From Society President
Eduardo Bonilla-Silva

The Program Committee and I are super excited by the interest shown by our members for our upcoming meeting in New Orleans. We received more submissions for sessions than at any time in our history and, if all remains as is now, we will have our largest meeting ever with about 2,000 attendees! This fact alone is reason to celebrate. But as sociologists, quality trumps quantity. We are delighted to report that we have received a record 22 phenomenal submissions for workshop sessions. We will have workshops relating to “Navigating the Academy as a Scholar of Color” (Elizabeth Aranda, USF, and Kwame Harrison, VT), “How to Get a Book Published” (Ilene Kalisch, NYU Press), “Teaching in the Age of Trump” (Kathrin Ann Parks, Loras College), “Doing Public Sociology” (Amanda E. Lewis, UIC), “Academia and Activism: An Intersectional Conversation” (Sara Crawley, USF), and much, much more.

And this year, for the first time in our Society’s history we will have two workshop sessions titled “Yoga for a Cause: Cultivating Embodied Compassion” (Marc Settembrino, Southeastern Louisiana University). These two sessions (to be capped at around 20 participants) will provide members with strategies to retool their mind-spirit to help manage stress and increase com-(Continued on page 2)
From Society President, Eduardo Bonilla-Silva

(Continued from page 1)

passionate thinking and fitness. As part of the effort to help us become more compassionate people, Professor Settembrino is asking attendees to donate money, which will be sent to the victims of hurricane María in Puerto Rico. I plan to attend at least one of these sessions and make a generous donation. (NOTE: If you cannot donate but want to attend, by all means please do so. We recognize that members come from different types of institutions and are at different stages in their careers.)

We also have a very interesting set of plenaries for this meeting. Two will be “mano a mano” sessions where two colleagues will address one topic. One will be on “Trump(ism), Border Walls, Immigrations, and Bad Mexicans” and will feature David Montejano, Berkeley, and Rogelio Saenz, UTSA. Another one will be on “Global Trump(ism): Brexit, Modi, and the Race to the Bottom” and will feature Bandana Purkayastha, University of Connecticut, and Steve Garner, Birmingham City University. We will also have a plenary by ASA President Elect Mary Romero, ASU, on “Violence, Nationalism, and Citizenship in TrumpAmerica” and another by Michael Omi, Berkeley, (title TBD). We are working hard to organize one more plenary and are (literally) waiting on people to decide on how to proceed.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Program Committee, the Local Arrangements Committee, and our Executive Officer, Professor David Brunsma for the work they have done so far and the work they will do in the next few months. Organizing a meeting like this is truly a labor of love and these colleagues have expressed sociological love big time. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the extraordinary work of our Program Committee Chair Professor David G. Embrick. David has done yeoman’s work to make sure this meeting is exceptional. Albeit the proof of the pudding is in the eating, I believe this sociological pudding will be delicious. David, let me take this opportunity to thank you publicly for the work you have done and for the work you will do. SSS owes you a debt of gratitude and I personally owe you some fine wine paired with goat cheese and “jamón ibérico.” See you all in a few months in New Orleans!

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva
Duke University
Letter from the Editor, James N. Maples:

From my office window, I watch frenetic squirrels packing up the last acorns beneath a mighty oak. Our annual new student parade route wanders alongside that oak each fall. Following today’s commencement, a stream of celebrating gowned students flows by the oak one final time. It’s a fitting closure. These students, my students, are preparing for the uncertainties of the coming winter. Among them are several sociology majors headed to new jobs in new cities. I expect, like the squirrels, they will thrive where they land. They’ve learned a lot in their days here at Eastern Kentucky University. They’re ready.

I received numerous applications in response to the call for graduate student editors in the previous edition. I’m very happy to announce our three new editors: Nadya Vera, Della Winters, and Erik Withers. I’m very happy to keep three editors from last year: Harry N. Barbee, Josephine McKelvy, and Kaitlyne Motl. I could not do this newsletter without my team and I am very thankful for their service to the Society.

In this edition we also have news of the upcoming conference, the official 2019-2020 nominee slate, and a spotlight on one of our student editors. And there’s Society news, membership news, and more. Go enjoy! And remember to take some time to enjoy the winter break.

Thanks,
James N. Maples
Eastern Kentucky University
james.maples@eku.edu

Graduate Student Editors

Thank you to my amazing graduate student editors! Go check out their work in this edition!

Harry N. Barbee (Florida State University): Announcements and Society News
Josephine McKelvy (North Carolina State University): Highlights from Social Currents
Kaitlyne Motl (University of Kentucky): State and Regional Sociological Societies News
Nadya Vera (University of Tennessee): General Editor
Della Winters (University of Tennessee): SWS-South News
Erik Withers (University of South Florida): Membership News
Meet our Graduate Student Editor Team
In each edition, TSS will introduce you to our fantastic graduate student editors.

Josephine McKelvy is a Ph.D. candidate in sociology at NC State University in Raleigh. Many moons ago, her thesis research explored subjective age identity (or how old people felt) in their transition to adulthood. Currently, she is collecting stories from people of all ages, who feel out of sync with peers their age, in order to investigate the experience of life course asynchrony in their education, jobs, and intimate relationships. (You can email her at josephine_mckelvy@ncsu.edu if you’d like to chat!) When procrastinating on her dissertation research, she is most likely searching for one last article on phenomenology or narrative analysis, scrapbooking, turning her agenda into a time diary, or reading Social Currents!

Candidates for 2019-2020 SSS Officer Elections Announced!
The following individuals will appear on the ballot in early May for the SSS 2018 election. SSS members will get a chance to meet with the nominees several times throughout the annual meeting.

President-Elect
Dawn Robinson (University of Georgia)
Adia Harvey Wingfield
(Washington Univ. of St. Louis)

Vice President-Elect
Katie Acosta (Georgia State Univ.)
Elizabeth Stearns (UNC Charlotte)

Executive Committee
Lisette Garcia
(Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility)
Kecia Johnson (Mississippi State University)
Wendy Moore (Texas A&M University)
Jon Shefner (University of Tennessee)

Publications Committee
Gayle Kaufman (Davidson College)
Ken Kolb (Furman University)
Jeremy Reynolds (Purdue Univ.)
Micah Roos (Virginia Tech)

The Nominations Committee consists of Shannon Davis (Chair), Gabriel Acevedo, J. Scott Carter, Bette Dickerson, Brian Foster, Brandon Jackson, Maliq Matthews, Eileen O’Brien, Victor Ray, and Wornie Reed.
It has been a task of mammoth proportions and endurance to turn the highest ever number of submissions into the SSS 2018 program! All of the space (including overflow breakout rooms in another nearby hotel) is full to bursting. This one will go down in the history books as the largest ever SSS meeting, for sure. You do not want to miss it.

The draft program is available here. At this time, we are asking participants to please look very closely at the program and notify us (program@southernsociologicalsociety.org) of any errors you see (grammatical/mechanical errors, missing or incorrect affiliations, etc.) by 11:59 p.m. EST on Friday, December 29. Corrections received after this date will not be included in the final program. Please keep in mind that, in accordance with the SSS policy, we cannot honor special requests for dates or times of presentations/workshops/meetings. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

Those of you who organized sessions, in particular invited sessions, we ask that you please take a close look at your sessions to make sure all necessary information has been included (e.g., names, email, affiliation, etc. for panelists). It is crucial that we have emails for all participants in order to contact folks in regard to their status on the program.

Please watch your email for regular communication from me, President Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Local Arrangements Chair, D’Lane Compton, and the Executive Office as the meetings draw closer.

Registration and hotel reservations. Pre-register and book your room at the New Orleans Downtown Marriott NOW! You will want to take advantage of the reduced registration and hotel costs by registering early and by booking within the SSS hotel block. We expect the Marriott to fill within the next couple of days.

Membership dues. Please pay your dues now, so you can enjoy the full membership benefits of the Society all year and save money by paying before the meeting. The cut-off date for Pre-Registration rates is March 1, 2018. Those who wait until after this date will have to register and pay dues on-site, where the fees are higher.

We look forward to seeing you April 4-April 7 at the New Orleans Downtown Marriott.

David G. Embrick
SSS 2018 Program Chair
program@southernsociologicalsociety.org
Letter from James Maples, guest editor:

Greetings colleagues:

This edition, I’m helping out as a guest editor for the Committee on Sociology in Community and Small Colleges (CSCSC), which continues to support the role of teaching in our profession. CSCSC serves as a resource for the growing number of members at teaching-oriented universities. As sociology teachers, we have earned the unique position of being a critical source of information about our shared society for students who may never be exposed to a sociology class again. We have an outstanding opportunity to share what we know, put that into practice, and change lives, whether through simply sharing Mills’ Sociological Imagination or inspiring students to help address social problems in our communities.

CSCSC has a lasting tradition of working with other committees to craft a number of fantastic and well-attended sessions at the conference. Be sure to look for and attend these CSCSC sponsored or co-sponsored sessions listed in the preliminary program [here](#).

Thanks,
James Maples (Eastern Kentucky University)
[james.maples@eku.edu](mailto:james.maples@eku.edu)
Teaching Note

Critical Thinking in Social Inequality Classes: Teaching about Points of View, Observations, Inferences, and Assumptions

Michelle Petrie, University of South Carolina Aiken
michellep@usca.edu

The following activity is well suited for Introductory Sociology, Social Problems, and other courses that address stereotypes and discrimination including Aging, Gender, Race and Ethnicity, and Social Stratification. This activity may take 30 to 50 minutes to complete.

Critical thinking is foundational to a liberal arts education, yet many students fail to engage in mindful thinking that challenges biases. Part of the critical thinking process is helping students to raise vital questions; gather and assess relevant information; come to well-reasoned conclusions and solutions; think open-mindedly within alternative systems of thought while recognizing and assessing assumptions; and to communicate effectively with others about problems and solutions (Paul and Elder 2009). In the discipline of sociology, our definitions of critical thinking and as our pedagogical efforts to incorporate critical thinking into the sociology classroom vary (Grauerholz and Bouma-Holtrap 2003). Critical sociological thinking involves evaluating social issues from a logical and empirical standpoint while being mindful of how inequality is structured and reproduced in society. It reflects the ability to create logical arguments based on the sociological imagination and by connecting immediate problems to the larger social context (Green and Klug 1990; Geertsen 2003; Grauerholz and Bouma-Holtrap 2003). Paul and Elder (2009) argue that critical thinking entails, “...effective communication and problem solving abilities and a commitment to overcoming our native egocentrism and sociocentrism” (pg. 2). Sociology courses that address prejudice, stereotypes, and discrimination are particularly well suited for incorporating critical thinking skills into the curriculum. This teaching activity focuses on incorporating some basic elements of critical thinking such as identifying assumptions, while applying a sociological perspective.

Case Study: From Blink: The Power of Thinking without Thinking, by Malcolm Gladwell 2005 (see chapter 6).

The following is a short summary of the case described by Gladwell in Blink. Amadou Diallo was a 22-year-old immigrant in New York City from Guinea. Four plain clothed police officers spotted Diallo outside of his apartment building. One officer remembered that there had been a serial rapist that "fit his description" from a year earlier that was not caught. Another undercover officer thought it looked like he might be a burglar. The police decide to address him and they call out that they are police and want to discuss something with him. Diallo does not respond, possibly due to his poorer command of English and/or his speech impediment. The police order Diallo to put his hands up. Diallo, however, turns away from them as if to go back inside or possibly get something out of his pocket (we later learn he was getting his wallet out) and one police officer interpreted this as potentially having a gun. This officer calls out to the surrounding officers that Diallo has a gun resulting in forty-one shots fired by four police officers. One officer claimed he heard shots so he started shooting believing he was simply returning fire. Diallo, unarmed, died with his wallet in his hand, which contained his visa. Gladwell discusses possible scenarios for understanding Diallo’s point of view including his limited English proficiency and the possibility that the police were requesting his immigration papers.

(Continued on page 8)
Review Gladwell's concepts of rapid cognition and thin slicing or how our brain processes information, which may give us accurate "gut feelings" based on years of information/experience but we can also thin slice a situation based on faulty inferences, which may be influenced by assumptions and stereotypes. For further reference, see page 23 in Blink where Gladwell defines this process as the “ability of our unconscious to find patterns in situations and behavior based on very narrow slices of experience.” Discuss how these concepts (rapid cognition/thin slicing — i.e., quick judgments made about people) relate to observations and inferences.

Additional supplement: Bruce Springsteen’s American Skin (41 shots) video, which is a song written about Amadou Diallo’s case.

For discussion: How does an unarmed man not committing a crime get shot 41 times? Incorporate elements of critical thinking into the discussion including: points of view, observations, and inferences. Ask students to discuss what was observed and what inferences were then made from the differing points of view (those of the police officers and that of Diallo). How might assumptions, stereotypes, and prejudice affect what is inferred from an observation? As an immigrant, how might Diallo have viewed the situation? How might the Diallo case relate to the more recent cases of Michael Brown and Eric Garner?

Activity: Provide a picture or pictures for students to comment on 1) what they observe/see and 2) what they infer from the observation. For example, a picture of a fire may result in students observing a human, male, wearing an orange coat and a red helmet holding a hose. They may infer that this is a firefighter on the scene of a fire working to extinguish it. They may further infer an explosion or terrorism. You may want to use a variety of pictures or scenes involving people such as children, senior citizens, professionals, and everyday snap shots of people.

Discuss how assumptions and stereotypes may influence our inferences. This activity can be done with students writing down their observations and inferences and then sharing or having the teacher share them anonymously. This activity may also be conducted as a group activity with each group receiving the same picture or different pictures and then writing down their observations followed by what inferences are made from the observation. Groups can then compare observations and inferences from the picture.

References


Call for Early Career Gender Scholar Award Applications:
Early Career scholars who are making a noteworthy contribution to our understanding of the sociology of gender will have an opportunity to apply for the Early Career Gender Scholar Award!

Nominees should have authored groundbreaking work (that can include articles and/or a book) that advances the scholarship of gender. As a “career” award, the awards committee will make decisions based on the nominee’s career thus far. While the award is for a gender scholar, consistent with trends in gender scholarship, intersectional work is welcomed.

Eligibility: Assistant professors, postdoctoral scholars, contingent faculty, research associates, or other early career scholars who earned their Ph.D. within the last six years are eligible for this award. Nominees may come from the applicant or from a third-party nominator and are due January 15, 2018. Nominees must be affiliated with SWS-South (if not a current member, join at our website).

Nominations: Nominations are submitted electronically, in one PDF document, and packets should include the following:

1. One nomination letter detailing the merits of the nominee’s work,
2. A copy of any articles or books* to be considered for the award,
3. A current CV of the nominee.
*(Books, but not articles will be returned to the nominator. Please provide electronic versions of books if at all possible.)

Please e-mail all nominations by January 15th directly to the SWS-South Awards Committee Chair, Kris De Welde, at deweldek@cofc.edu. Should you need to send hard copies of books, please send to:

Kris De Welde
Director and Professor of Women’s and Gender Studies
College of Charleston
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424
Regional and State Sociological Societies News
In this new section, graduate student editor Kaitlyne Motl (University of Kentucky), shares news from our regional and state sociological societies. To submit your news, click here.

Conferences & Calls for Proposals/Papers

* The **Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association** will host their 49th Annual Conference on **February 22-23rd, 2018**. The group welcomes abstracts for organized paper sessions, as well as paper and poster presentations until **December 31st, 2017**. The official CFP document may be found [here](#).

* The upcoming meeting of the **North Carolina Sociological Association** will occur on **February 23rd, 2018** at Fayetteville State University. For additional information about this event, please refer to the conference’s [CFP](#).

* The **Pennsylvania Sociological Society’s** Harrisburg chapter advertises its involvement with the first annual Pennsylvania Leadership Studies Conference, to be held on **April 7th, 2018**. Watch for details at the society’s [website](#).

* The **Anthropologists and Sociologists of Kentucky** are pleased to announce their 50th annual meeting, to be held **April 14th, 2018** at Thomas More College. For more information about this conference, please visit their [site](#).

* The **Virginia Social Science Association** will host their next conference, themed “Symbolism, Discourse, and Inclusivity: Beyond Rhetoric,” on **April 21st, 2018**. Paper and panel proposals are due on **February 12th, 2018**. For additional details, please refer to the conference’s [CFP](#).

* Save the date! The **Pennsylvania Sociological Society’s** meeting will take place on **October 27th, 2018** at Northampton Community College. For updates, follow their [Facebook group](#).

Publication Invitations

* The **Michigan Sociological Association** extends a call for papers to be included in the Fall 2018 issue of its peer-reviewed journal, *Michigan Sociological Review*. **Manuscript submissions are due May 31st, 2018**. For more information on **MSR** and important submission details, please visit their [site](#).
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SOCIETY NEWS

Got an announcement to make?
Please submit it to graduate student editor Harry Barbee (Florida State University) by clicking here.

The ASA Section on the Sociology of Sexualities subcommittee "Advancing Trans Studies in Sociology" is compiling a list of scholars with expertise in trans-related topics who are willing to serve as journal referees. The goal of this initiative is to help spread the labor that is often placed on a few well-known Trans Studies scholars, as well as to promote quality peer review in social science trans scholarship. Click here to add your name to the database, and please share widely!

Connect with the Sociologists for Trans Justice initiative!

We Want to Hear About You!
*The Southern Sociologist* wants to help celebrate the Society’s amazing members. Each edition, we’ll list members’ recent publications, career updates, social activism, and more! But to do that, we need to hear from you!

You can submit your news and publications by using our convenient online form. You can paste the work directly from your CV.

TSS is also happy to include write-ups for major events (such as faculty retirements and transitions) from our membership. Contact TSS editor James Maples for more information.
JOIN SWS-S!
SOCIOLOGISTS FOR WOMEN IN SOCIETY (SWS) is a regional organization serving the same purposes as, and in liaison with, the national SWS. We hold meetings annually in conjunction with the Southern Sociological Society (SSS). We are dedicated to gender scholarship, supportive of graduate students and new faculty, and devoted to feminist social change. For more information, visit our website.

Benefits of membership:
" Share scholarship or attend sessions
" Network with known gender scholars
" Be mentored at the SSS meeting
" Join us at “Coffee with a Cause”
" Bid in the Silent Auction
" Learn from amazing scholars and leaders
" Be a mentor to a new student/SSS attendee
" Apply for one of our awards

Dues are ONLY $15 for faculty, $10 for new members, and $5 for students/unemployed members. You can join here!

Call for Submissions:
Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Conference,
October 3-5, 2018

Submissions are invited for the IAPHS (Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science) 2018 conference, “Pushing the Boundaries of Population Health Science: Social Inequalities, Biological Processes, and Policy Implications.” This 4th annual interdisciplinary population health research conference will convene October 3-5, 2018 at the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine in Washington, DC. Please see the Call for Submissions for more details and information on how to submit. The deadline for submissions is March 15, 2018 and those submitting will be notified of decisions by June 15, 2018.

Registration for the October conference will open April 1, 2018 for members of IAPHS and May 15 for non-members. Follow the links for further information about the conference and membership in IAPHS.
Engendering Change Conference: Call for Submissions

Eighth Annual Chicago Area Graduate Gender/Sexualities Conference

April 14, 2018, University of Chicago

The University of Chicago, in conjunction with Northwestern University and the University of Illinois-Chicago, is proud to announce the eighth annual Engendering Change graduate student conference.

The conference will take place at the University of Chicago on April 14, 2018. On the evening of April 13, the conference will host an Art Night curated by Chase Joynt and featuring MTL+ collective.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Jasbir K. Puar is Associate Professor of Women's & Gender Studies at Rutgers University and the author of Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times and The Right to Maim: Debility, Capacity, Disability.

SUBMISSIONS: The conference is open to graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in any field who are working on research related to the study of gender/genders and sexualities broadly defined. Submissions may also come from any methodological background.

To submit, please upload an abstract of no more than 300 words, title, and keywords to: https://engenderingchange2018.wordpress.com. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 5pm (CST) on January 22, 2018. All presenters will be notified of acceptance by February 5.

Admitted presenters will be expected to submit their full paper by March 16, 2018. Presentations will be between 12 and 15 minutes, and final papers may be no more than 25 pages double-spaced.

The conference is free and open to the public. Please direct any questions to: engenderingchangeconference@gmail.com.
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SOCIETY NEWS

Call for Submissions: Special Issue of *Feminist Formations*

“Critical Feminist Exits, Re-Routings, and Institutional Betrayals in Academia”

a Special Issue of *Feminist Formations*

Full papers due February 15, 2018

Edited by Marta Maria Maldonado and Katja M. Guenther

Although universities often identify diversity as an important concern and goal, the neoliberalization of academic contexts has in many ways fostered the entrenchment and rearticulation of hegemonic racial and gendered ideologies and practices. As a result, critical scholars often face institutional environments that are hostile and/or unresponsive to their concerns and perspectives, and broadly speaking, to issues critical to women, LGBITQ people, people of color, and other marginalized groups. Scholars who experience discrimination, bullying, harassment, and/or hostile work environments may find themselves relocated, either by “choice” or as an outcome of administrative processes.

This special issue focuses on the politics of the movement of critical feminist scholars—those who routinely challenge racialized, gendered, ableist, heteronormative or homophobic, and/or first-worldist scripts within their fields or departments, through their embodied presence and their substantive work. We invite manuscripts that map out and examine scholars’ movements within, across, and out of academic institutions. Of interest also are analyses of how administrators and academic institutions initiate, negotiate, and/or respond to moves and exits by critical scholars. We seek thoughtful examination of institutional failures to support critical feminist scholars, analysis of the consequences of such failures, as well as discussion of administrative responses that embrace and support critical feminist scholars and their work, as a way to identify transformative possibilities.

We welcome submissions from scholars across disciplines, as well as analyses that draw on personal experience with critical feminist exits.

Papers should be submitted on our [submittable page](#) directly.
Call for Papers, Impairment in the Social World Conference, Columbia University

A Graduate Student Conference
MARCH 22-23, 2018

Columbia University in the City of New York

Extended Submission Deadline: December 18, 2017

Travel funding may be available to conference participants based on need. Assistance is also available to find accommodations for your stay in New York.

In 2013 more than one in five American adults had a disability and four percent needed assistance in daily activity. While the experience of living with a disability affects a significant portion of the population, it is relatively understudied in the social sciences. Social science research on disability is caught between a medical model which stresses physiological impairment and a social model that emphasizes stigma and discrimination without attending to the substantiality of impairment. This opposition between the social and medical models inhibits sociological research on disability. Believing that disability is a meaningful social category worthy of inquiry, we are soliciting papers which take seriously the role of impairment in shaping the social world and the lives of individuals. In this conference we hope to develop a model of disability that attends to the relationship between impairment and social life; the ways in which disability shapes and is shaped by the social world. A full list of exemplary themes is included at the end of this call for papers.

The conference, Impairment in the Social World, is being organized by graduate students from Columbia University’s Department of Sociology under the faculty guidance of Gil Eyal and Adam Reich, with financial support from The Center for Science and Society. Participants will have 15-20 minutes to present their papers and will have the opportunity to discuss their work with other graduate students and prominent researchers in the field. We invite graduate students to submit a one-page abstract by December 4, 2017. Abstracts should be approximately 800 words, include the name of the author(s), and their institutional affiliation(s). Successful applicants will be informed January 2018, and full paper drafts will be circulated among participants in mid-February. Please submit your extended abstract as a PDF to disabilitysocial2018@gmail.com.
Highlights from *Social Currents*

In this section of TSS, Graduate Student Editor Josephine McKelvy (NC State) highlights articles from a recent edition of the Society’s official journal, *Social Currents*.

**From Social Currents 4(4)**


The authors argue that, like heterosexuals, gay and lesbian online-daters are susceptible to hegemonic cultural ideals. Such norms privilege traditional gender-conformity and whiteness. The authors examined over 4,000 LGB dating profiles on Match.com in 4 regional metropolitan areas. They used multinomial regression to model daters’ racial preferences (e.g., racial heterophily, racial homophily or any race/no racial preference) and grounded qualitative coding of dating profiles. The authors found that white lesbians and white gay men had higher rates of preference for their own race (or racial homophily), compared to their counterparts of color. Gay men of color exhibited higher rates of racial heterophily (or excluding members of their own race) in their dating preferences, compared to lesbians of color. In their profiles, gay men of color also distanced themselves from racialized and sexualized stereotypes by using traditional gender conformity. The authors conclude that, though interracial coupling is an indicator of racial acceptance and gay couples are more likely to date outside their race, these preferences actually reveal homonormative ways of being queer.


Martin, Dixon, and Nau investigate how coalitions among social movement organizations (SMOs) pressure companies by examining newspaper coverage of labor strikes from 1993-2003 and the subsequent financial impact on the targeted firms during the event period. Because their sample comprises strikes covered by at least one newspaper story (i.e., none of the strikes have zero coverage), they use zero-truncated negative binomial regression (a type of Poisson regression) to model the effects of media attention. They found that larger and more violent strikes against firms with low likelihood of relocation garnered more press. However, this coverage has limited effects on a firm’s stock price, or cumulative abnormal returns (CAR). Moreover, intra labor movement alliances (with other unions as opposed to government, civic and religious groups) that provide material goods (as opposed to material actions and/or symbolic support) were more likely to reduce a firm’s stock prices. Furthermore, a company’s ability to relocate and their brand recognition mediated the effectiveness of these coalitions. Specifically, additional allies reduce the CARs of companies that are less mobile and have a reputation to protect.


To test global environmentalist theory and postmaterialist theory, the authors analyze data from the 2010 Life in Transition Survey II (LITS), using multilevel ordinal and logistic regression to model climate change concern and willingness to pay higher taxes to combat climate change in terms of country level variables, individual experiences with the recent global recession, and individual assessments of macroeconomic conditions. They found support for global environmentalism because long-term economic development (i.e., gross domestic product) had a negligible influence on environmental concern or behavioral changes. However, short-term economic growth (i.e., gross national income) did increase both concern and willingness to pay higher taxes, in partial support
of the affluence hypothesis or postmaterialism, where individual prosperity creates the mental space to ponder the effects of climate change. Additionally, there were inconsistent effects of objective economic hardship and subjective assessments of macroeconomic conditions at the individual level.

How do people make sense of contested knowledge; that is, competing information from contradictory authorities or ideologies? Specifically, how do conservative Protestants’ rejection of scientific theories spill over into other mainstream or uncontested knowledge? Using structural equation modeling (SEM) to analyze data from four waves of the General Social Survey (GSS), Roos finds that conservative Protestants do not have less science knowledge than other faith traditions. But they are more likely to reject evolution, and this rejection spills over as ignorance of other life and physical science facts, deemed false by association. Furthermore, accepting or rejecting scientific facts can be a form of boundary work to convey conservative Protestant values, net of educational attainment or science course work in college. These processes have ramifications for politicized knowledge, which inform support for social and policy issues.

Sherkat analyzes data from the 2006-2014 General Social Survey (GSS) to examine how ethnicity, gender, political, and religious identities intersect to inform social attitudes toward marriage equality. The author used heterogeneous ordinal regression models that control for sexual orientation (i.e., the sex of sexual partners in the last five years) and sexual identity (i.e., identifying as heterosexual, bisexual, or LG) over time, across ethnicity, and by gender. Sexual orientation and political identification were less consequential in the support for same-sex marriage over time, as the changing attitudes among heterosexual respondents made up the general increase in support. White respondents were more likely to favor marriage equality than people of color, with the negative effects of political conservatism, Protestant identification, and biblical fundamentalism only significantly different among white respondents. Women were more likely than men to favor marriage equality, with more ethnic variation among women than among men. These findings reveal how factors that influence social values, like religious and political conservatism, vary with ethnic and gender privileges to deny civil rights.

From Social Currents 4(5)
As part of a larger study on women’s relationships in prison, Gorga investigates how female masculinity mirrors hegemonic gender hierarchies and practices by conducting 25 semi-structured interviews with inmates. Gorga found a parallel gender asymmetry between the idealized, dominant lesbian studs with masculine swagger and the vaguely-defined, but petty, feminine-presenting femmes. Inmates derided the mannerisms and integrity of femmes as well as policed the masculinity of “fake studs,” who are opportunistically “gay for the stay” in prison. In terms of status and power, studs womanized and exploited femme partners, who used their relationships with studs to preserve their heterosexuality. This study reveals how, even in a closed institution comprising mostly female bodies, heteronormative masculinity has the most currency.

(Continued from page 16)

(Continued on page 18)
Using data from a USDA survey of small, family dairy farms in Pennsylvania, mid-sized farms in Michigan, and large dairy farms in Florida, the authors use logistic regression to model employment patterns by farm ownership status (whether it is family owned and operated) and farm size (number of milking cows). Specifically, they use linear regression with endogenous treatment effects (LRETE) to account for the association between immigrant labor and farm size and the interaction between farm ownership status and size. They found that employing nonfamily and immigrant labor is positively associated with farm size, but not ownership status. Larger farms tend to hire nonfamily workers with a higher proportion of part-time employment. Farms that employ immigrant labor, however, have higher rates of overtime employment. They conclude that precarious work and exploitation, of immigrant labor in particular, comes in the form of overtime rather than part-time employment.

Does the feminization of human resource management (HR) improve gender equity in the workforce? Using fixed effects regression models to analyze data from the 1980-2000 U.S. Censuses and the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS), Scarborough finds that industries with a higher proportion of women in HR was associated with greater representation of women in management roles. Specifically, (white) women in human resources (HR) act as “agents of change” by promoting (white) women’s entry into management positions. Black women, however, may refrain from leveraging this discretionary power—which may be interpreted as favoritism toward same-race colleagues—since they are still tokens in HR. Future research should operationalize how this discretion translates to gender equity as well as examine organizational level characteristics.

Religious subcultures influence public opinion. But does religious media consumption—as an indicator of religious socialization—predict attitudes toward marriage equality? Perry & Schnabel use multivariate and propensity score matching techniques to analyze data from the 1998 General Social Survey (GSS), the 2005 Baylor Religion Survey (BRS), and the 2012 Portraits of American Life Study (PALS). To mitigate selection bias—i.e., those who consume religious media are already less likely to support same-sex marriage—the authors conduct propensity score matching (PSM) to isolate the effects of religious media consumption. PSM matches and compares two groups who are as likely to consume religious media but differ in their observed behavior: a control group that does not regularly consume religious media and a treatment group that does. They found that net of religious affiliation, practice, and Biblical fundamentalism, those with more exposure to religious websites, books, and mainstream television shows are less likely to support marriage equality. Thus the authors argue that religious media consumption is a key measure of the everyday lived experience of religion.

Do religious people feel a compassionate concern for the wellbeing of others (e.g., communitarian-
ism) universalistically across all social groups? The authors analyze data from the 2008-2009 European Values Study (EVS), using multilevel ordinal regression to model concern for others in terms of believing, behaving, and belonging. They found that believing in religious orthodoxy (of one true religion to provide moral guidelines) is positively associated communitarianism, but the religiously orthodox are no more universalistic in their compassion than modernists (who believe that individuals are capable of making moral decisions). In terms of behaving, attending services and being involved in a religious organization are positively associated with communitarianism. There are no differences in the compassion of those who belong to the four major European faith traditions, but Protestants are less concerned for others when they are not a country’s dominant religious group. Finally, the differences in communitarian beliefs and behaviors within faith traditions (e.g., Protestantism, Catholicism, Eastern Orthodox, and Islam) are more significant than differences between them (H6).

The authors argue that religious people in Europe, may be the unlikely proponents of economic communitarianism, or social welfare efforts to protect vulnerable groups.

From Social Currents 4(6)

How does the social organization of fashion work contribute to gender inequality? Fashion (as a cultural industry that cultivates material status symbols for consumers) consists of collaborative but competitive and precarious work. Stokes conducts 62 semi-structured, in-depth interviews with fashion workers to uncover gendered logics embedded in passionate work norms (where one’s passion for their work ought to blur work-life boundaries) and entrepreneurial labor practices (such as networking and holding multiple jobs) unique to the fashion industry. Stokes finds that single, childfree women face criticism from family members for pursuing ideal worker norms meant for men, as well as experience anxiety over their constrained choice between future motherhood and work. Working mothers face more judgment from their colleagues and struggle to juggle their devotion to work and family. Working fathers and childfree men, however, conform to passionate work norms without scrutiny or anxiety. This social organization of the cultural industry, however, is spreading to other occupations. Future research should examine the intersection of gender and class in these cultural logics at work.


The financial sector sets the standards in wages across the labor force and is an industry with the highest gender wage gap. Thus the authors examine the financial sector premium, or the wage differences between workers within and outside the financial sector. They analyze data from the March files of the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS) from 1975 to 2009, using recentered influence function (RIF) regressions to estimate the difference in logged wages by gender, parental status, and wage level across the wage distribution. They find that working fathers benefit the most from the financial sector premium at the upper half of the earnings distribution. The authors argue that, in the risk-tolerant workplace culture of the financial sector, working fathers are the most likely group to be seen as prudent risk-takers. Women, however, who are deemed risk-averse or do not commit the time on the trading floor, have not cultivated the social capital to succeed in a work culture that benefits elite masculinity. Instead, women in finance tend to hold non-elite positions (e.g., bookkeepers or bank tellers). Thus working mothers and childfree women benefit from the financial sector premium in the bottom half of the earnings distribution.

(Continued from page 18)

Building on risk preference theory and a practice-oriented approach to investigating (non)religiosity, Edgell, Frost, and Stewart argue that there are gendered social risks for rejecting religion and gendered strategies for managing that risk. That is, women tend to be more religious than men because women more likely than men to be stigmatized for atheism. The authors analyze data from the Boundaries in the American Mosaic (BAM) survey, using logistic regression models to predict nonreligious belief, behavior, and affiliation. They found that men are more likely to identify as atheist than other expressions of nonbelief. Women, however, are more likely than men to experience nonreligious discrimination and are also more likely to identify as “spiritual but not religious,” a less risky affiliation than “atheist”. These findings parallel the nonreligious expressions of people of color, another marginalized group, and support the idea that religion is a set of everyday practices that intersect with identity and social power.


Buday investigates a case study of how one professionalized advocacy group marginalized local grassroots organizations within the anti-fracking movement in Southern Illinois. The Southern Illinoisans Against Fracturing our Environment (SAFE), a grassroots organization, lobbied for a moratorium bill to suspend fracking in Illinois. Instead, lawmakers, the oil and gas industry, as well as professional advocacy organizations negotiated a regulatory bill that became the Illinois Hydraulic Fracturing Regulatory Act. This setback led to SAFE’s coalition with the Community Environment Legal Defense Fund (CELDF), a professional advocacy group with policy expertise and financial resources. The CELDF organized gatherings to build dense interpersonal networks of durable bonds among like-minded activists. Their informal consensus process inadvertently silenced less forceful participants while amplifying vocal members who tended to support the CELDF model of drafting a Community Bill of Rights ordinance over other strategies to ban fracking. Thus the nonhierarchical democratic process, meant to stir innovation, also created a path dependency on previous tactics and commitment to the existing organization. This cautionary tale reveals the pros and cons of collaborating with professionalized organizations with resources and policy expertise, at the expense of grassroots autonomy over the needs of “The People”.


Why is awareness of climate change—and even experience with a natural disaster—not enough to mobilize citizens into environmental social movements? The authors conducted 8 focus group interviews with 46 residents in a rural community, south of Calgary, which was hardest hit by the 2013 Southern Alberta flood. They found that participants were aware that human-made infrastructure and developments, which influential political actors implemented, had negative environmental impacts. Yet they also personified environments as unpredictable and destructive forces, impervious to human intervention. Additionally, residents were uncertain if their homes were still contaminated after the flooding. Residents could only exercise their agency in appreciating the outdoors when there was a general public perception of helplessness in environmental decision-making, in disaster preparedness, and in recovery. Thus, this focusing event or disaster did not lead to mobilization or concrete changes to enhance community resilience or reduce public risk from future flooding.
Recent News from Our Membership

In this new section, graduate student editor Erik Withers (University of South Florida) shares recent publications and news from our members. Click here to submit your news!

Children and Youth

Crime, Law and Deviance

Economic Sociology

Environmental Sociology

Gender

Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility

International Migration

Medical Sociology

(Continued on page 22)
Recent Publications from Our Membership

(Continued from page 21)

**Peace, War, and Social Conflict**


**Race, Gender, and Class**


**Racial and Ethnic Minorities**


**Science, Knowledge, and Technology**

**Social Practice and Public Sociology**

**Sociology of Culture**

(Continued on page 23)
Recent Publications from Our Membership

(Continued from page 22)

**Sociology of Education**


**Sociology of Law**

**Sociology of Sexualities**

**Teaching and Learning in Sociology**

**Theory**


**Promotions, Awards, Grants, and Honors**
Andrea Laurent-Simpson won the SSSI “Herbert Blumer Graduate Student Paper Award.”

Aaron B. Culley was given the Paul and Hazel Corts award for Excellence in Teaching at Wingate University (May 20, 2017).

Chloe R. Parker received first place in the graduate student poster competition at the Mid South Sociological Association Annual Meeting held in Chattanooga TN for her presentation “Who Are You and How Can I Help: Difficulties with Identification of Human Trafficking Victims.”

Denise L. Bissler created and got approval for a new Criminology major at Randolph-Macon College.

(Continued on page 24)
Recent Publications from Our Membership

Evelyn M. Perry won the “Jane Jacobs Urban Communication Book Award” for the book titled Live and Let Live: Diversity, Conflict and Community in an Integrated Neighborhood.

Erik T. Withers received a “Graduate Student Distinguished Teaching Award” from the Department of Sociology at the University of South Florida (Spring 2017).

James N. Maples had his research included in Climbing Magazine. He was also the invited speaker for the Wildlands Social Club, “Place Matters: Climbing’s Economic Impact in the Southeast” (November 16th, 2017).

Patti Giuffre received the Sociologists for Women in Society’s “Feminist Mentor Award” (2017). And, received a “Presidential Distinction Award for Service” at Texas State University (2017).

Shannon N. Davis is now serving as Interim Senior Associate Dean for the College of the Humanities and Social Sciences at George Mason University.

Tressie McMillan Cottom appeared on The Daily Show to discuss how predatory higher education reproduces race, class, and gender inequalities.

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Sociology Departments and other entities wishing to advertise positions may do so by paying online or by sending a check payable to the Southern Sociological Society to:

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For more information or if you have any questions, contact David Brunsma.
The Southern Sociological Society (SSS) is a non-profit organization that seeks to promote the development of sociology as a profession and scientific discipline by the maintenance of high academic professional and ethical standards and by encouraging:

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(c) diffusion of sociological knowledge and its application to societal problems;
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**THE SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGIST**

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To bring you the news, I need your news! Please send any news of your department and/or colleagues for possible publication in *TSS*. Articles pertaining to the state of the profession or the discipline are also welcome. To appear in *TSS*, submissions should be sent to James Maples ([James.Maples@eku.edu](mailto:James.Maples@eku.edu)) by the publication deadlines below.

The editor reserves the right to publish or not to publish any submission. Also, there may be times when submissions need to be edited in conjunction with the author.

**Publication Deadlines**

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August 10  
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