogical practices and community organizing method will discuss their work and its implications for the future of humanist or activist sociology. After very brief (5-7 minutes) presentations, and a brief comment from Sam Marullo, the focus of the session will be to have an open discussion about the future of faculty, student, partner collaborations. What political, logistical, and cultural barriers do we face and what have people found to be best practices in addressing them.

Discussant: Sam Marullo, Wesley Seminary

Panelists: Lee Farrow, Stonehill College Community Based Scholar and co-creator of Harlem Children's Zone

Randy Stoecker, University of Wisconsin at Madison

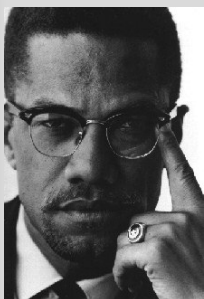
Kathy Kremer, Aquinas College

Bobby Hackett, President, Bonner Foundation



"That's what we're missing. We're missing argument. We're missing debate. We're missing colloquy. We're missing all sorts of things. Instead, we're accepting."
Studs Terkel

"America preaches integration and practices segregation"
Malcolm X



[43] Racial Health Disparities and Capitalist Health Policy

Session Organizer and Presiders: Jennifer Bronson, Howard University & Craig Dearfield, Howard University

Presentations: **Robin Pugh-Yi, Akeso Consulting, “Racial Health Disparities Survey”**

This study presents an overview of the most recent available epidemiological data on high priority health conditions, by key demographic categories. Available data suggest that more income and education predict lower risk and better outcomes for nearly all conditions. This may be due to increased likelihood of insurance coverage and access to care, decreased exposure to environmental risk and stress, and increased health literacy. In addition, some race/ethnic disparities may be due to cultural differences in understanding conditions and treatments and to lack of culturally competent communication and care. Results indicate that effective efforts to address high priority health conditions must recognize the persistence and scope of disparities and target underlying causes of these disparities.

Craig Dearfield, Howard University, “Historical, Economic, and Social Critique of Neighborhood Built Environment Measurement”

This presentation will discuss results of a literature review of studies on neighborhood built environment factors. The authors will discuss the utility of findings to public health practitioners aiming to reduce and eliminate health disparities. How researchers conceptualize and measure neighborhood built environment effects on health can shape how we understand problems that create health disparities and potential solutions to those problems. Racial minorities disproportionately live in areas where the built environment may have a negative effect on the health outcomes of residents, and it is imperative that researchers develop an understanding of neighborhood effects that considers historical, economic, and social contexts when seeking to improve the areas where people live.

Craig Dearfield, Howard University; Jennifer Bronson, Howard University & Robin Pugh-Yi, Akeso Consulting, “Epidemiological measurement of person variables in a policy context”

Epidemiological research provides the data and evidence that guide development of public health policies. Demographic categories used in epidemiological research are a primary source of information about health disparities. Limits of demographic variables lead to limits in data applicability in addressing issues such as disparities in health status and health care access. For example, broad race/ethnic categories such as “Asian/Pacific Islander” include subpopulations that may differ widely in terms of risk and resilience factors. This presentation advocates critical examination of the processes by which demographic groups are defined and how these processes could be improved to better serve public health needs. The presentation will present a review of the conceptualization and measurement of major racial demographic categories and how they are used to assess health disparities. The review will assess how each analyses defines demographic groups and will critique them in terms of how they support analysis of multiple intersecting issues that affect different demographic groups. This analysis will be linked with major health disparity elimination policies over the past 20 years.

Jennifer Bronson, Howard University, “Who counts? The underreporting of maternal mortality in the United States from a human rights perspective”

Maternal mortality is a preventable public health crisis that claims over a 1,000 women’s lives each year, a disproportionately high number of whom are African-American. Since the 1980s, the reported number of women dying from pregnancy-associated causes has actually doubled. On average, three women die every day in the US from pregnancy-associated causes despite living in a nation with the infrastructure, resources, medical technology, and skilled birth attendants to facilitate safe motherhood for even the most high-risk medical pregnancies. This presentation takes a human rights approach towards maternal mortality to include a human rights methodology of documenting cases of human rights violations, in this case preventable maternal deaths. This presentation discusses current Federal reporting systems related to maternal health, identifies gaps in surveillance efforts, and compares state initiatives. State-level maternal mortality review boards will also be discussed as a means to improve reporting accuracy. This discussion will be framed in the context of the modern human rights movement, in which the state bears a significant responsibility for the protection of human rights.

3:50pm – 4:00pm

BREAK!

Join us next year in CLEVELAND!!!

President-Elect: Stephen Adair

Program Chair: Mary Erdmans



ROOM: Monroe

[44] Racial and Ethnic Displays and Performances

Organizer & Presider: Kathleen Fitzgerald, Loyola University New Orleans

Presenter(s): **Anastacia M. Schulhoff, University of Missouri-Columbia, "Native American Storytellers' Double-Consciousness: Lifting the Veil to Expose the Authentic Self in the Front Stage and Back Stage Performance"**

This paper argues for a synthesis of Erving Goffman's conception of front stage/back stage performances of the self with W.E.B. DuBois' notion of double-consciousness. In this article I look at the narrative conception of identity by examining one hundred and three stories told by Native American storytellers that are located on two affiliated websites – Turtle Island Storytellers Network and Wisdom of the Elders. I find that the narrative conception of the self is symbolically integrated with the lived experiences and performances of these storytellers. This research expands upon the fields of social psychology, narrative identity, symbolic interactionism, social construction, and critical race theories.

CiAuna Heard, Temple University, "Creating Identity from Social Movement Frameworks: The Case of Jack and Jill of America Inc."

Drawing upon archival club literature, my data suggests that members of Jack and Jill had intimate understandings about structures of racism and capitalism, and used that knowledge to negotiate a public identity in the post-integration era. Small samples of focus-group and interview data suggest that these negotiations persist into the "post-racial" era. Periods of social upheaval, like the years between 1960-1970, expose the symbiosis of racism and capitalism as persistent social phenomena; and as marginalized communities work to position themselves favorably, they must become intimately familiar with these structures to combat oppression. Middle-class minorities continue to actively negotiate their identities to maintain legitimacy for mainstream society, while "keeping roots" within minority experiences. My work seeks to explain the narratives and social processes involved with this negotiation, while leaving room for a critique of these phenomena in the pursuit of social justice.

Rebecca J. West, Loyola University-Chicago & Bhoomi K. Thakore, Northwestern University, "Racial Exclusion in the Online World"

As the internet has become an integral part of everyday life, it is understood that patterns of racial stereotyping and discrimination found in the offline world are often reproduced online. In our research we have identified two exclusionary practices in an online environment for adult toy collectors: First, the exclusion of non-white individuals who are expected to form immediate friendships with other non-white members; and second, the essentializing of racial issues when concerns over the lack of racial diversity in the toys are discussed. These processes are often a direct result of the actions of the forum leaders, who are responsible for policing actions within the community. In this presentation, we focus on how changeover in community leadership can both reinforce and change the hierarchies of power within a community.

ROOM: Jefferson

[45] Inequality in the Academy

Organizer & Presider: Jeff Torlina, Utah Valley University

Presenters: **Chiwen Bao, Harvard University, "When "Diversity" Means Elitism: How Curricular and Cultural Practices in Selective Colleges and Universities Reproduce Elitism within Discourses of Diversity and Inclusivity"**

As increasing financial aid by private universities and foundations offer growing opportunities for individuals from lower-income backgrounds to attend college, how do cultural practices on campus undermine possibilities of diversity and inclusivity and continue to foster homogeneity and exclusivity? How do these processes cultivate class hierarchies that serve existing systems of power and domination? Drawing on Bourdieu's notion of habitus, I explore these questions by examining the approaches to learning, job and career pursuits at several elite colleges with expansive financial aid programs. I analyze how potentially democratizing practices of offering educational opportunities to individuals who were previously excluded are met with educational practices of fostering learning and job pursuits that promote class distinctiveness, disconnection, privilege, and economic exploitation. Finally, I discuss possibilities for and processes of resistance in these cultural environments

Marisa Allison, George Mason University; Victoria Hoverman, George Mason University & Randy Lynn, George Mason University, "Inequality in the Lecture Hall: The Precarious Employment of Contingent Faculty"

The plight of contingent faculty is now slowly being revealed. During the 2012-2013 academic year, the Public Sociology Association at George Mason University took up the cause of contingent academic labor rights on our own campus. George Mason University is no stranger to this phenomenon, reporting that 63 percent of their faculty for the 2012-2013 academic year were contingent. Utilizing our training as public sociologists we engaged these faculty members through research and advocacy in attempt to organize the invisible contingency of our university. Working with them, we constructed and distributed a campus wide contingent faculty survey to assess the working conditions of the approximately 1,500 contingent faculty on Mason's campuses. In this paper we will share the preliminary results of our survey and information on advocacy, engagement, and organizing on other campuses.

[46] Humanist Approaches to Health

Organizer & Presider: Mary Patrice Erdmans Case Western University

Presenters: **Yagoub Yousif Al-Kandari, Kuwait University & Ramadan Abdulsattar Ahmed, Kuwait University, "Social, Psychological, and Demographic variables that Related to Breast-Feeding among Selected Kuwaiti Mothers"**

The major aim of this study is to determine the effect of social, physiological and demographic variables on breast-feeding among selected Kuwaiti mothers. It examines the effect of the sociocultural changes and modernization on one of the women health behaviors, breast-feeding. Data show that there is no significant difference between Sunni and Shiite in the Breastfeeding duration. For the roots, data show that there is no significant difference between Urban and Bedouin in the Breastfeeding duration while data show that there is a significant difference between them on bottle-feeding duration. It is found that there is a significant difference between women in the consanguineous and non-consanguineous marriages on breastfeeding duration. Also, data show that there is a significant difference among the three age groups in the breastfeeding duration. Significant relationship between the mother breastfeeding duration and all social, psychological and demographic variables except one variable were found

Abdallah Badahdah, University of North Dakota & Kathleen A. Tiemann, Merrimack College, "Gender Differences in Perception of HIV-Positive Women in Yemen"

Although the overall HIV prevalence in Middle East and North Africa (MENA) is low, a recent report from UNAIDS (2011) suggests that the increase in new HIV infections made MENA one of the two top regions in the world with the fastest growing HIV epidemic. Research on social aspects of HIV in the MEAN has mainly focused on the stigmatization of HIV-positive people who were perceived as heterosexual and homosexual males. Hence, research on HIV-positive women is rare although approximately 40% of the 470,000 HIV cases in the region reported among women. A large proportion of the infected women contracted the virus from their spouses. We find that male students harbored more negative views of HIV-positive women than were female students. Also, they reported higher level of AIDS-related shame compared to female students. It seems that AIDS-related shame plays an important role in males' perception of HIV-positive women. This makes sense in traditional societies, like Yemen, where men presumably are the guardian of family honor and thus, HIV-positive women represent violation of social norms. Specifically, HIV is mainly connected with sex and HIV-positive women represent wrongdoing which brings shame and dishonor to males the socially appointed custodian of family's honor.

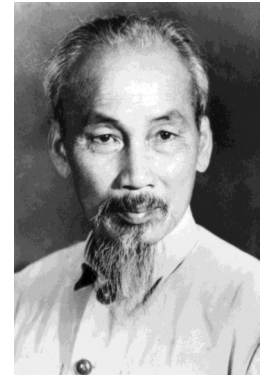
Mary Patrice Erdmans, Case Western University (mpe10@case.edu), "Controlling Teen Births: Reproductive Regulation or Modern Eugenics"

Conservatives want to lower the teen birth rate with abstinence; liberals want to lower it with contraception, but both sides want to lower the rate. Given that the majority of teen mothers are poor (and as a result use state resources), and blacks and Latinos are more likely to be poor and have higher teen birth rates, these national attempts to control their birth could be construed as the modern eugenics movement. Public policy designed to control teen births in general, will, if it is effective, more saliently control the number of babies born to minority and poor women than to middle-class white women. Black and Latina teens are more likely than whites to carry the pregnancy to terms, and affluent women are already more likely to use contraception (and have abortions)

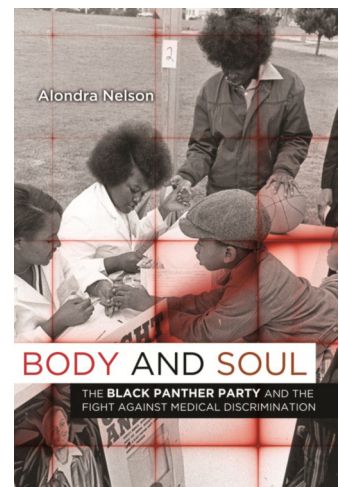
ROOM: Adams

[47] AUTHOR MEETS CRITIC

Author:	Alondra Nelson, Columbia University, <i>Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight Against Medical Discrimination</i>
Organizer & Presider:	Matthew Hughey, University of Connecticut
Critics:	Ashley "Woody" Doane, University of Hartford Matthew Hughey, University of Connecticut W. Carson Byrd, University of Louisville



**"To reap a return in ten years, plant trees. To reap a return in 100, cultivate the people."
Ho Chi Minh**



"I don't think the people of the slave states will ever consider the subject of slavery in its true light till some other argument is resorted to other than moral persuasion." John Brown

ROOM: Madison

[47] "Scholar & Student Activism and Today's Social Movements: The Struggle for Political Unity and Collective Practice"

Organizer & Presider: Walda Katz-Fishman, Howard University

Panel Abstract: In the current moment of systemic global capitalist crisis—intensifying poverty, repression and war, destruction of society and the planet—and growing resistance and struggle, we discuss developing a political practice for transformation in relation to our teaching and our students, our research, writing and organizations of the discipline/profession, and the broader social struggle and social movements.

Panelists: Anthony Justin Barnum, Howard University
Anne Luna, Howard University
Nishaun Battle, Howard University
Val Suarez, Howard University
Adebayo Arowolaju, Howard University
Jerome Scott, League of Revolutionaries for a New America

5:30pm—6:30pm

Reception

AHS 2013 Award Winners

SPECIAL EVENT: R STREET COLLECTIVE

R Street Collective is a performance ensemble of Duke Ellington School of the Arts. These Literary Media and Communications students write their own work, and speak to a multitude of issues as they pertain to the art and Washington's youth. Thought-provoking and system challenging, R Street Collective continues to break boundaries of age, and redefines the caliber of spoken word and poetry. The R Street Collective have been the featured performers at a number of events and venues including The Fridge Gallery, The Hillyer Gallery, Busboys and Poets, the feature for a panel on education with Sonia Sanchez, the Mayor's Office and the Financial Literacy Foundation, Alex Gallery, and most recently, the Kennedy Center's Tribute to Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On"

6:30pm—7:30pm

Presidential Address: AHS President Alan Spector, "Racism-Capitalism/Crisis-Resistance"

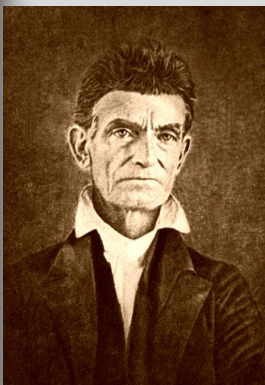
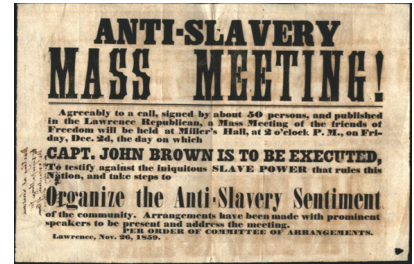
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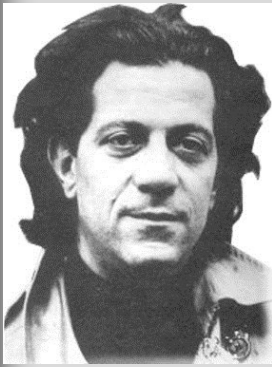
Hospitality Room—Join fellow AHS members for conversation, music, drinks and snacks. Catch up with old friends, meet new friends...or mill around just for fun!

SUNDAY OCTOBER 13th, 2013

8:00am—11:00am

AHS Closing Board Meeting, Room; Coffee and breakfast provided.





Poverty, Social Policy, and the Role of Sociologists

We have a long, solid tradition of excellent poverty scholarship: we have shifted our gaze from cultural explanations to structural explanations, and recently brought culture back in. We have examined the fallout of bad poverty policy, examined the lived experiences of poverty, social isolation, social exclusion, diminishing opportunity structure, and limited human, cultural, and social capitals. Yet there still remains an arena that as sociologists we are particularly weak, and this relates to policy and praxis. There are three interrelated areas that I want us to focus on in Charlotte. The first, and perhaps the greatest, is the unresolved problem with the poverty measurement itself. We know it is flawed, yet we proceed with this caveat and continue its use. Rather than accepting a flawed poverty measure, why are we not at the forefront of recasting and reshaping measurement? What can we do as social scientists? How can we influence and be the vanguard of policy change around measurement?

Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting

April 2-5, 2014 Charlotte, NC

Charlotte Marriott City Center

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“With regard to the dominated classes, the function of the capitalist state is to prevent their political organization which would overcome their economic isolation...”
Nicos Poulantzas

<http://sociology-compass.com>



SOCIOLOGY
Compass

Sociology Compass (SOCO) is an online journal that publishes peer-reviewed articles on topics from across the entire discipline. SOCO does not specialize in original empirical research. Rather, the journal’s mission is to publish succinct, clearly-written literature reviews that make an argument about a particular area of research in Sociology. The journal has an international readership that includes senior undergraduates, postgraduates, instructors, and researchers. SOCO provides a unique reference tool for writing essays, preparing lectures, formulating a research proposal, or just keeping up with new developments in a specific area of interest.

Contact the Editor-in-Chief (Scott R. Harris) at harriss3@slu.edu or visit the journal website for more information on how to submit a manuscript. Authors are encouraged to contact the journal prior to writing their papers, to gauge interest.

Social Currents, the official journal of the Southern Sociological Society, is a broad ranging social science journal that focuses on cutting-edge research from all methodological and theoretical orientations with implications for national and international sociological communities. The uniqueness of *Social Currents* lies in its format: the front end of every issue is devoted to short, theoretical agenda-setting contributions and short empirical and policy-related pieces, ranging anywhere from 1,500 to 4,000 words. The back end of every issue includes normal journal length articles (7,500-12,000 words) that branch across subfields, including the many specialties of sociology and the social sciences in general.



The journal welcomes:

- regular length journal articles
- shorter pieces with with provocative empirical insights
- shorter pieces with clear-cut policy implications
- shorter theoretical and substantive area agenda contributions/debates



Along these lines, we especially welcome submissions that can speak to broad social science audiences, that challenge the field, and that offer novel insights for our regional, national and international audiences.

Manuscripts can be submitted at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/scu>.

We also encourage Individuals who are interested in becoming part of our reviewer database to register NOW for an account through this website, denoting areas of interest and expertise.

About the SSS: Established in 1935, the Southern Sociological Society is a society of approximately 1,200 professionals that promotes the development of sociology as a profession and scientific discipline by the maintenance of high academic professional and ethical standards, and by encouraging effective teaching of sociology, valid and reliable methods and research in the study of human society, diffusion of sociological knowledge and its application to societal problems, cooperation with related disciplines and groups, recruitment and training of sociologists, and development of sociology programs in educational and other agencies.

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“Racism, in the first place, is a weapon used by the wealthy to increase the profits they bring in by paying Black workers less for their work.”
Angela Davis



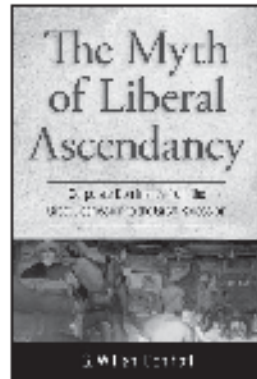
"The challenge of modernity is to live without illusions and without becoming disillusioned."

Antonio Gramsci



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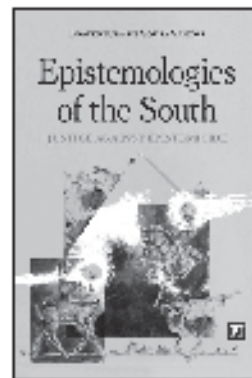
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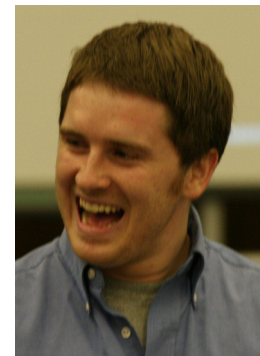
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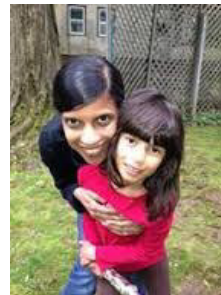
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It takes a village to raise a program. However, in every village resides villagers that go beyond the call of duty to make a good program a great program. The program chair would like to give a very special thanks to the following villagers that never failed to respond to the needs of the village (and program chair): Kathleen Fitzgerald, Greta Pennell, Jeff Torlina, Saher Selod, Bhoomi Thakore, Corey Dolgon and Kasey Henricks.



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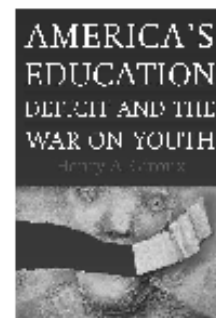


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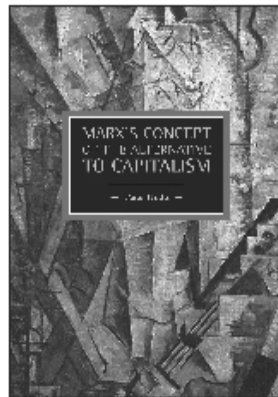
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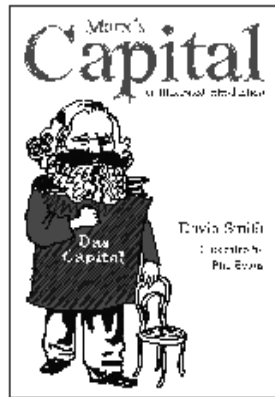
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Sojourner Truth



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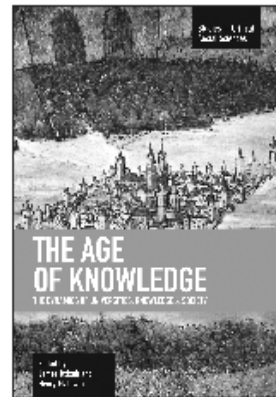
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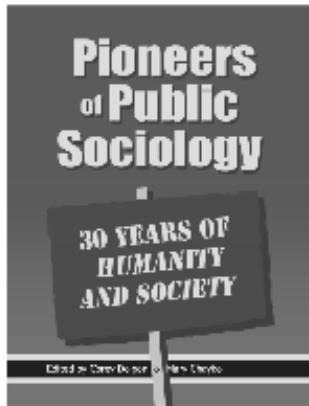
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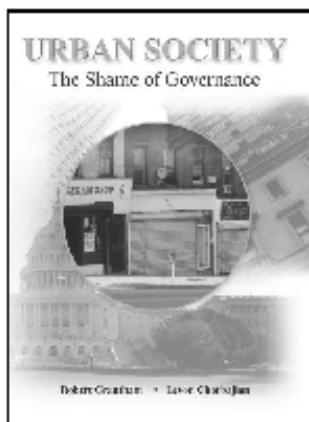
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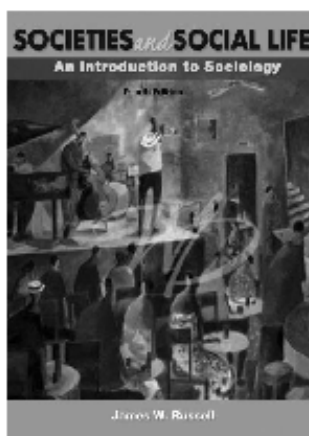
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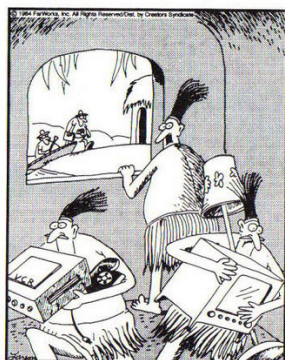
INDEX

Adair, Stephen, 25
 Ahmed, Ramadan Abdulsattar, 31
 Al-Kandari, Yagoub Yousif, 31
 Alcantar, LaJenne, 13
 Ali, Yousef, 27
 Allison, Marisa, 3, 30
 Arena, Jay, 13
 Armstrong, John A., 12
 Arowolaju, Adebayo, 10, 32
 Arthur, Damien C., 18
 Badahdah, Abdallah, 31
 Bailey, Emma, 23
 Ballard-Reisch, Deborah, 16
 Bao, Chiwen, 30
 Barnum, Anthony Justin, 10, 32
 Barry, Brian, 25
 Battle, Nishaun, 32
 Bilsker, Richard, 25
 Bingham, Shawn, 12
 Boucher, Jean, 27
 Bronson, Jennifer, 29
 Byrd, Carson W., 31
 Byrd, Kaitland, 21
 Campbell, Finley C., 20
 Carey, Philip Arnold Jr., 9
 Cecil, Mireille, 19
 Chayko, Mary, 28
 Cherry, Elizabeth, 11
 Clow, Michael, 22
 Contessa, Damien, 21
 Crisan, Cezara, 13
 Dale, Chris, 4, 28

DasGupta, Rumu, 8
 Dearfield, Craig, 29
 DeFreece, Alfred 7
 Delaney, Kevin J., 5
 Derber, Charles, 18
 Doane, Ashley "Woody",
 16, 24, 25, 31
 Dolgan, Corey 2, 19, 28
 Duncan, Scott, 9
 Eckstein, Rick, 9
 Embrick, David G.
 Erdmans, Mary Patrice, 31
 Farrow, Lee, 28
 Fenton, Robert, 3, 18
 Fitzgerald, Kathleen J., 21, 27, 30
 Francis, Robert D., 19
 Franzen, Sarah M., 12
 Ginocchio, Gerald, 11
 Gomes, Ralph, 10
 Granville, Melissa A., 16
 Green, Sara, 10
 Hackett, Bobby, 28
 Hammar, Colin, 5
 Harris, Latashia, 16
 Harvey, Daina, 22
 Hattery, Angela J., 18
 Heard, CiAuna, 30
 Henricks, Kasey, 8, 24, 27
 Hensley, Rebecca, 22, 25
 Hinkson, Leslie, 19
 Hoverman, Victoria, 12, 16, 30
 Hu, Chin, 28
 Hughey, Matthew, 26, 31
 Jalata, Asafa, 14
 Jones, James R., 18



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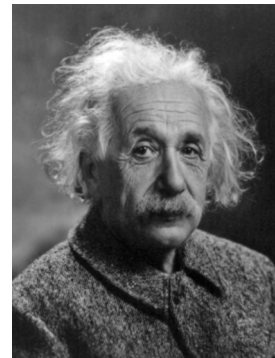
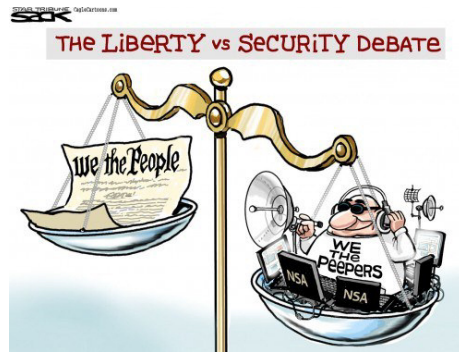
Joseph, Cheryl, 11
 Kalob, Dennis, 14
 Katz-Fishman, Walda, 10, 32
 Ketchum, Paul R., 22
 Kilpatrick, Lorrell D., 17
 Kimmel, Chad, 13
 Koeber, Chuck, 16
 Kremer, Kathy, 28
 Ladd, Anthony E., 15, 23
 Lange, Werner, 24
 Liu, Callie Watkins, 6
 Lubin, Judy, 14
 Luna, Anne, 10, 32
 Lynn Randy, 30
 MacDonald, Dennis, 11
 Machum, Susan, 16, 22
 Madison, Megan, 6
 Magrass, Yale, 18
 Maher, Timothy, 26
 Marullo, Sam, 28
 McFarlane, Audrey, 24
 McGuire, Steve, 23
 McKnight, Gerald, 11
 Meehan, James, 21
 Moses, Michael, 25
 Mukhtar, Shan, 12
 Nelson, Alondra, 31
 Norman, Charles, 26
 Pazaki, S. Hooshang, 28
 Peck, B. Mitchell, 22
 Pennell, Greta, 5
 Pennell, Jim, 26
 Pepinsky, Hal, 10



Radjenovich, Christopher, 4
 Reiter, Abigail, 16
 Reiter, Miranda E., 12, 16
 Sanders, Lisa, 23
 Santos, Jessica, 6
 Schipper, Janine, 14
 Schulhoff, Anastacia M., 30
 Scimecca, Joe, 2
 Scott, Jerome, 10, 32
 Seamster, Louise, 24
 Sekhon, Joti, 9
 Sekou, Bilal Dabir, 24
 Selod, Saher, 7, 19
 Settembrino, Marc R., 8
 Shakur, Akili, 9
 Sherman, Brian, 4, 21
 Smith, Jason, 3
 Souvanna, Phomdaen, 6
 Spector, Alan, 1, 13, 32
 Spence, Lester, 19
 Stoecker, Randy, 2, 28
 Stover, Tamera Lee, 8
 Suarez, Val, 10, 32
 Tabachnick, David, 23
 Tawwater, Dawn, 22
 Teitler, Jeff
 Tejada, Karen, 19
 Thakore, Bhoomi, 9, 27, 30
 Tiemann, Kathleen A., 31
 Torlina, Jeff, 17, 18, 21, 30
 Turcotte, Catherine, 25
 Tuttle, Joshua, 3
 Vila, Leighton Kenji, 7
 Wasser, Matthias, 25



- Wedge, Codie, 23
- Weiner, Melissa, 14
- West, Rebecca J., 30
- Williams, Cameron, 19
- Williams, Johnny, 27
- Williams, Mark, 17
- Wilson, Jonathan, 17
- Woldesmiate, Taye, 15, 27
- Woods, Joshua, 18
- Wrone, David, 11
- Young, J., 5
- Zellner, Bob, 19



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THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST



ASSOCIATION FOR HUMANIST SOCIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Who Are We The Association for Humanist Sociology

Our Past: The Association arose out of growing disenchantment with conventional sociology and a need for a more clearly value committed emphasis in sociological work. We came together in 1976, not out of shared politics or similar "schools" of sociology, which were, and still are, richly varied, but out of a common concern for "real life" problems of peace, equality, and social justice.

Our Philosophy: Humanists view people not merely as products of social forces but also as shapers of social life, capable of creating social orders in which everyone's potential can unfold.

Our Purpose: Accordingly, humanist sociologists study life with a value commitment to advance that possibility through scholarship and practice. We intend to be an active support network for sociologists committed to humanist values, as they practice sociology in institutions often hostile to such an approach. To this end, we produce a quarterly journal, *Humanity & Society*, as well as a newsletter, *The Humanist Sociologist*; we organize national meetings and have sessions at regional sociology conferences.